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# and RAYYET

## PRINCE & PEASANT

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VIII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1886.

No. 2

### CONTEMPORARY VERSE.

#### THE SONG OF THE BELL.

WAKE, Wake, Wake!

Up, sluggard, up! the sun appears

Awake, awake—thy bed forsake

Before the flowers have dried their tears

Before the last star sinks away,

Lost in the golden hues of day.

Hark, the Matin Bell

Sounds o'er hill and dell

Ding, Dong, Bell.

Bread, Bread, Bread!

Merchant, scholar and artisan,

Hasten, hasten—the board is spread—

Thank the Giver, thou thankless man!

How many poor ones hear my voice,

Yet never, never like thee rejoice

At the dinner Bell,

With its peal and swell,

Ding, Dong, Bell.

One, Two, Three!

Hark, the numbering of the hours

Mark, mark, the moments swiftly flee

The past the present still devours.

Seven and eight and nine and ten.

They never will return again

Mark the hourly Bell

Its oft told story tell,

Ding, Dong, Bell.

Fire, Fire, Fire!

Hurry the engine, hearts of oak,

For the flame is rising—higher, higher!

Man on the ladder, mind your stroke!

Dash in the window—grasp that child!

Pass him along—the mother is wild!

Peal, peal, the Fire Bell,

Crash, crash—who was it fell?

Ding, Dong, Bell.

Toll, Toll, Toll!

As the dark hearse moves o'er the lea

Toll, toll, toll for the passing soul

Whose earthly house dissolved must be

Dust goes to dust and earth to earth,

Cease, careless trifter, cease thy mirth.

For the funeral Bell

Soon will ring thy knell,

Ding, Dong, Bell.

Peal, Peal, Peal!

The merry, merry, Marriage Bell—

Two hearts are joined for woe or weal,

Together, while life lives to dwell

Peal, peal—the golden knot is tied,

Who would not bless the fair young Bride

List—the merry Bell

The joyful tidings tell

Ding, Dong, Bell.

Hurrah, Hurrah, Hurrah!

The battle's done, the town is won,

The thunder notes of victory

Drown the cry of the desolate one;

Fathers, husbands, children are slain,

Who heeds the dead? Who heeds the pain?

While the pealing Bell

The victor notes swell,

Ding, Dong, Bell.

Hurry, Hurry, Hark away!

The steam-ship vomits fire and smoke,

'Gainst wind and tide she moves to-day

With hundred arms and giant stroke

Like a fiery steed she pants and springs,

Let go there, men, the last bell rings.

Run, run, the ship Bell,

Run on beam and pole Bell

Ding, Dong, Bell.

Pray, Pray, Pray

The Sabbath Bell rings solemnly

For thy soul's good, oh, come away,

Visit the house of prayer to-day

Listen to the good shepherd's cry

To guide thee on the rocky shore

Hark, the Sabbath Bell

To win thy soul from hell

Ding, Dong, Bell.

Rest, Rest, Rest!

Weary labour—go to rest!

Under the eye of the Lord thou art

Who watches thy defence—be not

Sluggish while the day, the night, the proud,

Weave in the dance as cattle in a crowd,

Though the Vesper Bell

Has warned them well

Ding, Dong, Bell.

*Hollway's Ointment and Pills* are beyond all doubt the most valuable and most convenient medicine that travellers can take with them to the sea to distant climes, for change of climate and the new conditions and surrounding of life to which they will be exposed will necessarily give rise to great disturbances of the system and to such especial morbid states of the blood and constitution generally as will render the use of these efficient remedies highly necessary, for they will find in them a ready and safe means of relief from most of the diseases which afflict the human race, and with them at hand they may be said to have a physician always at their call.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS

IN New Year's messages with messages of Peace. King Humbert, receiving a message from the Court of Diplomats, and he received a message was a sure for the year 1900. At the same time, the liberal member of the Court of Diplomats was of opinion with the liberal member of the Court of Diplomats, and he himself believed in the preservation of peace during the current year. President Carnot, in welcoming the French Ambassador, referred the fourteenth French Exhibition as belonging to the year 1900.

MANY of the States have entered into engagements for the year 1900 on many important articles—cotton, emeralds, and so on, and will receive a large amount of goods, for example.

THE French Government has agreed to pay 22,500,000 at 4 per cent, and the interest on the loan.

THE French Government has also agreed to the import of goods on all the French frontiers.

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the treatment is repeated, on every occasion good is effected, until at last the suggestions are thoroughly acted upon, and the patient is cured."

Verily, as has been said, there is nothing new under the sun. The newest mode of cure is the oldest, for the latest, like the earliest, depends chiefly upon belief for much of its efficacy.

RE, from America, is the recipe for a new fluid which claims to craze and remove writing and marks of ink from paper, cloth and other stuff or substance:—

"To a quart of water, which has been previously boiled and cooled, add 4 ounces of nitric acid, and after the acid has been dissolved, add 6 ounces of a saturated solution of borax, and 12 ounces of chlorinated lime. Place the whole in a stoppered quart bottle, shake well occasionally in the course of several hours, then allow to settle, and decant the clear liquid for use."

AT the last matriculation examination of the Bombay University, three Native and thirteen European ladies passed. Of the former, one is a Miss Padsha, another is a daughter of Mr. Dattabhai Naoroji, and the third a daughter of the well-known Dr. Atmarang Pandurang. It is satisfactory to know that three ladies will continue their studies.

WE are glad to learn that

"The Dholepore Dmbar troops have succeeded in breaking up a band of dacoits who have long infested the Agra Gwalior border. A man, named Chhatra, for whom a reward of Rs. 6,000 was offered, and Zahera and Rakhma, two other well-known leaders, were killed, and a third, called Padma, captured."

THE following appears under the "Births, Marriages, and Deaths" heading in the *Phoenix*:—

"DEATH.—O. and R. Railway Company, Limited—At Lucknow, at midnight, on 31st December, 1888, the Oudh and Rohilkund Railway Company, Limited, after a long and protracted struggle (Very deeply regretted by an extensive circle of relatives and friends, some of whom are now left to their own resources.)"

Are we to suppose that our contemporary's "domestic occurrences" are of the same figurative character?

When a letter-press joke is indulged in in the shape of an advertisement of any kind, it is inserted under conditions which prevent its being passed over or its bringing suspicion upon the genuine matter-of-fact announcements.

MR. JUSTICE O KINEALY has obtained furlough from the 21st February to the 8th September 1889.

FOR the better sanitation of emigrant coolies, the Government of India has proposed the following addition to the Rules under the Indian Emigration Act, XXI of 1883:

"Every emigrant ship shall have a clearing space on the upper-deck of at least four square feet for each statute adult carried in the between-decks."

OUR sovereign is always happy in her personal intercourse with the poor. A boy named Thomas Bond having picked up a pocket-handkerchief dropped from the Queen's carriage as Her Majesty and the Empress Frederick were driving near Windsor, his sister sent it with a letter to the Castle. She has received a prompt answer, thanking her for her letter and the handkerchief, which, she was thereby informed, belonged to the Empress Frederick. The cream of the letter for its poor recipient was its enclosure which is referred to in the conclusion, thus:—"Sir H. Ponsonby, in expressing the Queen's thanks to Thomas Bond, is desired to send him the enclosed postal order for £1 as a donation from Her Majesty." God save the Queen!

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE New Year dawned with the usual parade, before the Viceroy, on the Madras, of the troops in garrison and the local Volunteers, and the firing of the royal salute and *feu de joie* in remembrance of the Assumption of title of Empress by the Queen. The auspicious day closed with the State Banquet at Government House and the customary Gazette of Honors. The Viceroy and Lady Lansdowne gave *celat* to the dinner by their united presence. The Fancy Fair at the Zoo was not omitted. It was attended by the Viceroy and the ladies of Gov-

ernment House who were received by Mr. Gubbay and Nawab Abdool Lateef of the Committee. Lord Lansdowne contributed to the Charities by entering appearance at many of the stalls. The last of the Honored is as follows:

### To be Knights Commanders, Star of India.

The Hon. David Miller Barbour, C.S.I., Bengal Civil Service, Member of the Council of the Governor-General.  
Nawab Muhammad Akram Khan, C.S.I., Chief of Amb, in the Hazara District of the Punjab.

### To be Companions, Star of India.

The Hon. Andrew Richard Scoble, Q.C., Ordinary Member of the Council of the Governor-General.  
George Douglas Bures, Esq., Bengal Civil Service, Commissioner, Northern Division of Upper Burma.

### To be Knights Commanders, Indian Empire.

Henry Mortimer Durand, Esq., C.S.I., Bengal Civil Service, Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department.  
Maharaja Krishna Pratap Singh Bahadur, of Haryana, in Bengal.  
Arthur George Mapherson, Esq., Judicial and Public Secretary, India Office, London.  
William Mackay, Esq., late Puisne Judge of the Calcutta High Court.  
Henry Stuart Cunningham, Esq., late Puisne Judge of the Calcutta High Court.

### To be Companions, Indian Empire.

Lieutenant-Colonel Edwin Henry Hyatt Collett, Bengal Staff Corps, Secretary to the Government of India in the Military Department.  
The Hon. S. Subramanya Aiyar, Rai Bahadur, Additional Member of the Council of the Governor of Fort St. George for making Laws and Regulations.

Edwin Felix Thomas Atkinson, Esq., Bengal Civil Service, Accountant-General of Bengal.

Captain John Hext, Royal Navy, A. D. C., Director of Marine under the Government of India.

Ramakrishna Gopud Bhandarkar, Professor of Oriental Languages in the Deccan College, Poona.

Lieutenant-Colonel William Breerton Hudson, Commandant of the Behar Light Horse.

Surgeon-Major John Findlay, M. B., Army Medical Department, late Surgeon to the Viceroy.

Sayid Mubbar Ali, Honorary Magistrate of Thanet Galsathi, in the Bulandshahr District of the North-Western Provinces.

Henry Josiah Whympere, Esq., Manager of the Muree Brewery Company.

Raja Sudhal Deo, Feudatory Chief of Bamra, in the Central Provinces.

Fredrick William Stevens, Esq., Associate of the Institution of Civil Engineers.

Babu Pratap Chandra Rai, of Calcutta.

Arthur Wills Paul, Esq., Bengal Civil Service, Deputy Commissioner of Darjiling.

### Maharaja (hereditary)

Lieutenant-Colonel His Highness Maharaja Raja Sawar Mangal Singh Bahadur, G. C. S. I., of Alwar.

### Maharao (hereditary)

His Highness Rao Kesh Singh Bahadur, of Serohi.

### Raja Bahadur (personal)

Kumar Balkunth Nath Dey, of Balesore.

### Raja (personal)

Ra Baidyo Nath Pundit Bahadur, Zemindar of Dupna, in the Cuttack District.

Babu Shasta Shaktiwar Roy, Zemindar of Gourpur, in the Rajshahi District.

Tendook Pulger, of Kannee, Honorary Magistrate in the Dapling District.

Ra Bahadur Seth Gokuldas, of Jubbulpur.

### Shams-ul-Uluma (personal)

Dastur Dr. Peshotun Behramji Saigum, Principal of the Anandabhai Zenda and Petliya Madressa, in Bombay.

Maulvi Syed Wahedooddeen, Khan Bahadur, of Patna.

### Khatra Firdausi (personal)

Khan Sahib Rattunji Begum, of the Commutation Department in Bombay.

Senior Apothecary Shrikumar, Assistant to the Surgeon to the Government of Bombay.

Sardar Surtan Bhirum, Subedar, Extra Assistant Commissioner in the Peshawar District.

Mir Rasul Bakhshi, Razvi, of Surawm, in Baluchistan.

Muhammad Ghaseemuddin, Inspector in the Department for the Suppression of Thuggee and Dacoity.

### Rao Bahadur (personal)

Rao Sahib Ranchandra Trimbak Acharya, District Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor in the Hanc District of the Bombay Presidency.

Rao Sahib Ahmad Trilokdas Bhojvan, B. A., Deputy Educational Inspector at Karachi.

A. V. Nara Singa Rao, F. R. A. S., of the Vizapatnam District of the Madras Presidency.

N. Siva Rao, Pleader, Municipal Councillor at Mandlore in the Madras Presidency.

P. Puranya Panabai, Huzur Sarishtadar of Vizapatnam and temporarily Deputy Collector of Bellary in the Madras Presidency.

Salem Ramaswami Modaliyar, M. A., B. L., Municipal Commissioner at Madras.  
Rao Yado Rao Pande, Honorary Magistrate of Bhandara, in the Central Provinces.

Thakur Gobind Singh, of Jampur, in Rajputana.

*Rao Bahadur* (personal.)

Babu Ram Pershad, late Subordinate Judge of Patna.  
Babu Gopal Chunder Mookerjee, Honorary Assistant Examiner in the Public Work Department of the Government of Bengal.  
Assistant Surgeon, Prosunno Roy, Additional Chemical Examiner to the Bengal Medical Service, Calcutta.

Barindra Chandra Ghosal, late First Grade Inspector of Police in the Local Provinces of Bengal.

B. C. Ghosh and Boro, Municipal Commissioner, Honorary Magistrate and Justice of the Peace for the Town of Calcutta.

Babu Umakant Dass, Assistant Political Agent of Hill Tipperah.

*Sardar Bahadur* (personal.)

Sardar Ratan Singh, District Superintendent of Police in the Central Provinces.

*Khun Sahib* (personal.)

Cowasji Hormuji Dada Charji, Contractor at Aden.

*Rao Sahib* (personal.)

Lalubhai Kasandas, late Naib Subah under the Baroda Darbar.  
Seth Askaran, Honorary Magistrate of Raipur, in the Central Provinces.

*Kyet thaye zung shwe Salwe ya Min* (personal.)

Maung Gale, Extra Assistant Commissioner in the Tavoy District.  
Maung Ne Dun, Municipal Commissioner and Honorary Magistrate in Prome.

Yin Wei Shang, of Mandalay.

*Thure gung ngaw Da ya Min* (personal.)

Maung San Ya, Myook of Salu, in the Minbu District.  
Maung Tun Hla, Head Constable of Police in the Myingyan District.

*Mhmadun gung Tawek ya Min* (personal.)

Maung Hle, Honorary Magistrate and Municipal Commissioner in Moulmein.

Maung Tha Dun, Municipal Commissioner in Mergui.

Maung Pe, Wun of Myadung.

Maung Sa, Myook of Uyu, in the Upper Chindwin District.

Maung Bya Gale, Karen elder, of Pegu.

THE latest telegram throws light of no lurid grimness on the fate of the heroes who, having penetrated to the heart of the Dark Continent, had been cut off from communication with the rest of the world and were understood to have been cut down or captured. An Egyptian soldier, it is believed, has returned at Wadi Hulfa from Omdurman, which he left in the last days of November. According to him, Emin Pasha goes in the Soudan as the "White Pasha," and he reports that Emin has not been captured. On the contrary, in October, the Pasha hurled back a formidable attack on his position by the followers of the Madhi, six thousand strong.

IN Germany, the new Emperor has commenced the reaction by decorating with the Black Eagle the minister Herr Von Puttkammer. In the late Emperor's time, he was not only Minister of the Interior but also Vice-President of the Council of Ministers. The liberal Frederick divided the organised mind and action with the free choice by the people of their representatives, which is the reproach of constitutionalism of the Continent. He proved his earnestness by a really winning letter in favour of an impartial attitude by Government and urging them to stop official pressure at elections. That letter involved the Emperor in a serious quarrel with his Cabinet. Prince Bismarck, protected against the publication of a document which was tantamount to a condemnation of the Great Chancellor's methods of "educating" his party and the people. That letter ought never to have been written, but having been fulminated, its existence could not be helped by even the resourceful genius of a Bismarck.

A covering autograph could not, of course, be formally withdrawn, but it could be suppressed. Bismarck could not allow a publication which would discredit the Government and ruin his own prestige. He would take it as an expression of the Emperor's want of confidence in him and resign. The Chancellor was far too important to be so lightly sacrificed, and yet the Emperor could not, at the very outset of his reign, consent to eat humble pie. Bismarck thought fit to moderate his pretensions and the poor Vice-President Puttkammer was offered as a vicarious sacrifice. He is now making amends to his *protégé*. The enemy on the throne is no more. With the ascension of a loyal Emperor, the great Chancellor's influence is again whole and entire, and he has once more the opportunity to serve his friends and followers as well as his cause, and recover the continuity of his policy. That is the

significance of the decoration conferred on Herr Von Puttkammer. The order of the Black Eagle rescues that statesman from unmerited obscurity. We expect him to be soon recalled to the theatre of action.

THE Prime Minister is suffering, as he deserves, for his unworthy slip of a facile tongue, in sneering at our brother of the same ilk—Dadabhai—as a "black man." Our countrymen in Great Britain fired off volleys of letters of indignant protest in the newspapers. The Radical press took up the cause of the "coloured" Radical candidate. The leader of the Opposition and champion of humanity, the Grand Old Man, did not, of course, let slip such an opportunity for political capital, but roundly challenged the Premier. His eloquent son, Mr. Herbert Gladstone, took the cue and, at a public meeting in the country, said that he had seen both men, the former Liberal Candidate for Holborn and the Marquis of Salisbury, and he had a distinct impression that the latter is the blacker man. The joke now spread. One of the evening papers distinguished itself by printing a dark profile intended for the portrait of Mr. Ritchie, the President of the Local Government Board, in the act of reading the Premier's Edinburgh speech, saying, "Lord Salisbury says no more black men: what, then, is to become of me?"—Mr. Ritchie being about the darkest member of the House of Commons! This sort of ridicule is the just punishment for such offence, and is far more effective than the brimstone and fury of our friends nearer home.

THERE has been a tempest in a teapot, at the Oxford University. There is a university journal called the *Undergraduate*, issued from New College. The tone of this journal was the tone of the hobbledehoyhood of the day—far from gentlemanly. After the easy-going indifference, not to say pusillanimity, of the day, however, the authorities do not interfere with the impertinent publication, until their own withers were specially and individually tried. The inevitable collision came at last. One fine Wednesday morning, as the Hon. L. J. Bathurst was entertaining his undergraduate fellows of the *Undergraduate* staff at breakfast, doubtless discussing with the viands on the table the pungent paragraphs of the last issue and preparing for the scandal of the next, a peremptory message for his immediate attendance brought him up before the enraged Warden and other dons sitting in solemn conclave to decide his fate. He was told that there had been complaints against the *Undergraduate*, that they had made inquiries and discovered his hand in the concern. Some passages objected to were pointed out. The Hon. boy was honourable and sensible enough not to deny his complicity. He had not written the paragraphs but had seen and passed them. There was no use in attempting any explanation after that. His doom had been settled in the despotic way of the schoolmasters before he had entered appearance. The chief pedagogue—the Warden—would have used the tether which their own weakness had given the culprit to hang him with almost. He was for expulsion, but the tutors were less sanguinarily disposed. The Hon. Master Bathurst was ordered to rusticate for a year.

The announcement of the sentence against the publicist of the College and the leader of the undergraduates, caused a storm of indignation in the College. To us in this country, the incident recalls the fury of the schoolboy population of Calcutta when the redoubtable Surrender Not was sent to prison by the High Court for a worse outrage—an utterly unjustifiable libel not on the authorities of educational institution but one of Her Majesty's Judges. We are bound to confess that the British boys show themselves off to advantage in the comparison. Under an equal exacerbation of feeling, they exhibited better temper and discipline than our unruly chaps trained under our arch patriot. They petitioned, begged, entreated, cried, some of them may have remonstrated, but they did not break the windows of New College. Failing in their prayer in behalf of the condemned, they demonstrated their sympathy for him. They assembled in large numbers in the quadrangle in front, before 2 O'clock of Thursday, when Master Bathurst was to leave, drowned the short speech he made from his carriage window in their vociferous cheering, and unharnessing the horse, took its place, and drew the cab through the street to the railway.

And then, as usual—in England as in Bengal—there was—an end of it.

To signalize the visit of Sir Stewart Bayley to Balasore, the sons and heirs of the late Raja Shyamanand De Bahadoor, Kumars

Baikuntha Nath and Satyendra Nath, have placed at the disposal of the Magistrate of Balasore a sum of Rs. 500 for an annual medal to the most successful boy of the Balasore zillah school, in Sanskrit at the University Entrance Examination. And, in memory of their father, they have transferred to the Balasore District Board the zemindary right in Mouzah Bargan with an annual income of Rs. 300, Rs. 200 of which is to be devoted to new wells and tanks and the balance to the Chanchah Pilgrim Hospital, under the name of the "Rani Steemati Endowment." The brothers are sharp men of the world, so well they serve their interests in all the worlds. They kill three birds by one shot. They fully deserve the thanks of the Local Government which have been accorded them. The titled mantle of the father falls on Kumar Baikuntha Nath, according to the New Year's Gazette.

It is announced in the *Evening News* that "the leave which Mr. Westland is about to take will probably extend to a year." The announcement may perhaps be extended without hurt to probability. We take it the financial gentleman is leaving us, in expressive English colloquialism, for good. For good or better—or worse, he is not going to serve under his inferiors or fellows. It is even said that he was dishonoured for the nonce, by way of preparation for the inevitable descent from the heights of the official Avernus to the vale of retirement and that bottomless pit of bubbling English life, in which the White rivers of the East are extinguished. He utilised the opportunity for a voluminous but lucid Budget Statement. As Economic Discourses are *caveat* to the general, he has got himself into the portrait gallery of *The Empire*, the illustrated fortnightly.

"A district Magistrate" writes to the *Englishman*:—"At meetings that have been held recently in various places, to express sympathy with the objects of the National Congress, gentlemen associated with Government as members of District Boards and Municipalities, as Government pleaders, and in other ways, have taken part in proceedings and have consented to be elected delegates. Those gentlemen must have been aware that, in the writings, at least, of some of the most prominent advocates of the Congress, British rule has been mendaciously, maliciously and seditiously assailed, while persistent endeavours have been made to excite hatred against those by whom the Government of the country is carried on. Is the action of these gentlemen consistent with their position?"

The *Bombay Times* from which we take the quotation prints it as "very pertinent." That may be the rhetorically conceded, but to what purpose? The matter is one of good feeling and propriety which can never be enforced by statute or rule, till the thoughtlessness takes a pronounced form. Our Dacca contemporary is wroth with the chairman of the local municipality and another member of it, being as such public servants, going to the Congress which has circulated seditious pamphlets. The writer apparently desires that the Magistrate should take serious notice of their conduct. We hope he will do nothing of the kind. Indeed, he may be relied upon not to disturb the hornets' nest.

LIKE the Moharram, Christmas week too has its collisions and casualties. At Benares, a party of the Lancashire Regiment landed into a hamlet and rifled an *attack* shop. A correspondent writes on the subject:—

"From what I have been able to gather of this occurrence, it appears that a gang of a dozen men—in fact, more—last Thursday night entered a native village at the rear of the military cantonary, and breaking into a liquor shop, walked off with a quantity of liquor. One *chuttie* full was subsequently found in the old telegraph office. They milled to their hearts' content, and about eight or nine men were so drunk that they could not conceal their state the following morning. Two men in particular were very, very bad. One died as he was being lifted up, and an injection had to be passed into the arm of another to restore animation. In order to get at the other offenders, I believe a full parade was held, and the natives of the village asked to identify any they could; but, of course, they failed to do so."

Not a doubt of it! One of the most difficult feats under the sun is to identify Europeans—they are so much alike in their loud glaring white colour. We wonder whether their friends and relations are at a loss as to who's who.

This fact has a judicial aspect. We hope it will be remembered at the next trial of a European soldier for murdering a native, for the protection of the native witnesses from bullying by eminent barristers who ought to be above Bow Street lawyer tactics.

We forgot to notice that the *Advocate of India* had nearly doubled itself. It is, on the face of it, a hazardous feat, and we congratulate our contemporary on its success in it. The notable part of the matter is that the increase in bulk involves not the customers in any additional charge. This is avoided by increased advertisements and using cheap printing-paper.

THE same paper has a curious article on the *India*. Question. It starts with the discovery of the tea plant in Assam. Member of Council in 1823, the absence of private enterprise to utilise the opportunity presented, the establishment of the first garden in Lakhmoo in 1835, and the transfer of the business to private hands five years after when, encouraged by the results of the state experiment, private capitalists came forward to take it over. Early enough was experienced the difficulty of procuring labourers in a wild country with a then lazy population. But let our contemporary speak:—

"An Act passed in the year 1859 helped, from the employer's point of view, to simplify some of the difficulties that must always arise among imported labourers. The planters could only obtain the Bengalee coolies at considerable expense. No doubt at first people living just beyond the border could be induced to emigrate to Assam; but the number of these waifs and strays must soon have been exhausted. In a few years it was common for recruiters to go abroad for hundreds of miles in search of emigrants; indeed, much has lately been heard of women being kidnapped in Calcutta for work in Assam—which is equivalent to saying that Kurrachee look to this city for its labourers. But it often happened that the emigrants had no sooner been set to work than they became home-sick, and ran away; or the work on the garden did not suit them, and they refused to continue at it. In any case the planter was the sufferer. He not only lost a valuable servant, but he forfeited the money he had already spent in procuring him. In this emergency it occurred to ingenious men that the Indian Artificers' Act of 1859 might be worked so as to bind coolies to a specified period of servitude, under the pain of imprisonment.

It is one of the chief objections to the Assam coolie traffic that the framers of this enactment had not occupied themselves with coolie contracts: probably if they had done so, the special circumstances of Assam would have received treatment of a different kind. But, in some way, the High Court once held that the Act was applicable to contract coolie labour in Assam. Of the abuses that soon grew up in Bengal under the wide provisions of this measure there is lasting record in several well-known law-suits and in that famous 'Mirror of Indigo' for which an English missionary, who desired to bring them to light, suffered imprisonment. Technically, no doubt, he had been guilty of a libel; but he convinced the Government of the need for special coolie legislation. An Act of 1872 was therefore passed, with a view of anchoring the condition of the contract labourers."

This is history at express speed, to be sure! From 1861, when the Rev. James Long was sent to jail, at the indictment of the Editor of the *Englishman*, to 1872, a leap worthy of the worthies of the Heroic Period of New York enshrined in the classic pages of Diedrich Knickerbocker. Nor is that all. The transition from Tea to Indigo, is equally without notice. The writer is evidently innocent of the "Mirror of Indigo," or he would not describe it as a picture of "the abuses that soon grew up in Bengal under the wide provisions of this measure."

To wit, the Indian Artificers' Act of 1859. There were abuses enough, but they were not the result of that law or any other, but rather of the defective working of law. Practically, the peasantry were denied protection of all law. It was the wilder horrors of that anomalous system that that crude and sensational book had dished up. The book was written before the Act and, of course, had no reference to it. Such being the book, Mr. Long's suffering could have no bearing upon the legislation of 1859, or any other. Nevertheless, the upshot of the celebrated trial in the opinion of this Bombay writer was to expose the Act of 1859. The book is rich for absurdity, and the absurdity is emphasised by the wording of our contemporary, "he [Mr. Long] convinced the Government of the need for special coolie legislation." No coolies were mentioned at all during the trial, in the court or out of it. Nor was the attention of Government called to them. Neither the author of the "Mirror of Indigo" nor its translator, had anything to do with coolies; for the simple reason that, though coolies are employed in the factories, it is the peasantry, the *raggys* as they are called—who are mainly concerned in Indigo cultivation.

A FRIENDLY gentleman, William Wight, of the Arab's Tent, Chislehurst, formerly vicar of Harbury, died leaving a will by which he desired to found a college for ladies, for he was not satisfied that they were being properly trained for the duties of wife, mistress and mother. He laid down that women should be something more useful and



more noble than a pretty doll, a butterfly, or a plaything for her husband. To make them so, he prescribed, in his will, early rising of the ladies at the college; cold baths in the morning; quarterly conversations at the college, two-thirds of the invitations to be sent to single gentlemen. It was also his wish to be buried in his garden by the grave of his noble Labrador dog "Friend." This expression of a truly benevolent soul came under the consideration of a philistine on the bench, who has set his face against the charity and barked at the ghost of the honest Labrador gent "Friend." Mr. Justice Chitty has pronounced these provisions of the will illegal—perhaps against good policy or the ruling fashion of the hour—and ordered the distribution of the property among the next-of-kin. If the clergyman had lived to carry out his wishes—if in his lifetime he had attempted the reform, he would not have been called eccentric as he is now, and many wise ones would have supported him in his good work. But now he is dead, his spirit must submit to the wisdom of the survivors and the scorching blasts of the unsympathetic.

Verily, the wisdom of the law is beyond us. We cannot imagine what could so entirely upset the bench or what was most offensive to it. Was it the early rising or the cold bath? Or, was it the unbecoming friendship of the Christian minister with poor doggey? Or, was it an irritation against the nefarious attempt to determine the doll and butterfly existence for women? We are prepared to go a great way with the learned Judge. We think early rising a bore, and the habit a slavery. To plunge poor girls at random at this time of the year, in the British climate, into cold water, is a positive barbarity which ought to subject the offender to the heaviest penalties of a good Cruelty to Animals Act. But, surely, none of these was reason enough for robbing the world of a fine institution. Surely, some or all of these provisions might have been knocked on the head and yet Mr. Wight's main idea of a college for giving a substantial, as distinguished from a showy, education to girls, preserved!

#### ERRATA IN VOL. VII.

Page 570, column 2, line 9 from bottom, *for* depended *read* deepened

Page 533, column 1, line 34 from bottom, *for* appointment *read* addition

Same page and col. 1, 19 from bottom, *for* backs *read* legs

P. 594, c. 1, l. 13 from below, *for* with *read* on; c. 2, l. 7, *for* unwilling *read* unwitting and omit the comma in l. 12.

P. 592, c. 2, last note, l. 5, *for* Muza's *read* Meer Saheb's

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1889.

We tender to Government and People—governors and governed alike—our *ashceerbad*. To one and all, we wish a Happy New Year.

#### THE NEW HONOURS.

In another column we have already given the New Year's Honours List. We will here review it at length.

Mr. Barbour is not only an able servant of the state but a *persona grata* with the powers, both here and there. He realises the Indian example of luck of the man who before climbing the tree finds a bunch of fruit at the root. He enters on his promotion to the Supreme Council with a distinguished handle to his name. His case was secure when the late Viceroy did him the honour to quote him in the St. Andrew's dinner oration. In fact, he had already charmed the India Office by his evidence that the people of this country were making rapid strides in prosperity and had already absorbed several hundred crores of the

precious metals. Chaffing apart, a worthier man could scarcely be found for the sovereign to honour.

The Hazara Chief would have appreciated a jagir better. The letters of the English alphabet are wasted upon one who is not very learned.

The Companions for the same Order are well selected. Mr. Scoble is a genial veteran of lucid understanding who works quietly on well-tryed lines. In this way he has already done good service to the state not only as legislator but also as the constant legal adviser of the Viceroy. The importance of his functions is paramount. Ours is pre-eminently a *régime* of law, and the influence of the one man of law in the Government of India cannot be exaggerated. Yet that influence is not only exerted in secret, but is frequently so subtle in itself as to escape public notice. Duties, however, are none the less onerous because they are performed without fuss and away from the observation of the world. This remark is not confined to Mr. Scoble. We dwell on the point the more readily, because it applies to a great many officers and subjects to whom the state is beholden. Indeed, the Law Member enjoys opportunities for public distinction which are out of the reach of many and many classes of public servants. So far as we may judge, chiefly by the negative process, Mr. Scoble's influence on Government has been of the best. He may not startle you with legislative rockets or projects of crude originality or impracticable reform—but he gives one a sense of security. He is far from an antiquated traditionalist. He is above the weakness of change for sake of change or his own name. He has more consequence and self-respect than that. He has purged our statute-book of the inhumanity of the barbarous law of debtor and creditor.

We are sure he will, continuing as he has begun, give us some enduring work of industry and art. He has a splendid field in Burma. He may yet be to Upper Burma what Cornwallis has been to Bengal and Elphinstone to Bombay. In India Proper, he can give us a nomenclature. It is high time to dispense with the old world Moonsiff and Tehsildar—Mr. Burgess has done good service in Upper Burma.

The time had come for Mr. Durand's knighthood. The worthy son of a worthy father, he has a hereditary familiarity with the Foreign department, into which he was early inducted. He has earned the good opinions of successive Viceroys. We are glad to see the Maharaja of Hutwa has at last attained the acme of ambition. Mr. Macpherson's work lies out of our jurisdiction. Dr. Markby is a Pandit, and we did not know that he was solicitous of the honour of knighthood. Perhaps it is for the lady. Mr. Cunningham was always a tuft-hunter.

Colonel Collen as Military Secretary to Government has had in late times an extraordinary strain to bear, and properly gets his Companionship of the Indian Empire. He is reputed to be a genial, kind officer, whose distinction is a source of satisfaction to the natives of his department. We congratulate Mr. E. F. T. Atkinson. To his services as Accountant-General, he adds an interest in the literature and history of the country which is rare among contemporary Civil Servants. Mr. Stevens is the adorer of Bombay. Such men who contribute to the enjoyment and taste of a people for all time are peculiar objects of attention and honour by the state. Mr. A. W. Paul is Companioned obviously for his share in the war and peace with Thibet. India having abolished its navy, Capt. Hext, we suppose, has been

useful in advising on the coast and river defences. Might he not with some advantage be put to devise some method by which the frequent loss of passenger vessels might be prevented? An unexceptionable appointment is that of Col. W. B. Hudson, Commandant of the Behar Light Horse. Considering the great fame and unbounded influence of Mr. Hudson, it is incredible that he had not been singled out for decoration before. For himself, the leader of the strong unofficial Europeans of Behar did not stand in need of Government recognition, to make his position one of surpassing dignity. And the Government scarcely dared to approach a power in the land with their pitiful gewgaws and their alphabetic combinations. Even now, we regard this *c. i. e.* as a compliment, poor enough as it is, to the Volunteers of India. It is, of course, the prelude.

The native gentlemen selected for the Companionship of the Indian Empire, are all men of position or of mark in some way or another. First comes the Doyen of Young Madras, the Hon'ble Rai Bahadur S. Subramaniya Aiyar. A leading Pleader of the local High Court, and a weighty writer, he is one of the formators of native public opinion, in the South. Active in all movements for well-doing, he is one of the most retiring men, with modesty equal to his talents. He is a specimen of the finest type of modern Brahmanhood—a survival of all that was best in the race, strengthened by Western cultivation. It is an enjoyment to see him and watch him at work, as we had an opportunity of doing at the Calcutta Congress. To the credit of Lord Connemara, his services in the legislature were promptly recognised by the bestowal of a Rai Bahaduri. More credit to the same statesman, who has now got him this new honour. The ruler who knights this quiet patriot will honour himself and exalt the Order. We wonder why another sterling Southerner and glory of the Brahman race, Mr. Anand Charloo, is left in the lurch. Is it possible he has trodden on any official corns? He is apt to be impatient of nonsense, even though it come from a magnate, and may have given offence. But he is just the man to be useful to the state, from his talents, his knowledge, and his independence. He too is a lawyer and a man of thought as well as action. He is capable of holding his own in any assembly, yet modest withal. An earnest politician and devoted public man, he clings to the obscurity in which he loves to work. Such public virtue is rare in any country.

Professor Bhandarkar is a *savant* of European distinction. A Pandit of the old learning and modern methods, he has long enriched the pages of the *Indian Antiquary* and the transactions of learned societies, with his disquisitions on the antiquities and ancient literature of India. His presence at the last Oriental Congress, with his sleek burly form and dirty sacred string peeping from beneath his not irreproachable under-clothes, was an event in the learned world. Such an apparition of a Hindu Dr. Johnson had never been seen by the untravelled Sanskritists of Europe, who try to teach the Vedas and to set the old Rishis right, without coming near India or having the advantage of listening to the living repositories of Rishi tradition. Great was the interest created for the moment by the visit, and the visitor was duly honoured.

The claims of Saiyid Mihrban Ali, Honorary Magistrate in Bulundshar, we are not aware of. Probably, he assisted in preserving order during the Moharram disturbances. Raja Sudhal Deo, of Bamra,

is the Chief of a state in the Central Provinces so little known even to the most knowing that we better give some information. Bamra lies in the Sambalpur District. It is the fourth of the native states in that Government for extent, its area being some 2,000 square miles. The population, however, is insignificant, about 57,000, and the revenue trilling, about Rs. 6,000 per annum. It pays an annual tribute of Rs. 350. In that backward back Province, all that represents a respectable income and a good position. The Raja is a man of influence as the head of an ignorant population, who may be led to any mischief by their lord. We dare say he has been found to exercise his position for good. His seat is Deoghar—one of the half dozen places in India of that name.

The next native name was an inevitable one. Pratap Chandra Roy is a name now famous throughout the civilised world. He has risen from nothing—all the more honour to him! Long before a single European heard of him, he was known in his country as a cheap publisher and gratuitous distributor of the sacred literature of India, in original as well as in vernacular translations, made to order by him by different scholars. His success emboldened him to undertake a work, the colossal character of which had scared away the industry of the *savants* and the enterprise of the booksellers of the West—the translation of the Mahabharata. He has already done a good proportion of the work and sown thousands of copies broadcast throughout the world, free of charge or at a nominal price. Of course, he has done it all by public subscription, and latterly with some help from Government. But those who have ever attempted to do anything in the same line, understand the difficulty of it and the energy and tact required. Pratap Chandra has devoted himself to the work. He has laid the world under obligation, and served the cause of his country. The most eminent men of all quarters of the globe, have acknowledged this. Her Majesty has graciously received his Mahabharat and, what is better, read it with interest. This honour, therefore, comes as a matter of course.

We must reserve comments on the remainder of the List for another time.

#### THE NATIONAL CONGRESS.

THE sittings of the great National Congress are over, and the delegates are returning to their own places, after a week's pleasant labour. The new feature of the movement, this year, is that, at the head of the fourteen hundred delegates, an eminent Anglo-Indian, a very respectable member of the merchant community of Calcutta, Mr. George Yule, presided. Another European gentleman, a member of the English bar at Madras was very prominent in taking part in the discussions of the assembly. A third, a member of the Eurasian community and the presiding deity in all matters concerning it in the Madras Presidency, would have been found helping the assembly with his official experience and mature judgment on questions of education and other general matters; but illness detained him in his native town. We regret his absence from the Congress, especially because, as an old man broken in official harness, Mr. D. S. White is the only person to know exactly what to ask and how to ask the many concessions that are in the Congress programme, and his suggestions would have been of great value to the delegates.

The resolutions passed, were almost identical with those of previous years, with one or two additions.

It is due to our readers as well as to ourselves, that we should at last express our opinion on the more prominent at least of the conclusions arrived at. We have hitherto purposely refrained from saying anything on the merits of those questions, because our views were very different from those generally held. Speaking plainly, we feared, we would create much unpleasantness in many quarters, without being able to bring our friends to the right path. The principal thing to be regretted about this Congress movement, is the overzealousness of almost all the leaders, which make them obstinate in their own ideas of reforms and deaf to the remonstrance of honest critics. And hence, it is, that we miss the most important of all the resolutions, that we expected to be passed by the delegates. A resolution embodying the simple acknowledgement of the Madras Committee's mistake in approving, as Congress publications, political tracts which really contained some seditious matters, would have been sufficient to bring back in our ranks many high officials like Sir Auckland Colvin. But such a proposition, the subject Committee did not think worth its consideration. And this they did for one of the two reasons. It might be that the Committee was afraid to offend Mr. Hume, who is the author of one of those tracts, or they satisfied themselves with the assurance of Mr. Hume himself that the book was not seditious. Whatever it was, for the sake of the Congress itself, as well as of the credit of the educated classes, we were pained to see that the delegates omitted to do their first duty to the Government as well to the people. Then again, in asking for the reform of the Supreme and the Provincial Legislative Councils, every one forgot the many difficulties that stand in the way of the Government in acceding to this demand. Not one of the speakers had enlightened us in detail, as to how the reform should be carried into effect, and the reason was that they could not. Mr. George Yule, in his inaugural speech, said: "We propose that the constituencies should consist of Members of municipalities, Chambers of Commerce, Trades Associations, Associations like the British Indian Association and, generally, all persons possessing such qualifications, educational and pecuniary, as may be deemed necessary." Now, taking the Bengal Presidency, as an example, we see that it consists of 48 Districts, each of which has got many wealthy Zemindars within its jurisdiction, many respectable pleaders in its law courts, many municipal boards having intelligent and educated members. Next, we have the many metropolitan and mofussil associations, which are also useful adjuncts to the Government even now. If the elective system is at all introduced, and if the Government is to maintain an impartial position to all the resident population, all those we have enumerated above, must have the franchise. For, all of them are qualified to vote either from point of education or of wealth. Over and above these, are the many diverse interests throughout the province, which demand at the hands of the Government an equal treatment. To limit the elective power to metropolitan associations and to educated and wealthy men, would be an injustice to the mofussil population, and they can not look on such reforms with indifference. Unless the Councils become unusually large, anything by way of election is impossible. Of course, the Government can increase the number of non-official\* members and take in many intelligent and educated men of the commu-

nity by means of nomination, and that is the only thing possible at present. We need hardly say that in the Supreme Council, anything by way of election is more impracticable, as it holds its sway over the whole of India.

G.

## State Paper.

No. 169.

From P. Nolan, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, on Special Duty,

To the Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department

Dated Calcutta, the 24th October 1888.

[Continued from vol. vii. p. 598.]

11. The assistance of the immigrants who arrive in great numbers not only from Bengal, but also from Madras and from Upper Burma, forming one-seventh of the whole population, is absolutely necessary for the maintenance of the present economical condition of Lower Burma, for without them the rice crop could not be harvested, carried to the ports, or husked in the factories for exportation. And further aid will be required if an advance is to be made, if the waste land which forms 82 per cent. of the area of the province is to be reclaimed, if the more valuable crops are to be introduced, if manufactures are to be established, mines and springs of mineral oil to be worked. Though the natural multiplication of the population is rapid, it has not in the past, and cannot in the immediate future, keep pace with the growing requirements of industry. This is a fact realized by all business men in Burma: it is everywhere felt that remunerative investments for capital remain unused for want of labour, and the desire is universal to foster immigration in order to promote the prosperity of the province.

12. It seems obvious that the exchequer must benefit in many ways by the conversion of a labourer who, in Behar, can but imperfectly supply himself with the primary necessities of life into a prosperous cultivator, or highly-paid workman in Burma. The precise extent of this benefit hardly admits of calculation: but I may remark that the incidence of taxation, imperial and provincial, which is only a rupee a head in Bengal,\* amounts to seven rupees a head in Burma. The whole of the excess of six rupees a year is probably gained by Government on each permanent settler, as such men really contribute nothing in their native province, except by a trifling consumption of salt, while in Burma they aid in the reclamation of revenue-paying land, and generally take their share in the industry and in the burdens of the country. In particular, they pay, after five years' residence, the capitation tax, which is levied at the rate of Rs. 2 8 on bachelors, Rs. 5 on married men, and, after numerous deductions for transfers of this source of income in certain places to municipalities, yields to Government about a rupee a head on the whole population, including women and children. This tax is not in force elsewhere, and is a tangible source of profit to the exchequer in the case of migration to Burma.

13. In my letter No. 87 T.R., dated 30th June, the opinion of the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal was expressed that the immensity of the wages paid in certain districts was due to the superabundant supply of labour,—a view borne out by the fact that the evil is not felt where population has been kept down by endemic disease, as in Burdwan, or where scope for its increase is given by the existence of reclaimable waste, as in Chittagong. If Behar has suffered more than other parts of Bengal in this respect, it is because its inhabitants are more healthy, and its agricultural resources have been developed at an earlier period, so that the population increases without finding an outlet. The soil in these districts is fertile, there is no want of capital for any enterprise of real promise, the people are industrious and frugal; all the conditions of agricultural prosperity exist except the most essential, that is, the maintenance of a due proportion between the population and the natural resources of the country. Under such circumstances, it is felt that every man who leaves Behar makes room for another, who might otherwise fail to find employment, and it has for many years been the settled policy of Government to encourage emigration by every possible means, in particular by the construction of roads and railways in the direction in which the population seeks an outlet. It is sometimes said that the relief thus given is inappreciable, and I own that there seems no immediate prospect of emigration on a scale sufficient to effect a material increase in the wages current in Upper India. The population of the districts specified by the Government of Bengal as those in which the pressure is most felt

\* It is nearly two rupees a head if we include opium, but the receipts of this branch of the revenue, derived as they are from the Chinese consumers, can hardly be connected in any special way with Bengal, and certainly should not be taken into account for the present purpose.

exceeds fifteen millions, and behind these there are the inhabitants of Oudh and of a part of the North-Western Provinces, who seem to be, so far as the landless labourers are concerned, in much the same position as those who reside in the worst part of Behar. The case requires the transfer of millions, while the most sanguine can only hope to move hundreds of thousands. And the causes of over-population may continue to act for an indefinite period, whereas the field for emigration, if it be adequately worked, must be exhausted, at the furthest, in half a century. But these considerations are useful only as tending to prevent the adoption by Government of the sanguine expectations sometimes raised by those who do not compare with sufficient attention the numerical proportion between the population which it is desired to relieve and the emigrants for whom practical provision can be made. Emigration, whether to Burma, Assam, or the Colonies, on any scale which can be reasonably contemplated, is not, it must be confessed, a panacea for the evils of the working classes; but it is at least a palliative, and as such it should not be despised. A complete remedy can, perhaps, be sought only in the alteration of customs adapted to economic conditions the reverse of those which at present exist; and Government may, in my opinion, promote such a change most efficiently by extending popular education, which is in a most backward state in Behar, where its influence can hardly be said to have even touched the labouring classes. It is only with their own intelligent co-operation that the masses can be rescued from the evils under which they suffer, and such co-operation will never be secured while they remain in their present state of primeval ignorance.

14. In the correspondence which has taken place on the subject of the promotion of emigration to Burma, it has been stated by some that we want cultivators to reclaim the waste lands, not mere labourers for hire; by others that we require permanent settlers, not sojourners; by others, again, that emigration should be encouraged from certain districts only, that is from those which are considered congested. A consideration of the advantages enumerated above will show that all voluntary emigration from Bengal to Burma is beneficial, being for the good of the emigrant himself, of the country he leaves, of that in which he settles, and of the revenue. It is quite true that the permanent transfer of labourers from Behar for the reclamation of the waste lands in Burma is of special use, but we must not for that reason overlook the appreciable, if inferior, advantages of the visits paid by harvesters from Chittagong, without whose assistance the Arracan rice crop could not be gathered, or prepared for export. The migration of labour in Upper India seems to be from west to east, from the North-West to the Lower Provinces, from Behar to Bengal Proper, from Bengal to Burma or Assam; and any assistance given to this movement at one end must be felt in its effects along the whole line. As to the special objection taken to temporary emigration, on the ground that it does not really relieve the over-populated districts, I may remark that it is the usual precursor of permanent emigration. Those who go for a time often end by settling for life, and even if they return, they bring back with them not only sums of money very acceptable to their families, but also knowledge, which may be useful to their neighbours, in particular the knowledge of the road to Burma.

15. In considering how Government can best assist this migration, it is desirable to remember that state interference may easily be hurtful, by depriving the movement of the spontaneity which is the best assurance of its success. Under a free system those only emigrate who feel within them a spirit of enterprise prompting them to undergo present inconvenience for the sake of future advantages; and of the emigrants those only attempt the cultivation of new land who have a vocation for that very difficult and arduous occupation. But when, as under the Bengal scheme of 1874, the Madras scheme of 1876, and the Behar scheme of 1882, Government intervenes, to tempt men to emigrate by the voices of paid recruiters, to pay their passages out, feed them in depôts while awaiting work, and to advance to them the capital requisite to establish them as cultivators, this guarantee is lost, and many leave their country merely because from weakness of character they are unable to resist persuasion, promises, and the prospect of receiving money. The complaint made by the Burma officers in all the cases cited above was that the men sent out, though tolerable labourers, were quite unfit to reclaim waste on their own account. What is required is, not that Government action should now supersede the voluntary system which has established a quarter of a million Hindustanis in Burma, but that the freest scope should be given to individual efforts by such means as the reduction of the cost of the journey, and the offer of land or employment on reasonable terms.

16. It fortunately happens that Government is in a position to give very substantial aid to existing emigration without in the least interfering with its spontaneous character. The contract between the British India Steam Navigation Company, Limited, and the Secretary of State for India, executed on the 1st of June 1885, contains the following clause:—

The Company shall also in like manner if and when required so to do by the Government of India at any time during the continuance of this contract convey deck passengers by the vessels of the said Company employed under this contract on lines Nos. 1 and 4

at the following maximum rates, viz.:—

Maximum rates.	From Calcutta to Rangoon.	From ports north of Madras to Rangoon.	From Madras and ports south of Madras to Rangoon.
For each adult ... ..	Rs. A. 5 0	Rs. A. 8 0	Rs. A. 10 0
" each child from 3 to 12 years ... ..	2 8	4 0	5 0
" each child under 3 years in charge of an adult ...	Free	Free	Free

and shall in respect of such service if and when required to perform the same but not otherwise receive the additional subsidies following, viz.:—

In respect of line 1 a special annual subsidy of Rs. 16,000.

In respect of line 4 a special annual subsidy of Rs. 25,000.

This provision was obviously inserted in the agreement with the intention of assisting emigration, and it is now proposed that the original design should be carried out. The Company almost monopolises passenger traffic, it has the best ships, and no rates higher than those charged by it can, it is believed, be maintained by any competing agency. The present fare of a deck passenger is ten rupees, so that the measure proposed will reduce the passage money by one-half. In estimating the results which may be anticipated from such action we are not left entirely to conjecture, as in 1882-83 the Local Administration of Burma procured a reduction in the rates to the extent now suggested, and, according to a letter addressed to the Government of India, No. 1197-160R, dated 7th July 1885, "the consequence of this reduction in rates was that the number of emigrants in 1882-83 was about 72,000 (nearly double that of 1881-82), and it was estimated that half of this number settled in the province." The difference between the scheme adopted in 1882, which was abandoned in 1884 for financial reasons, and that now proposed is, that whereas under the one system Government had to pay Rs. 1-8 a head for every emigrant from Calcutta, and disbursed two lakhs and three quarters in all, the charge will now be only Rs. 16,000, a year, or about eight annas a head on the 31,554 emigrants of 1887. Should the eventual result of the reduction of fares be to double the number of passengers, the charge will be at the rate of four annas a head only, by which payment Government would secure a benefit of five rupees to each passenger. This must be regarded as an economical method of encouraging emigration, inasmuch as the direct pecuniary gain to the individual is from ten to twenty-fold the expenditure incurred by Government. And from a financial point of view, I cannot but look upon the scheme as presenting a fair prospect of yielding a profit—a prospect better than that which Government considers sufficient in the case of other reproductive works. I will not, for this purpose, assume the correctness of the statement made by the Burma Administration in 1885, that the increase of a hundred per cent. in the emigration returns of 1881-82 was due to the reduction of the rates, to the exclusion of every other cause; nor will I anticipate any such striking, not to say extraordinary, effect from the precisely similar reduction which it is now proposed to effect. But it is obvious that when the passage money is diminished by half, some effect must be produced in the direction of increasing the number of migrants. Notwithstanding all that has been said as to the reluctance of the Indian to quit his native home, it appears that in practice the great obstacle to emigration is material rather than sentimental. Beharis go in their hundreds to Assam, to work of a more distasteful kind than that to be found in Burma, under contracts of labour enforced by imprisonment in the criminal jail, and for a wage of only five rupees a month, merely because their expenses by the way are paid by the employer. They undertake the arduous voyage round the Cape of Good Hope and Cape Horn to the Fiji Islands for the same reason, with prospects inferior to those which await them in Burma. A considerable proportion of those who emigrate to the colonies are Brahmins and Rajputs, so that it would appear that it is not the ties of caste, but the tighter bonds of poverty which chain Indian cultivators to their homes. Such being the conditions, we may safely say that if some thirty-two thousand emigrants leave Calcutta yearly for Rangoon when the passage costs ten rupees, a larger number will go when the expenses are reduced to five rupees; and I can scarcely err otherwise than on the safe side in assuming that the increase will be at least twenty per cent., or more than six thousand persons, one-half of whom will settle in Burma. According to the estimate made in the twelfth paragraph of this report, the permanent transfer of three thousand persons from Bengal to Burma implies an increase of eighteen thousand rupees in the annual revenue, so that the outlay will yield a return of about a hundred per cent. The capitation tax paid by the settlers in Burma would alone yield an interest of twenty per cent. I am aware that the return is not absolutely certain; but this is an objection which applies to all expenditure classed as reproductive.

17. The objection that this measure will encourage emigration from Upper India generally, and not exclusively that from the more congested districts, was fully considered at the meeting of public officers which discussed the matter in Rangoon, and also by the Chief Commissioner. It seems impossible to limit this particular form of assistance more strictly to defined limits, and therefore the special encouragement which we desire to give to emigration from Behar must be bestowed in other ways. It is mainly to meet this objection that the advantages of emigration have been analysed in the present report, and the fact that they are not confined to emigration from Behar has been pointed out. The proposed subsidy would not benefit the Chittagong men, who proceed directly from their own port, or by land, to Burma, and thus it does not touch that part of emigration which is least advantageous. Passengers from Calcutta will generally come from districts more or less congested, and even when they do not their departure for a province where labourers are so much required, and yield so much to the State in revenue, must be well worth the moderate outlay proposed.

18. As an experimental measure, a grant of 15,000 acres of waste land has been made to Mr. Mylne, the well-known inventor of the Beheca sugar-mill, to be held rent-free for twelve years, then at a progressive rent of Rs. 1,000 rising to Rs. 2,500, and Rs. 4,000 after periods of seven years; and finally, after the expiration of thirty three years, to be assessed at one half of the current rates-- Mr. Mylne undertaking to cultivate mainly through Indian settlers, the Burmese employed never exceeding ten per cent. of the whole number. It is now proposed that grants should be offered on similar terms to other capitalists willing to undertake the introduction

of Indian rayyets. The conditions would be to the following effect :

- (1). No one grant should exceed 10,000 acres.
- (2). The land to be cultivated only by natives of Behar and Chutia Nagpur ; Behar to include the districts of Bhagulpore and Monghyr, as well as the Patna Division ; provided that ten per cent. of those settled or employed on the estates may be taken from any other places.
- (3). The land to be revenue-free for twelve years, after which an increasing rent will be charged on the whole area, as follows :---

For seven years, 1 anna an acre.

" " 2½ annas "

" " 4 "

After the expiry of thirty-three years, two-thirds of the rates assessed on similar land in the neighbourhood.

- (4). Ten per cent. of the area to be brought under cultivation during the first five years, an additional ten per cent. during each succeeding period of seven years, up to the end of thirty years, when the grant will become absolute.
- (5). Subject to compliance with the conditions specified during the first thirty-three years, the grantee to have a perpetual and transferable title.
- (6). Not more than 100,000 acres will be assigned under these rules until further orders.

These terms, with any modifications considered desirable, should be embodied in a set of detailed rules, similar to those for the grant of land in Burma and Assam for tea cultivation.

### NOTICE.

THEIR Excellencies the Viceroy and Marchioness of Lansdowne will receive, on Thursday afternoon, the 10th January 1889, in the Gardens of Government House, from 4 to 6 P. M.

All Ladies and Gentlemen having the entrée at Government House are invited to attend and those having children to bring them.

WILLIAM BERESFORD,  
*Lieut.-Colonel,*  
*Military Secretary to the Viceroy.*

GOVT. HOUSE CALCUTTA,  
*Military Secretary's Office,*  
28th December 1888.

### BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. Calcutta, 28th December, 1888.

The Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, empowered on that behalf by the Resolution passed at a Special General Meeting of the Chamber, held on 5th December, 1888, do hereby declare that the holidays specified below shall be the holidays during the year 1889 recognised by the Chamber under Shipping Orders and Charter Parties as holidays according to the custom of the Port :—

Date.	Holidays.	Number of days to be observed as holidays.
1st January...	New Year's Day ...	1 day.
5th February	Sripancham ...	1 day.
19th April ...	Good Friday ...	1 day.
24th May ...	Empress's Birthday ...	1 day.
1st, 3rd, 4th, & 7th October.	Durga and Lakh Pujas ...	4 days.
23rd October...	Kali Puja ...	1 day.
1st November	Jagadhatri Puja ...	1 day.
25th and 26th December.	Christmas Day and the day following Christmas Day ...	2 days.

In the Durga and Lakh Pujas the holidays for ships that have salt on board will be from 1st to 7th October inclusive.

All Sundays are holidays.

By order of the Committee,  
S. E. J. CLARKE,  
Secretary.

### NOTICE.

#### Licensed Measurers' Department

##### Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

*Calcutta, the 31st December, 1888.*

The Committee have appointed Captain J. A. Aheson, Superintendent of Licensed Measurers as from the 1st January 1889.

By order,  
R. SMITH,  
*for Secretary.*

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#### ASSAM AND CACHAR LINE NOTICE.

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All cargo for shipment by either of the above vessels should be sent to the Company's Godowns at Juggannah Ghat the day previous to the vessels leaving Calcutta.

#### DHUBRI & DEBROOGHUR MAIL SERVICE.

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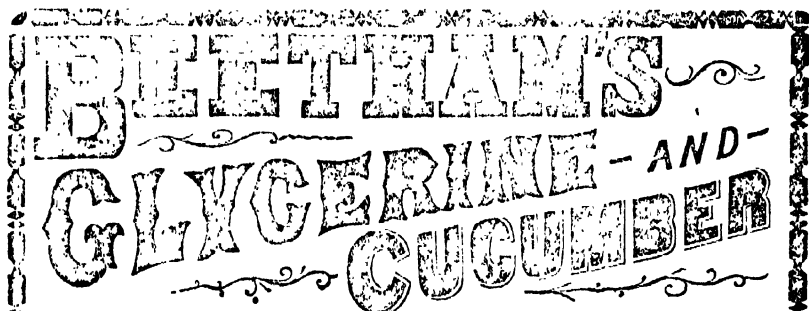
#### GOALUNDO AND DEBROOGHUR DESPATCH SERVICE.

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BETWEEN

*Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,*

BY

**SAMBHU J. MOOKERJEE,***Formerly Minister to the late*

NAWAB FARIDUN JAH BAHADOOR,

(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa.)

*Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.***Apply to Manager, "REIS & RAYYET"**

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**OPINION OF THE PRESS.**

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, nominally or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but brave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title page to this book. A keen, yet a kinder satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his gentle and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fat maid of Sonagom" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fat maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted, and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to quail, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee *pariah*, my poor Tom?" Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great meritfulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives Joan his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country word-pictures, the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is ruled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at least, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "He serve flesh and blood." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his consideration and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great, the peril of debt; and in any case the art is not in limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne paid in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not needed by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of anyone with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kisto Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROULEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.



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The authoress is not unknown to Bengali readers. She has already published two or three poems by which she is favourably known, but between these poems and this is a difference that hardly admits of being measured.

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We have read Sumati Girindramohini's poems in a reverential spirit. The poems are all of a lyrical description. The lyre is soft, sweet and tender, but awfully strong.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. {

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1889.

} No. 356

## CONTEMPORARY VERSE.

### THE GHOST-CARAVAN.

[ Translation of Freiligrath's "Traveller's Vision." ]

'T was in the desert's depths we took our night-rest on the ground,  
Our steeds unbridled, and by each a Bedouin sleeping sound.  
Afar the moonbeams gleamed upon the long low hills of Nile,  
Round us white bones of camels strewed the sands for many a mile.

I slept not : for a pillow my light saddle propp'd my head ;  
A wallet with my store of dates served in a bolster's stead ;  
My caftan was my coverlet ; and ready to my hand,  
My naked sword, my lance and gun lay by my couch of sand.

All silent, save the flickering flame, or crack of thorn in burning ;  
Save the hoarse croak of some vulture to his eyrie late returning ;  
Save the fitful stamp of hoofs in sleep among our tethered cattle ;  
Save the hasty clutching of a lance by one who dreamed of battle.

At once the earth is rocking, ghastly vapours wrap the sky,  
Across the waste, in frantic haste, affrighted wild beasts fly ;  
The horses snort and plunge—our Sheikh grasps the banner—like a man  
Unnerved, he drops it, muttering, " Lord, the ghostly caravan ! "

It comes. The phantom drivers lead the camels with their freight  
Of lovely women, all unveiled, throned in voluptuous state.  
Next after them, walk maidens bearing pitchers, like Rebecca  
At the fountain ; horsemen follow ; and they gallop on for Mecca.

Still others, still, past counting ; ever endless seems the train.  
Look ! look ! the bones around us strewn, are camels once again ;  
And whirling up in dusky wreaths, fast changes the brown sand  
To men, that seize the camel's rein each in his dusky hand.

For this the night, when all o'er whom the sand-flood ever heaved,  
Whose wind-tossed dust this day, belike, unto our tongues hath cleaved,  
Whose crumbling skulls our coursers' hoofs beat flat upon the plain,  
Arise, and march to kneel and pray at Mecca's holy fane.

Still others, still ; the hindmost of the train not yet have past,  
And back, even now, with slackened rein, come the foremost trooping  
fast.

O'er Afric's breadth, from Cape de Verd to the shores of the Red Sea  
They've galloped, ere my struggling horse from the foot-rope could  
get free.

The horses, ho !—they're breaking loose : quick, each man to his own !  
For shame ! like sheep by lions scared—why quake ye so and groan ?  
Though they press you close, though their floating robes your very  
beards are brushing,  
Shout Allah ! Allah ! and away the spectre host goes rushing.

Stand fast, till in the morning breeze your turban feathers stream,  
Glad cheer will come with morning's breath, with morning's ruddy  
gleam.

### THE LION'S RIDE.

(Freiligrath.)

The Lion is the desert's king ; through his domain so wide  
Right swiftly and right royally this night he means to ride.  
By the sedgey brink, where the wild herds drink, close couches the grim  
chief ;

The trembling sycamore above whispers with every leaf

At evening on the Table Mount when ye can see no more  
The changeful play of signals gay ; when the gloom is speckled o'er  
With kral fires : when the Caffie wends home through the lone karroo ;  
When the boshbok in the thicket sleeps, and by the stream the gnu ;

Then bend your gaze across the waste : what see ye ? The giraffe  
Majestic stalks towards the lagoon, the turbid lymph to quaff ;  
With outstretched neck and tongue adust, he kneels him down to cool  
His hot thirst with a welcome draught from the foul and brackish pool.

A rustling sound—a roar—a bound—the lion sits astride  
Upon his giant courser's back. Did ever king so ride ?  
Had ever king a steed so rare, caparisoned of state  
To match the dappled skin whereon that rider sits elate ?

In the muscles of the neck his teeth are plunged with ravenous greed ;  
His tawny mane is tossing round the withers of the steed.  
Upleaping with a hollow yell of anguish and surprise,  
Away, away, in wild dismay, the camel-leopard flies.

His feet have wings ; see how he springs across the moonlit plain !  
As from their sockets they would burst his glaring eyeballs strain ;  
In thick black streams of purling blood full fast his life is fleeing ,  
The stillness of the desert hears his heart's tumultuous beating.

Like the cloud that through the wilderness the path of Israel traced,  
Like an airy phantom dull and wan, a spirit of the waste,  
From the sandy sea uprising, as the waterspout from ocean,  
A whirling cloud of dust keeps pace with the courser's fiery motion.

Croaking companion of their flight the vulture whirs on high ;  
Below, the terror of the fold, the panther fierce and sly,  
And hyenas foul, round graves that prowl, join in the horrid race ;  
By the footprints wet with gore and sweat their monarch's course they  
trace.

They see him on his living throne, and quake with fear, the while  
With claws of steel he tears piecemeal his cushion's painted pile.  
On ! on ! no pause, no rest, giraffe, while life and strength remain ;  
The steed by such a rider backed, may madly plunge in vain !

Reeling upon the desert's verge he falls and breathes his last ;  
The courser, stained with dust and foam, is the rider's fell repast.  
O'er Madagascar, eastward far, a faint flush is described :—  
Thus nightly o'er his broad domain the king of beasts doth ride.

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## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

ERRATUM.—Page 2, column 2, line 6, for Lord read Lady

THANK you, Mr. *Indian Daily News*, for the correction. The mixture of sexes we mean the derangement of epitaphs—was of our doing, not yours, you Gaffer of the Argus eye. But our specs were not so much at fault, as the contemplation of the ways of the not only Upper Ten but the Upper Two (literally), in the great House down South, turned our poor pate, already uneasy with the crown of massive silk which is so much your envy.

THE *Englishman's Own* telegraphed from Pakyong on the 9th that "it is rumoured that the Tibetans insist upon the acknowledgement of their suzerainty in Sikkim, and that, as Sir Henry Durand will not give in on this point, the negotiations at Gnatong are likely to come to a deadlock." And so are at a deadlock now. There is no knowing when the situation will improve, or what is to be the end of it all—peace or war. We are afraid the present temper on our side seems to be to patch up matters.

THAT scamp of Tehri, Nuthoo Wilson, who has been let off for his last murder with a nominal sentence of five years, and whose case was lately the subject of a question in Parliament, is to be retried.

WHILE the merchants of Calcutta are for virtually suppressing the national Hindu holiday in Bengal on the Doorga Pooja, the Mahomedans in Upper India are moving for addition to the list of holidays the Chihilum or fortieth day from the anniversary of the battle of Kerbela, whose memory is preserved by the Shias to this day annually in the Moharrum.

THE *Advocate* reports that the Raja of Bhinga has spent about Rs. 75,000 in entertaining Sir Auckland Colvin at his native town, and that Raja Amir Hassan Khan Bahadur, with all his family, is going on the pilgrimage to Karbala. The whole party is over 900 men, women and children, and the trip is estimated to cost a lac and a quarter of money.

CONGRESSING is the order of the day :—

"The great Hindu Religious and Social Conference, called the Bharat Dharma Maha Mandal meets for the fourth time at Brindaban. The millionaire of the place, Seth Luchman Dass, C. S. I., is the President of the Reception Committee. Delegates from all parts of India are expected. Though the Congress is too orthodox, still the Pandits have voted for sea-voyage."

And the Five Nechans, including the precious droppings of the cow, afterwards, we dare say!

GOVERNMENT has at last made up its mind to abandon the export duty on silver plate.

THE Sane Canal water will be supplied this season at Re. 1-4. On account of the scarcity, the rate has been reduced by 5 annas.

DR. SAUER was robbed by his sweeper of his gold watch and chain and some currency notes. Mr. Marsden has sentenced the thief to one year's rigorous imprisonment.

FOR change of air ordered by the Doctors to the Maharanee, the Maharaja of Mysore has brought her to Madras.

GOVERNMENT students at the Dehra Forest School will, in future, be required to do official service for at least five years, after completion of their school curriculum.

ORDER has been published withdrawing, from the 1st April 1889, the Inland Emigration Act I of 1882 from the labour-districts of Chittagong and the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

THE first criminal sessions of the High Court begins on Monday, the 11th February.

THE four young sons of the King of Siam are coming to Calcutta by the S. S. *Africa*. Rooms have been engaged for them at the Great Eastern.

THE *Evening News* has run out the sands of its hour glass. After life's fitful fever—of a most galloping character—it takes its rest.

FOR the triple murder—of a Parsi lady, her daughter and grandson—at Dadur, a suburb of Bombay, Narayen Nanu has been committed. He had confessed his guilt to the Police, but retracted it before the Magistrate, making a rambling statement about the occurrence and denying all knowledge of the crime. Of course, he had seen lawyers in the mean time.

SEVEN carriages of the down Calcutta mail train were derailed on the 4th inst. at Ladhawal between Phillour and Ludhiana, blocking the line and delaying the up Calcutta mail four hours. The *Civil and Military Gazette* points out that these detentions are on the increase.

THE Amir of Afghanistan writing from Mazari Sharif on the 26th December reports that he was fired at at a parade. The ball missed His Highness and wounded a servant. The would be assassin was immediately killed by officers present.—Press Commissioner. The Amir probably winters in Afghan Turkestan.

HER Majesty the Queen goes to Barritz in March.

PROCEEDINGS against Professor Geffken, for disclosing the contents of the Emperor Frederick's Diary, have, as might be expected, been abandoned. It would not do to wash the dirty linen of German royalty and statesmanship in public. Too many disclosures were imminent, we suppose.

THE Right Honourable Charles Shaw Lefevre, the first and the last Viscount Eversley, a former Speaker of the House of Commons, has died at the advanced age of 94. He was born in 1794 and in 1830 was returned to the House of Commons. In 1839 he was elected Speaker, in succession to the late Mr. Abercrombie (afterwards Lord Dunfermline.) In 1857 he retired and was raised to the peerage. He married in 1817. His wife died in 1857. He leaves no family.

OUR ignorance and superstition form, with many, the stock argument for keeping us for ever in tutelage and denying the people of India liberal institutions. Such European reasoners regard themselves for the nonce as coming from, or belonging to, an ideal land of thorough enlightenment. In point of fact, there is much in common between Europe—nay, the United Kingdom—and India. Not long ago, capital was made by Anglo-Indian writers of certain indications of barbarous credulity discovered in certain quarters in India. These gentlemen are invited to mark the following :—

"Extraordinary excitement is being occasioned in the towns and villages of Donegal county by what are declared to be miraculous cures effected by a young Catholic priest named Larkin, lately arrived from Surrey. Enormous crowds follow the priest's steps, and scenes of excitement occur such as are associated with the famous apparitions at Knock. Cripples carried many miles are said to have cast away their crutches and walked, and sight is reported to have been restored to the blind.

It may be said that that is in Ireland. But then the Irish are not a whit more modest in their pretensions than the Britons. They are all *Sahebs* for us.

THE Bulkeley Court-Martial has ended disastrously to the Colonel. The Court found him guilty of embezzlement and misappropriation of the regimental funds, and, on conviction, ordered him to be cashiered and imprisoned for twelve months, besides fining him Rs. 24,000. The sentence has been confirmed by the Commander-in-Chief.

This officer deserves no sympathy. His peculation was of a peculiarly pusillanimous kind. He robbed the poor dumb sepoy, whom it was his duty to protect. He was a bad officer and worse gentleman.

SIDNEY AUGUSTIN O'DANNE, a retired Captain and once Military Governor of the German Emperor, is being tried, *in camera*, for swindling and attempting to extort money from Major Baron Hune, the Prussian Military Attaché in Paris. But why *camera*? In Germany, as in India, this *camera* is apt to turn out a *camera obscura*.

THE Lieutenant-Governor is out again on his tour. This time, Sir Stuart Bayley has selected the distressed parts of Behar—Chumparun, Mozufferpore and Durbhanga Districts. He returns to the capital on the 24th.

AFTER a welcome audience from King Humbert and a cordial interview with Queen Margherita, the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava with the Marchioness left Rome on the 10th for London.

THE Duke of Connaught has sprained his knee. His visit to Hyderabad is therefore postponed.

THE Kuki Kheyls are at their old tricks again. Only recently they fired upon Colonel Warburton and Lieutenant Macdonald to the south west of Jumrood and paid a fine. Six days ago, beyond Jumrood, Lieutenant Macdonald was fired at. They are evidently tempting Fate.

AN important despatch having been lost last autumn in the Austrian post office, a courier service has been established between the Berlin Foreign Office and the German Embassy at Vienna.

SIR Lepel H. Griffin, K.C.S.I., has been permitted to detach himself from the Bengal Civil Service from the 1st of this month.

COLONEL Sir O. B. C. St. John, K.C.S.I., R.E., has been promoted from the 2nd to the 1st Class Resident and is Gazetted Resident in Mysore and Chief Commissioner of Coorg, his place as Governor-General's Agent at Baroda being officiated by General Sir H. N. D. Prendergast, K.C.B., V.C., R.E., from Mysore.

MAULVI Kabir-ud-din Ahmad, Khan Bahadur, Chief Maulvi to the Board of Examiners at Calcutta, is Gazetted a Shams-ul-ulama. Long live the Political Judge and the Catholic Cabal!

THE Venerable B. T. Atlay, Archdeacon of Calcutta, retires from the service from the 6th February 1889.

THE Inspector of Schools, Assam, will henceforth be known by the more dignified title of Director of Public Instruction, Assam.

THE *Vaitarna* Relief Fund, at Bombay, amounts to Rs. 3,400. But there is no distress to relieve. The Committee have therefore addressed themselves to the Political Agents of Cutch and Kathiawar enquiring whether there are any distressed or destitute relatives of the dead.

MR. TWIDALE, the wellknown Pleader of our High Court, applied, through Mr. Doynce, to practise before Her Majesty's Privy Council as an agent. Following the precedent laid down in Mr. Taylor's case, Lord Hobhouse, on behalf of their Lordships, refused the permission. His Lordship pointed out that unless a man were enrolled a solicitor in England or in India or the Colonies, the rules did not apply. The judicial Medes!

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Fourth Indian National Congress will be chiefly remembered for the apparition of Raja Sheoprasad, during the sitting, and the assault by Captain Hearsey on Mr. Chesney, the editor-in-chief of the *Pioneer*, in connection with it. The Captain, one of the delegates, took umbrage at the expressions "Half-Caste" and "Brown Captain" in "A Study of the Congress, by an Eye-Witness" in the *Pioneer*. He called on the editor with a whip and laid it on him, who immediately pounced upon the Captain, when the staff ran to the rescue of their Chief, and bundled the enemy out of the premises. The matter has gone into court. As yet, the summons have not been served, as Captain Hearsey had returned to Dehra Dun.

THE Grand Remonstrance of the Rebel Honoraries has not gone for nothing. The Bengal Office has surrendered, not at discretion though, nor with, altogether. The thin end of the wedge in the word "unpaid" has been withdrawn, and the great Hyder Naik reverts to his position

as the all-powerful Mayor of the Palace directing and controlling the affairs of a *faïnant* magistracy, instead of reigning direct in *propria persona* as Sultan *de jure*.

THE Bengal Government has replied to the protest of the Honorary Magistrates of Calcutta against the rules for the conduct of Benches. The letter is addressed to the Chief Magistrate, who is asked to submit a revised set of rules. The Chief Secretary explains that the word "unpaid" was used in the rules in no way to disparage the non-Stipendiary Presidency Magistrates or to alter the character of the office. Rather, the Government was anxious to remove the impression obtaining in some quarters that the term implied "a titular distinction without correlative duties," and to discourage applications on that behalf from applicants who based their claims on their "rank and social position or upon services rendered in wholly different capacities." Objection being taken to the word by the Magistrates, the Lieutenant-Governor who "appreciates their services and their importance too highly to put anything like an intentional slight upon them," withdraws *his* objection to the old phrase "Honorary Presidency Magistrate." Sir Stuart Bayley is further willing to relax the rule as to the adjourned cases being taken up day after day, for he is "fully aware that part-heard cases cannot in all instances be carried on literally from day to day, but in such instances an effort should be made to let the adjourned hearing be fixed for the earliest available date so as to ensure the case being decided with the least practicable delay." Under the circumstances, the relaxation is a matter of course, and it is a wonder that it should come as a concession. Even this tardy grace is spoiled in the qualification. The Benches are simply consigned to the mercy of Ivan the Terrible—we mean Hyder the Inevitable. In prose earnest, we confess, we are afraid, the Magistrates are put in a worse plight. In fixing the dates, they must consult the convenience of the office instead their own. What is worse, they must submit to its views the interests of the justice. The Lieutenant-Governor cannot agree to alter the rule as to the times when the Magistrates should sit or rise, nor is he prepared to leave the election of the Chairman of a Bench to the Magistrates themselves, for, according to him, "legal knowledge and ability are more important qualifications for conducting the proceedings of a Court than those conferred by seniority, social position, or official precedence." Just so. And the Magistrates themselves always give the precedence to these qualifications. It will not be so now, he may depend upon it. It is something that the rule defining the Registrar's duties in connection with the Bench, empowering him openly to control the Magistrates, is to be altogether excluded.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY has passed an extremely lenient sentence on Mr. Goodricke. He will not be allowed to rejoin his place in the Calcutta Collectorate, but may apply for pension. For all his transgressions, he will enjoy his leave allowance and then his pension earned as for good service.

OUR readers will remember the case of Mr. Goodricke, Collector of Calcutta. This journal was the first to notice the abuses in the collection of the Income Tax. The first and the last almost we may say, our contemporaries discreetly avoiding the subject till all danger from the evil eye of the Collectorate was past. The Collector's immediate superior officer, the Commissioner of the Presidency Division, took the matter up with interest and pursued it in right earnest. This is creditable to Mr. Smith's honesty of purpose. Nothing but a strong sense of duty would induce a man to undertake a thankless Herculean task. It was at once a delicate and difficult inquiry into which he plunged himself, neck and crop, heart and soul. After long weeks of patient research, he reported against the Collector. The inquiry had resulted in startling discoveries. This uncovenanted tax-gatherer, who began life in a menial capacity and whose original appointment to Government Service was an abuse of patronage, was a little official Cressus. He had been financing on a pretty good scale, lending to the tune of quarter lacs and half lacs on house property in town. The most notable revelation was the discovery of a broker of bribes and a pettifoggish limb of the law attached to the department. Thousands of Rupees had been raised by the former and paid to the latter for the latter's patron. The report now reached the Board of Revenue, whose officers examined the materials therein contained and made their own inquiries and, after satisfying themselves, endorsed it and sent it up to the Government of Bengal. The Secretariat now threshed the subject

in its own mull, in its own way, and the Lieutenant-Governor then formed his opinion. At length the time came for the deliverance of the Great Circumlocution Office, and the outcome of the mountain's protracted labour is a pitiful exhibition. It is true to its motto—Not to do it, or to do something infinitesimal. It maintains its patronly regard for official Mahrattas who impose the Chauth on all and sundry. Its tenderness for their freaks is charming. Early in the stages of this matter, as soon as the Collector was found out, he was permitted to go on leave, apparently to keep himself out of harm's way should anything might transpire serious enough to compel the authorities to seek the interference of the criminal judicature. It was supposed he would have the grave or prudence not to embarrass them by insisting on his appearance again with a view to reemployment. But they had not taken the true measure of their customer and had themselves smoothed his way back. And now the ghost hovers in sight and stalks proudly towards them. Having neglected to take decisive action in proper time, they are reduced to wash their hands out of the business by another compromise. May this be a warning for the future, is all we can say!

THERE have been heavy defalcations in the Faridpur Collectorate. The misappropriation extends to over Rs. 30,000. The Deputy Collector has been suspended and Ru Bahadoor Rajendranath Mitter of the Alipur Collectorate has orders to repair to the place to make the necessary investigations.

PUNDIT Jibananda Vidyasagar has gone to Benares to expiate the crimes of his family in connection with the murder of his daughter-in-law, for which her husband, his son, Suddhabode has been hanged.

"A BENGALI JOURNALIST" still airs his "Stray Thoughts from Bengal" in the *Indian Spectator*. The thoughts are very stray indeed—off the right track of fact and sense. And from the very outset. Thus—

"I see our friends at Madras held a meeting the other day of the Indian Social Conference organized on the occasion of the last National Congress. This Conference was meant to be as representative a body as the National Congress, but I was sorry to see that many of the delegates abstained from joining it last year."

Here is fog enough for straying out of the way! One is driven quite into the open sea as regards time and place and substance. "The other day" may mean anything, from a few days to a few years. The scene is equally indeterminate. "Our friends at Madras" means of course our friends of Madras. Was the meeting, too, held at Madras? "A meeting of the Indian Social Conference organized on the occasion of the last National Conference"—whichever might be meant—might take place equally there and elsewhere, and might well, nay, with greater propriety, be held at Allahabad. Indeed, "the last National Congress" itself is uncertain. The Stray Thoughts are not specially dated; they are evidently an emanation of the New Year. Appearing as they do in a paper of the 6th January 1889, then last Congress may well be the Congress of 1888. Coupling the expression "the other day" with "I see" and fixing our mind upon the matter, we conclude, not without hesitation, that the writer refers to a very recent transaction. Besides, if "this Conference was meant to be as representative a body as the National Congress," the meeting of the former must necessarily be a meeting at Allahabad. In that case, there arises the difficulty—why should our friends at Madras or of Madras, in particular, be represented as holding it? Stray Thoughts may be easy thoughts for the Stray Thinker, but they are hard nuts to crack for the unhappy reader. Writing for a lucid paper like the *Spectator*, our Bengali brother should take more care.

The writer goes on—

"The objection which the abstainers made was, I believe, that discussion in social matters would disturb the spirit of unity which had been effected by the National Congress."

One would have thought that the objection would strike most reasonable men as weighty. Not so with this "Bengali Journalist" who sends his wisdom to Bombay. He says—"I do not think it a reasonable objection" at all. He can do all things but, for the life of him, he "cannot imagine how differences on social questions would have a prejudicial effect on the unity in a political sense which is being brought about among all Indian nationalities by means of the Congress." This is really a pity. And he goes on at this rate—

"We may differ on social questions, but may at the same time be agreed in our political opinions. As the Social Conference would be

a body distinct from the National Congress, the one could have no effect on the other."

And so on, and so on. We leave him to his own reflections.

The "Bengali Journalist" evidently belongs to the Irreconcilable camp. He still harps on the exploded myth that the stay of Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace is a part of the game of Old Nick Dufferin to perpetuate himself in India, in spite of the light and leading of that angel of perfection the Editor of the *Indian Mirror*—

"Lord Lansdowne has now the advantage or disadvantage of the assistance of two Private Secretaries, viz., Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace and Colonel Ardagh. This is quite unprecedented, and it is plain that the step has been adopted at the suggestion of the late Viceroy who is naturally desirous that his policy should be continued to be observed during his successor's administration in this country. I fear the result of the schooling of Lord Lansdowne by Sir Donald might not be beneficial to the people of India, for it is possible, that by this means the unprejudiced frame of mind with which the new Viceroy has come to our shores might be upset. It would, however, be a matter for congratulation if Lord Lansdowne succeeded in keeping his spirit of independence untouched, after he had undergone the schooling process at the hands of Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace."

THE latest of the great Cities of the World is San Francisco. Founded within the memory of the living, its greatness is scarcely fifty years old. It is no longer *parvenu* though, having become almost historical. It is not one of the *novus riches*. Within the short period of its existence, it has had its ups and downs. Its annals have been stirring and stormy. This has been a century of surprises, and the marvel of the Californian meteor has been thrown into the shade by the appearance of the huge comet with its long sweeping tail in the Southern Heavens. The Exodus of the seekers of the Golden Fleece in the Pacific State, has long since been diverted to the farthest ends of the earth. A season of disaster followed and Ruin seized California. It was a brief season, however. The indomitable energy of a new community of picked men working in a virgin land of extraordinary richness recovered lost ground. If gold was exhausted, other natural resources of the country were developed. Other industries—agricultural as well as mineral—employed the activity and skill of the people. Early in the Gold paroxysm, the trade in provisions and the business of purveying was found only less lucrative than digging and more certain. There is at least one resident of Calcutta who came here in 1857, who remembers the first windfall of Californian luck and participated in the prosperity, and suffered from the succeeding decline. He gave up the search for gold direct to set up a flour mill. Since his time mills and manufactories of various kinds have multiplied. After many vicissitudes, California has reached the haven of a staid safe, if not bounding, success. The various fortunes through which she has passed, have lent colour and interest to her history. If there are no ivy-crowned castles, there are neglected factories and ruined farm-houses and tumble-down mansions and abandoned sites of business. There are decayed hospitals and colleges and newspapers and magazines and institutions and clubs, as there are thriving ones. Already, California is a sort of antique among the Pacific states. And the genius of Bret Harte has thrown over the cities of yesterday—San Francisco and Sacramento—the halo of a neo-classicism.

With this necessary introduction to bespeak the Indian reader's interest, we lay the following account of one of the founders of the prosperity of the Golden City of the Eastern shore of the Pacific:—

"A romantic story has reached England. It is to the effect that a man named Blyth has died intestate in California, leaving an immense property, consisting of some 20 million dollars, and land to the extent of half a county. Some 200 persons living in America, England, Scotland, and Ireland have come forward alleging that they are heirs to the property, and an investigation is being made into their claims. These persons state that the deceased millionaire some 50 years ago resided in Leamington, being once transported for felony. In 1849 he started in a sailing vessel round Cape Horn for California, whence glowing accounts had come of the discovery of gold. On his arrival there he was entirely without money, and some of the passengers, out of charity, gave him their lamps, which, according to the custom among passengers in sailing ships, they used in their cabins. These he sold in the streets, and with the proceeds purchased articles which he hawked in turn. He then got a pack, and became a regular hawker. His business progressed so rapidly that he was soon the possessor of £1,000 which he lent out on mortgage on a couple of acres of land outside the then village of San Francisco. Shortly after the mortgage failed, and Blyth was left with the two acres of useless land on his hands. Not knowing what to do with the land, he went to the gold diggings. On his return, to his amazement he found a regular 'boom' had set in, and the land which had fallen into his hands was worth a lot of money. He determined not to sell, although he had innumerable offers, and leased it off for building purpose. On the site now stands a grand block of buildings. It is one of the first and most valuable sites in San Francisco. He started

in business, and everything he touched turned to gold, until he became, one of the richest men among the many wealthy ones in the city. He died but a year ago, leaving no Will, and his estate has been taken charge of by the receiver of the San Francisco Court. Several alleged heirs live in Leamington, and are in very poor circumstances indeed two or three following the occupation of cattle drovers."

MR. JAMES ARCHER, the famous painter, is again among us, having returned from a professional tour through the South and the West. In fact, he has been here sometime and will now be going away for ever. We hope our community, European and Native, will take advantage of his presence again among us, to keep as many mementos of his brush as possible. Portraits of any length are no doubt costly, but it is worth denying oneself ephemeral luxuries to have at once a perfect and expressive likeness such as a master can give—and a permanent work of art, which not only might adorn the owner's house, as the most valuable of its furniture, but would also be sought for for exhibitions, to be catalogued and displayed and admired by thousands, and returned, after the show, with the thanks of the committee of the most eminent men. In Mr. Archer, besides, Calcutta has this moment the advantage of not only an artist, who is correct in drawing, effective in colouring and eloquent in expression, but also one who is great in landscape as well as portraiture. And what is more, and almost singular, he combines both departments on the same canvas. He gives as much attention to his background as to the person and costume of his sitter. This method of his tasks him, but the advantage is all for his employer and the seer. His backgrounds are finished landscapes. Rightly judged, his price is very much reduced. He charges for his portrait only, but gives two pictures in one for one. This is a public ground on which we wish he might be largely patronised. Of course, we wish that some of our Princes and noblemen and merchant princes might employ him on the scenes of this country—on gardens and *chateaux* and family traditions and historical events—if necessary, to let him take notes and send the works hereafter. If our country is to advance in art culture, it must first be filled with pictures by the best living hands, as with copies of the Old Masters.

As for portraiture, money is wasted on a picture which is no true and vivid likeness. Even ordinary men of no great means can, if they understand the usefulness of the thing, have such a likeness by sitting for what is called a chalk drawing. We do not know what Mr. Archer's charges are, but the charge for a chalk sketch cannot be much—certainly not above the means of even a native gentleman who draws a decent salary or has a similar income from other sources. Of course, the importance of leaving to one's family and friends a life-like likeness to be treasured up, is worth a sacrifice.

THE social season of the new year has commenced with spirit. The honor of setting the ball of festivity in motion belongs to a modest and interesting couple of our own nation, of whom we have reason to be proud—Mr. P. L. Roy, representative of a wellknown family of Brahman landlords in Barisal, and Mrs. Roy, daughter of the late distinguished Professor S. G. Chuckerbutty, of the Covenanted Medical Service. They gave a party in honour of Miss Manning, the philanthropist from England, who was living with them. The gathering was select, and there was, in consequence, no crush and, of course, there was more enjoyable intercourse. Shortly after, there was a garden party at Belvedere and again an evening party on Tuesday last. Both occasions were graced by the beaming face and bright eyes of the Marquis of Lansdowne and the fascinating presence of his good fairy of a consort. On the first, the host received and bowed out every guest. On the second, he did his best to notice as many as he was permitted to do by the everlasting cordon of the inevitable natives. On Wednesday, the India Club introduced the elephant into their hole, to use an Indian expression—inviting a host, including camp-followers of every description, to a small corner to see how a Lieutenant-Governor could penetrate through a crowd or see in the dark. For the place was supposed to be illumined by electricity, and, as the batteries failed, there was an end of the matter, the wise and liberal Committee not having provided a farthing rushlight—even a *cherag* to light the path of the innocent guests out of their predicament. The party were strongly reminded of their proximity to the Black Hole. There was indeed some danger in the situation. Then came the garden party at Government House on Thursday. It was very fully attended.

We were glad to see the nuisance of the "whiskered Pandoor" of an unlearned Pandey A.D.C. trying to spell out unfamiliar native names and making a ludicrous mess of it. Dissatisfaction was expressed by many at one feature of the introduction, which we forbear noticing pending fuller inquiry. On the whole, the party was a great success. The weather was fine. The week closed with a grand gathering in the lawn of the neglected Woodlands of the Maharaja of Cooch Behar. This Prince is a rather shy man who knows only Europeans, and had nothing to say to his native guests beyond offering his hand, but his lady, daughter of the famous Keshub Chunder Sen who was as distinguished for his social tact as for his gifts and accomplishments, made up as far as possible. For the rest, Lord Lansdowne and the Marchioness and Sir Stenart and Lady Bayley, who were present, and made themselves at home, raised the *chat* and completed the success of an occasion favoured by the gods. The weather was simply charming.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1889.

### EIGHTEEN HUNDRED & EIGHTY EIGHT.

THE year 1888 closed amidst the echoes of Lord Dufferin's leave-taking and the usual formalities attending a new succession to the Viceroyalty. It began with foreshadowings of those events. Early in the year, the Viceroy made an announcement, from his place in Council, of his resigning of the Viceroyalty, in consequence of private reasons, at the expiration of the fourth year of his term. This was followed by another communication from the Press Commissioner's Office relating to the selection by Her Majesty's Government of the Marquis of Lansdowne, then Governor-General of Canada, to succeed the Earl of Dufferin, and the likelihood of his arriving in India towards the end of the year. The news naturally created a sensation. As we expected at the time, it evoked all but universal regret. The charm of Lord Dufferin's personal influence had been widely felt, and it was with almost a sense of personal bereavement that the intelligence was felt in many quarters. Even political oppositionists were able to appreciate the loss of a finished statesman just as he had been thoroughly seasoned for his great office. Great, however, as the loss was, it was unavoidable. Private claims are sometimes inexorable, even in the case of public and exalted characters, and India had to be reconciled to the contingency as best she might. The announcement made early in the year has had its fulfilment at its end. The two Viceroys met at the capital, and after the installation of the one, the other left. The incidents of Lord Dufferin's departure were some of them very touching. While deeply moved by the tokens of appreciation which he received at the hands of Indian communities in general, there was in all his parting utterances an undertone of keen regret at the abnormal attitude of the Irreconcilable oppositionists. In his Lordship's two speeches amongst his own countrymen, at the St. Andrew's Dinner at Calcutta and at the Bombay Byculla Club, the departing Viceroy evidently breathed forth the fulness of his heart—in their midst he felt himself at home, after all—in their verdict he had his reward. All through his four years' administration—indeed, from his very first meeting at Government House with some of the representative men of Calcutta native society, in which, with his usual candour, he unwittingly offended the wearers of European costumes amongst our countrymen—has it been Lord Dufferin's fate to bear an unceasing volley of coarse abuse

outpoured on him by a section of the Native Press. His Lordship's candour has proved his enemy—the candour by which he meant to win friendship and confidence—nay, the same candour, be it remembered, the traditional absence of which in men in official position had been hitherto keenly missed, and even resented as a personal offence. An opportunity thus afforded by the Viceroy's personal characteristics, was not merely wasted but turned to the worst account, till things have come to a miserable pass indeed. All faith in the very sanity—not to say, wisdom—of some leaders of native opinion has been shaken—nay, in the very decencies of their public conduct. Deeply has the official class been exasperated by the virulent tone of criticism with which it has of late been the wont of our loudest tongues to assail it, in season and out of season, for grievances which were never denied by the official class itself: Only it did not see its way towards their immediate removal. But the cry of our self-called leaders is, after the well-known peremptory parole, *Stand and deliver!*—Now, or we have nothing but to abuse you. They forget that the term of a Vicerealty may be too short for even a reform in course of consummation. They lose sight of the fact, that there is a will higher than any Indian Viceroy's that may interpose and has often interposed in the way of the best intentions. And there are a hundred other things of detail that must intervene between your asking and getting. All this may never strike the commoner minds, but it is surprising our representatives and leaders should be in the same category. They put forth a bill of grievances, and that is enough ground for their receiving their due to the least fraction of the demand and that immediately. The Viceroy is Chief, and can give if only he will. So, as soon as one new man lands, he is beset with clamorous claims, and woe unto him if these claims remain unsatisfied about the time his office expires! What a change then in the demeanour of those so lately adoring him with fulsome adulation! What bitter curses take the place of all their hollow blessings and congratulations. Now, these tactics, we say, won't do. They have been discovered, and have come to be regarded with just disdain. The reputation of an outgoing Proconsul cannot be left at the mercy of such irrational judges. An Association will turn out in full phalanx with a laudatory farewell Address and a vote for a statue, only provided some of the leading spirits of the body have received substantial marks of favor during the *régime* about to close. This latter condition unfulfilled, what obligations have they to bid even a decent farewell? Be an Administration as beneficent as it will, if it any way associate itself with a legislation which they, in their infallible wisdom, regard to be hostile to their class interest, there is an end of the matter—the Administration has no certificate so far as the influence of the Association can prevent it. This power of address-giving, hitherto employed much in the same way as the power of voting supplies inherent in the House of Commons, having been so frequently abused, our Governors have come to make themselves rather independent of the tickle favor of such representatives. The very representative character of these representatives has come to be impugned. It hardly requires any "reading between the lines" to understand the significance of Lord Lansdowne's replies to some of the native deputations that lately waited upon him with addresses of welcome. To the British Indian Association

his Lordship was strikingly curt and reticent. A more bald and guarded reply it would be impossible to conceive. His Lordship appreciated the high position the members of the Association held in the body politic, and merely "took note" of their congratulations. He observed that they were impressed with the benefits of British Rule and told them that they were sure to be more and more impressed with the beneficent character of that rule the more it was rightly understood. To the *khas* Indian, the new Viceroy gave a delicate hint of his apprehensions as to the transient character of that sympathy and support which they accorded him in such full measure on his coming. Nothing could be plainer than this from the following words in his Lordship's reply to the address from the Indian Association: "The kindness of your greeting, your ready recognition of the services of my ancestors, and your kindly reference to my own desire to do my duty by your country, are, I hope, conclusive evidence that I shall approach my task with the support of your sympathy. The subsequent portion of your address, in which you enumerate a series of great questions in the solution of which you are interested, shows me, however, that while you are ready to accord a newly appointed Viceroy a liberal measure of indulgence and of time in which to make himself thoroughly familiar with the circumstances and condition of the country committed to his charge, he must not expect to be allowed to remain for an unlimited period in the pleasant region of memories derived from the past and of agreeable but vague expectations with regard to the future. He must no more allow himself to believe that he will be permitted to enjoy such considerate treatment for an indefinite time than he must allow himself to expect that the climate of Calcutta so delightfully temperate and enjoyable during the last and first few weeks of the year will continue to deal with him as gently later in the season." Let our public characters who take it upon themselves to make the fame of our rulers, ponder on the above passage. They now rummage and ransack old shelves in search of liberal antecedents of Lord Lansdowne's ancestors, but there is no knowing in what a different direction their activity will be directed after the lapse of some time, should, in the meantime, their programme of possible or impossible reform remain unrealized. Lord Lansdowne is apparently prepared for his fate, as much as he is prepared for the scorching blasts of an Indian summer, after the pleasant climate in which he found himself on his coming.

It is the year of Viceregal change, and that is our apology for the long digression into which we have been led. It need not, however, be quite a digression. The Indian year 1888 is preeminently the one in which Lord Dufferin had been hard at work in gathering up the threads of his past measures, and it is so completely associated with his memory that a record of the year involuntarily slides into references to his personality. Our year's review naturally grows into Lord Dufferin's.

We have not time to go into full details of an annual retrospect, and shall content ourselves with brief references to some of its prominent political events. It is curious, at the outset, that, in spite of the small enthusiasm among sections of the native populations, Lord Dufferin has a host of admirers in other quarters who claim a high measure of success for his administration. His Lordship himself has left on record a review of his Vicerealty which no candid man can peruse without feeling that, at any rate, far more was due to him

than his adverse critics would allow. In his elaborate reply to the address voted to him by the Calcutta community on the eve of his last departure for Simla, he made a serious effort to right himself with his accusers, and whatever may be the radical differences of opinion among politicians, as to the wisdom of his external policy—a policy hitherto systematically followed by the British Government in regard to frontier states—once admitted that that is the policy enjoined upon the Government of India for the time being, there need be no difficulty in appraising the success of Lord Dufferin's measures. Once admitted that considerations of imperial security made the conquest of Burma or the undertaking, at enormous cost, of frontier railways and other measures of defence of vital necessity to the well-being of the Indian Empire, it only remains for lay critics to decide how far he has been successful in carrying those measures through. And in this, opinions of military experts and of officials otherwise in a position to give an authoritative verdict, appear to be unanimous that the result of Lord Dufferin's actions in regard to these objects has been considerably to add to the strength and security of Her Majesty's dominions in the East.

The retention of an odious impost like the income tax, must, in this poor country, be disastrous to the reputation of any ruler. Could Lord Dufferin see his way to abolish it, his name would have rung now from one end of the country to the other, as that of one of India's greatest deliverers. In fact, this tax is working a vast deal of unhappiness amongst the people. But the financial difficulties of the State, due, no doubt, in a great measure, to the State's own action and methods of action, hardly leave a Viceroy much liberty in the matter. What is the Viceroy's control over the Home Charges—that perennial drain upon the Indian exchequer? The abolition of the import duties has been another cause of the financial strain which the Government of India finds itself bound to face, and certainly it was not any Government of India responsible for that measure of gross injustice to the Indian taxpayer. So far as Lord Dufferin is personally concerned, he cannot be sufficiently complimented for the courage with which he charged the Finance Committee which he appointed for the retrenchment of expenditure, to include within the purview of their enquiries the subject of the Home Charges. But the Secretary of State intervened, and all the expenditure which is incurred in England in the name of the Government of India was excluded from the sphere of their examination. Notwithstanding the peremptory restriction thus imposed on Lord Dufferin's manly and honest endeavours to make the two ends meet, as far as possible without further adding to the burdens of the Indian tax-payer, that Committee have achieved no mean measure of success. Lord Dufferin, in his self vindication from the accusations so lightly brought against him, before the Calcutta community assembled last year in the Town Hall to vote him a valedictory address, triumphantly pointed to his Finance Committee and his Public Service Commission, as measures of domestic administration of which he would always feel proud. The recommendations of the Service Commission, if they do not go far enough, are conceived in a thoroughly liberal spirit, and, if the Secretary of State does not whittle them away by his interferences, they are sure to afford some satisfaction to the aspirations of educated Indians.

The year that has closed was one distinguished for

considerable material advancement of the country. Handicapped as the Government was by financial difficulties, and absorbed as its funds were by the demands of its military policy, it did not starve those works of public utility upon which depended the advancement of agriculture and commerce and manufactures. The representatives of those interests speak in high approbation of Lord Dufferin's sympathetic treatment of the claims of the commercial and manufacturing enterprise, and this is no small praise for a ruler who could promote the arts of peace amidst his ceaseless distractions on account of war.

The year that is gone, may in God's Providence be fruitful of measures likely to alleviate the pressure of population and poverty in overcrowded districts of the country. His absorbing cares, not only on account of the organization of Burma but of a number of small military expeditions, necessitated by regard for the honor and prestige of the Government did not prevent Lord Dufferin from taking up and dealing with the great economical question of the poverty of the people. His Lordship directed an enquiry into the question, and probably the decision which his Lordship's resolution on the subject embodies, is in the main a sound one, *viz.*, that, although British administration has been productive of a measure of prosperity to several classes of the population, there are parts of the country suffering from congestion of population and the worst types of poverty and misery.

The year 1888 will be memorable in the annals of the Native States. The dark intrigues which prevailed in the Foreign Office in its treatment of the Feudatory Princes, received, under Lord Dufferin's personal influence, an effectual check, and for the first time a purer atmosphere seemed to pervade that bureau. The effects of Lord Dufferin's personal intervention in the affairs of our Native States, were conspicuously apparent in the case of the premier state Hyderabad, and, probably the most notable event of the old year in connection with the administration of the foreign office, was the light thrown upon its dark chambers by the investigations of the Deccan Mining Concessions Commission.

Another memorable event of the old year was the passing of the Bill for abolishing imprisonment for debt. We had always advocated the measure which is only in harmony with the humanity of the age.

A review of the year, however brief and hurried, can hardly be concluded by a journalist in Bengal without placing on record the high reputation acquired by the Local Administration. Never was the Bengal Government so popular. The result is due not only to the Lieutenant-Governor, but also to the two principal Secretaries. Sir Stuart Bayley is specially lucky in his Chief Secretary, Mr. Edgar, an able and upright man of large experience, who works with all the devotion of a personal interest in the fame of his Chief. By his kindly demeanour towards the subject population and keen eye to their welfare and happiness, the Lieutenant-Governor himself has won all hearts. Conciliating and, at the same time, firm—gracious in his manners, and, above all, full of sympathies for his people, his very mistakes are condoned. The passing of the Calcutta Municipal Bill brought him into a temporary difficulty with the citizens of his capital, but, however opinions may differ as to the necessity of the measure, it has long ago passed the region of discussion, and what remains is to hope that it may be productive of the maximum of improvement with as little as possible of worry and harassment to the people. Sir Stuart Bayley's attitude towards the



scheme of Local Self-Government is all that could be desired.

In a short sketch, from which we have kept out many things which usually form the staple of a regular review, we will not refer to disastrous visitations of Providence, like the tornado of Dacca, nor rake up unpleasant memories of official misdeeds and scandals. The year has, indeed, obtained a notoriety of its own, by the number as well as gravity of its scandalous disclosures of a flagrant character sufficient to shake one's faith in very civilization itself. But it is the old story of the serpent trailing in the path of man, and let all who are weak themselves draw a veil over a weakness that seems to be an inheritance of our common humanity.

### THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

*Lowther Castle, Allahabad, Dec. 31, 1888.*

TO-DAY is the closing day of the year of grace 1888; and with it closes a week of merry-making and festivities that may not recur again. We spent the outgoing week in a feverish state of excitement. It was one prolonged Lord Mayor's day. Delegates began to drop in as early as the 20th instant, and it is noteworthy the earliest to come were from the farthest part of India, from the Madras side. One of the earliest arrivals was V. Anuntharow Pantulu Garu, Rao Sahib, Bimlipatam. They, however, did not stop long after giving intimation of their arrival. Some formally and others informally. Scarcely had they gone to "do" the places of pilgrimage—such as Kashi, Mathura, Brindaban, &c.—and we all know how unadulterated and undiluted *their* Hinduism is of the most orthodox type—when we were called upon to take care of fresh arrivals from the Behar and Oude Side. On the 24th and 25th, there was quite a rush of passengers, almost all delegates. By the 26th, all had arrived. The enthusiasm, the bustle and the confusion consequent thereon, can be better imagined than described. The arrangements for reception and accommodation may not have been of the best kind; but they were by no means imperfect or hopelessly confusing. If I were to refer to causes which would explain the little mismanagement that prevailed, I would not only be anticipating facts but I would do a serious injustice to the managers of the Reception Committee, to Babu Charu Chandra Mitra and others, who spared nothing that lay in their power to consult the convenience and comfort of the delegates. There was a number of "volunteers"—generally the Muir College students—upon the platform awaiting every incoming train, led by a few members of the Reception Committee, or at any rate by a "volunteer officer." As soon as the delegates came out of their respective compartments, they found volunteers waiting to take care of their luggage, and others to comfortably seat them in conveyances which were ever ready at the disposal of the members of the Reception Committee. All the Railway coolies were engaged: So there would be no difficulty or confusion in the transmission of luggage. The delegates would then drive, accompanied by one or more volunteers, straight to Lowther Castle—a distance of by no means less than a mile, if not more. At the Castle, they would be received by a fresh batch of volunteers under a volunteer officer who was to instruct his subordinates to which "block" to take which arrivals. These subordinate officers would take the delegates to blocks according to the part of India or circle they came from. There were no less than, I believe, seven blocks, each under, what a gentleman facetiously called, two "blockheads." And whenever there was the least delay in the carrying out of any delegate's order, down would come upon the officers of the block the humorous wrath of witty delegates who exclaimed, "How can we expect a better state of affairs when the *block-heads* are our rulers?" These block heads had under their command a corps of volunteers who were to work under the direction and control of the heads of each block. The volunteers, of whose number there was registered more than 200, were gentlemen, mostly the senior students of the local College, who had volunteered their services to wait upon, and every way to minister to the com-

fort of, delegates. Their distinctive badge was a flower which they wore on their breast. The Reception Committee, whose members wore a bigger flower made this concession in their behalf that they would be admitted free to witness the proceedings of the Congress. This was too strong a temptation to a large body of students; and applications began to pour in very freely for the enrolment of volunteers. Many, I am afraid, were not at all enthusiastic about the work for which they very generously volunteered their services; only a few cared for their self-imposed task, and discharged it right loyally and with heart-whole devotion. The majority were seized with a desire anyhow to get a free ticket of admission, perhaps they did not carefully weigh the responsibility and arduousness of the task they willingly and cheerfully undertook to perform, or did but little understand the nature of the work they would be called upon to discharge. For many did never put in their appearance, and more were little better than faggots in the muster-roll. But better could not have been expected of students. In the Castle itself, there was room only for the office, the General Secretary, Mr. Digby, Baboo Charu Chandra, the more important of the Mahomedan Nawabs and princelings and a few other persons of ill-health and a few more confirmed valetudinarians. In the spacious compound of the Castle, which had been rented at Rs. 500 for 2 months, innumerable tents were pitched for the accommodation of an overwhelming majority of the delegates. The Madras alone, as having travelled the longest distance and as most susceptible to the cold of the northern winter, were provided with mud houses and bungalows, all others being housed in tents. Two small tents were reserved for the "Intelligence Department and Delegates' Register." Not very far from these was the Library, or, more correctly speaking, the Reading Room. The lane between these two would lead us to the market-place which, at its terminus, opens out into a large field lying fallow. To one entering the Lowther Castle compound from the Parkside, about the first thing that presents itself to his view is the capacious *Pandal*; while outside the *Pandal* itself there fluttered in the wind a whole train of flags occupying the several angles, bearing on them the names of places represented—a pleasing and variegated show. To the right of the visitor making his way to the Castle, there were a number of shawl shops, newspaper and book stalls, &c., &c. The left side of the *Pandal* was wholly taken up with tents of a block reserved for Europeans and Natives preferring English fashion, which was largely availed of by our anglicised Babus. Between the *Pandal* and the Castle, was a large and beautiful tent, the gift of the Maharaja of Durbhanga, the premier zemindar of Bengal. This was utilised for the purposes of the drawing-room. Here the provincial delegates held their meetings for the election of the members of the Subject Committee and the Brahmos their first conference. Here also the Madras delegates interviewed Messrs. Caine and Digby. Conferences were the order of the day. At one time it seemed as if we were to be deluged with these offshoots. Verily, between our endless varieties of races, creeds and classes, sects and sections, we were threatened with the very plague of locusts of numerous minor interests at a moment our attention and energies should be concentrated on the one great object! Here was the Kshetriya Conference, the Brahmo Conference and many other conferences of which I have no knowledge, and proposals were also made for a conference of the members of the press to discuss general politics and other leading burning topics of the day. It was acknowledged on all hands that the *pandal* this year was bigger and decenter than that at Madras. A floating rumour, which was largely believed and which created some alarm, was that our enemies were on the look-out for an opportunity to set the *pandal* on fire. To timely provide against such a contingency, more than a dozen sentinels were posted around and about it, strictly ordered to be always on the alert. Further provision was made against such a catastrophe or in case any tent took fire by accident by having tanks full of water close by. When you learn that all this was done within the incredibly short space of six weeks, you will be inclined to wonder at, and admire, the pluck and the enterprising capacity of the managers. Earlier than this it was not possible for them to arrange for things for causes which hardly reflect any credit upon the honour and honesty of the local authorities. For once the *ekkas* were scarce in Allahabad, the city of dust and of *ekkas*! Allahabad,

Thanks to the genius of reflective humour of Mr. Mozumdar, is already known to the civilised world as the city of *ekkas*; but to Mr. N. N. Ghosh is perhaps reserved to make known to the world the dusty abundance of the sacred city of the Hindus, in one of his reflective fits of mind in which he is excelled by himself alone. The *Morning Post* has been amply rewarded for its Yankee enterprise of publishing day after day a pretty exhaustive account of the proceedings. The most attractive feature of the Congress numbers of the *Post* were the introductory articles reputed to have been written by Mr. William Digby, C.I.E. At a more convenient time, in my leisure, I propose to send you further accounts of the Congress, not indeed in the form of reports, nor in the shape of a series of systematic articles, but as incidents present themselves to me, which have been overlooked by others but which are nonetheless likely to interest and enlighten your readers.

B.

## State Paper.

No. 169.

From P. Nolan, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, on Special Duty,

To the Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

Dated Calcutta, the 24th October 1888.

[Concluded from page 10.]

19. Although these terms are more liberal than those on which waste lands are ordinarily granted, they do not involve any loss of revenue, inasmuch as whatever tax may ultimately be obtained from lands cultivated on the system proposed will be a clear addition to that levied under the ordinary rules. In the districts where these large tracts are available for reclamation there is enough for all, and the Burmese will not cease to take up as much new land as the capital and labour at their disposal permit, merely because Indian settlers may, at the same time, be bringing the assigned grants under cultivation. The allowance on the ryotwari rate to be made to the grantees after thirty-three years does not exceed that given in other provinces where the settlement is made with zemindars. The total amount which it is proposed to assign at first, a hundred thousand acres, forms an insignificant fraction of the available waste in Burma, and if the experiment does not prove in every respect satisfactory, it need not be repeated. On the other hand, it is hoped that the grants may induce capitalists to settle Beharis in considerable numbers on lands in Burma, and if this is done, the benefit will certainly not be limited to the areas directly affected. Although Bengalis now settle on waste land in Burma, it is understood that Beharis and the men of Chutia Nagpur (where wages are lower than those current in Behar) do not, and what is desired is that an example should be set of success in this direction. Once we have established a movement, and can point to its good results, it will continue of itself.

20. It is further proposed that Government should start one or more clearances on land favourably situated, for the settlement of Behar emigrants, to whom assistance may be given in the form of advances. This recommendation is made on the principle that the State, as the chief landholder in Burma, may properly set an example of reclamation on the system which it commends to other proprietors. Some facilities are presented for the purposes by the existence of "fuel reserves" established to supply the new railway, but no longer needed, as the engines burn only coal, and also by the recent appointment of an experienced officer as Director of Agriculture for the province. The sites of these reserves, which are fertile and convenient for the purpose, might be made available for cultivation by merely clearing the thicker jungle, and sinking wells, leaving the settlers themselves to deal with the lighter jungle. It is true that an attempt to settle Beharis on waste land failed utterly in 1882, and that some previous efforts made to accomplish the same objects came to nothing; but in these instances no means whatever were adopted to select suitable rayyets, or to insist on the observances of any rules which would give scope for a system of natural selection. It was assumed that every Behari labourer was fit to act as a small capitalist in Burma, to be trusted with advances

*Holloway's Pills.*—Nervousness and want of Energy.—When first the nerves feel unstrung, and listlessness supplants energy, the time has come to take some such alternative as Holloway's Pills to restrain a disorder from developing itself into a disease. These excellent Pills correct all irregularities and weaknesses. They act so kindly, yet so energetically on the functions of digestion and assimilation, that the whole body is revived, the blood rendered richer and purer, while the muscles become firmer and stronger, and the nervous and absorbent systems are invigorated. These Pills are suitable for all classes and all ages. They have a most marvellous effect on persons who are out of condition; they soon rectify whatever is in fault, restore strength to the body and confidence to the mind.

equal to ten times his annual income in his native land, to eradicate jungle, and cultivate the land reclaimed on his own account. The settlers were therefore recruited by an agent in Behar, paid so much a head, with the result that they were found absolutely unfit for the work before them. This is what might easily have been anticipated from the first. It is not every one who can farm at a profit, even on land which he receives in a state of thorough cultivation, and in his own country. To do so on waste land in a foreign province, differing much in climate and soil from that with which he is acquainted, is a difficult task, requiring special gifts for its successful performance. While any stout Behari can get good wages in Burma by ploughing and reaping for others, or at any rate by carrying rice-bags at the wharf, it is not one in ten who is fit for the difficult work of independent cultivation. The most careful selection is therefore necessary in the choice of rayyets; or rather it is desirable to establish a system under which they may select themselves. Emigrants on their first arrival should, as a general rule, work for others, and when they have become acclimatised, and learned something of the ways and language of the country, those who feel equal to the enterprise may set up as cultivators, investing their savings on their holdings. To such men, when they settle on Government clearances, advances may be freely given, as they risk something of their own in the venture, thereby giving a guarantee. It has been objected that we would not by assisting men of this class really promote emigration, as they are already in Burma; but if the scheme be considered in its ultimate consequences, it will be found to include the promotion of emigration in the very best and most effectual way. Every man withdrawn from the ordinary labour market leaves a vacancy which another emigrant may probably supply, while nothing would encourage Beharis more to seek work in Burma than the existence of settled colonies of their caste-fellows in the province, who would not only afford them society and countenance, but in many cases would even assist them to find their passage-money, and give them employment. With regard to the cost of the undertaking, it would be sufficient to proceed on a small scale at first, for the purpose of experiment; and I should say that an expenditure of Rs. 8,000 would be enough to establish a village or hamlet. It is estimated that Rs. 250 is required to clear a holding, build a habitation, and find the tenant in stock; so that, if Government advances half this sum, the rayyet finding the other half, the proposed outlay would be sufficient to set up fifty families, leaving a margin for the construction of wells, and for cutting noxious jungle where this should be done by the landlord:—

	Rs.
Advances to 50 tenants, at Rs. 125 each	6,250
Digging wells	1,000
Clearing jungle where this should be done by the landlord	750
Total	8,000

The charges would be of an ordinary nature, classified as on account of *muazzari* advances, and the improvement of Government estates. They would fall on the Burma Administration.

21. The above are the only proposals which I have to lay before the Government of India; but certain suggestions have also been made which, while I do not recommend their immediate adoption, I report for consideration. I was at one time disposed to think that Government might with advantage issue in Bankipore, at the discretion of local officers, free passes for the voyage from Calcutta to Rangoon, leaving the emigrant to pay his own railway fare from Behar to Calcutta, and recovering from him, after he had found employment in Burma, the value of the passage, which will be only five rupees. The payment of the railway fare would be some evidence that the intending emigrant was not a mere pauper, and it would also prevent the fraudulent use of free passes from Bankipore to Calcutta. Passengers by steamers have to appear before starting in the Company's office; and, considering this liability, and the fact that the advances are recoverable, I do not think there would be any danger of the sale of the passes. With regard to the possibility of recovering the advances in Burma, the facts we have to go on are that 7,397 immigrants were landed by Government at Rangoon under the Bengal emigration scheme of 1874, at an estimated cost of Rs. 21-4 a head, afterwards raised to Rs. 23-4; before March 1876, that is to say, within a year or two years of their arrival, this charge, which was treated as an advance, had been recovered in full from 29 per cent. of the emigrants, 21 per cent. had at that date paid more than half the debt, and only 12 per cent. had paid nothing. If such progress was made in recovering a really considerable debt—one which would absorb the whole savings of a labourer for a year—I should have thought that the realization of an advance which would easily be discharged in two months would have been comparatively easy, and that an allowance of 10 per cent. for bad debts would have been ample. The Burma officers consulted were, however, much opposed to undertaking the responsibility of recovering the advances, and were inclined to recommend, as an alternative scheme, that free passes for the whole journey from Bankipore to Rangoon should be issued as a gift to suitable

19 876.



emigrants. This appears to me to involve the adoption of the system of 1874 in regard to the maintenance of depôts in Bengal for emigrants on their way out, and in Burma for the new arrivals, until employment could be found for them—a system to which officers in Burma are much opposed. I fail to see how we could pay in full the railway fares and steamer passages without adopting such precautions, as it would be a scandal to leave State emigrants to starve in the streets of Calcutta and Rangoon. The only safe policy is, in my opinion, to favour and assist those who travel at least partly at their own expense, while avoiding the institution of a system of pauper emigration, conducted at the charge and responsibility of the State. The original proposal as to the issue of free passes to Beharis from Calcutta to Rangoon by way of advance is not pressed at present, but may be renewed should any special opportunity present itself, such as a scarcity in Bengal, or an exceptional demand for labour in Burma.

22. I understand that a considerable number of immigrants are at present employed on public works in Burma, and it appears to me that suitable labourers might be engaged in Behar for the purpose under the British Burma Labour Law, or otherwise, and their outward expenses advanced, subjects to subsequent recovery by deduction from their wages. The most suitable of the labourers thus imported might, after proving their industry and learning the ways of the country, be settled on Government clearances, the execution of public works being thus made a means of ultimately securing the reclamation of waste lands. To this proposal the Burma officers consulted were opposed, on the ground that it would interfere with the system of executing such works by contract, and would add to their cost. Mr. Hodgkinson also considered it desirable to encourage the Burmese themselves to seek employment of this kind. I gathered from the Chief Commissioner that the objection on the score of cost impressed him most, and he entirely agreed with his officers in rejecting the suggestion, unless the Bengal Government would undertake to pay any loss which its adoption might involve. In my opinion the importation of labourers from Behar for labour on public works in Burma, if the system were permanently adopted, would involve trouble rather than cost; properly conducted, it might even be made profitable, as in the case of the importation of labourers from the same districts to Assam, where local wages are not so high as in Burma. At first there would, no doubt, be some expense, in the probable event of the arrangements being defective; but ultimately it can hardly injure an employer to engage his labourers in a very cheap instead of in a very dear market. I do not, however, find that the present moment is opportune for putting forward the proposal. Should any great public works be undertaken requiring a supply of labour larger than can be met from local sources, the Burma Administration may be disposed to entertain the suggestion with greater favour; while in the event of scarcity occurring in Behar, the Bengal Government may be prepared to assist to the extent of advancing the requisite funds.

23. The Financial Commissioner advocates the construction of a line to connect the Burmese railway system with that of Bengal. This would undoubtedly do more to promote emigration than all the other measures taken together, dread of crossing the sea being deeply implanted in the breasts of upcountrymen. I only mention the project, as I have not had the opportunity of considering it in any detail.

24. The British Burma Emigration Law of 1876 can be said to have come into operation only in so far as Government in the following year imported some Madrassis with the intention of assigning them to employers according to the procedure described in section 48; but no one would accept their services on the troublesome conditions prescribed by the Act, so they had to be allowed to work on the ordinary terms. No private person has ever put the law in force, and few are aware of its existence. The practice of importing labourers at the employer's expense does not obtain in Burma, and therefore the Act framed to facilitate such importation finds no scope for operation. It has been suggested that as Madrassis are generally brought over at the cost of petty native contractors, legislation is desirable for the more easy recovery of advances; but Burma officers are not unanimous on this point, and in the absence of any demand on the part of the contractors themselves, interference would, I think, be premature.

25. The general result of the discussions which took place during my visit to Burma is to show that emigration to that province from Bengal is most beneficial to individuals, and also to the State; that it is proceeding on a large scale which may be greatly increased; and that the voluntary system on which it is conducted works extremely well. The inference is that the movement should be encouraged in every practicable way, without depriving it of the spontaneity which is its most valuable characteristic. The measures immediately recommended with this object are three—the reduction of the cost of the passage from Calcutta to Rangoon by one-half, the offer of equitable terms to capitalists willing to reclaim waste land by the agency of Indian labourers or rayyets, and the settlement of Bengalis on selected Government estates. For carrying out the first of these proposals there is a special opportunity, the terms of the contract between the principal carrying Company and Government providing for its accomplishment at a trifling cost, while the approaching completion of the railway from Rangoon to Mandalay, and the existence of fuel reserves no longer required, offer similar facilities for the immediate adoption of the remaining suggestions. These measures were unanimously approved by those consulted in Burma and are supported by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal; they are as desirable on financial as on general grounds, and I hope that they may be carried into effect as expeditiously as possible. Further facilities may, in my opinion, be afforded for emigration by the advance to Beharis, under certain conditions, of the amount of their passage-money from Calcutta to Rangoon, and by importing labourers for employment on large public works; but on these points there is some difference of opinion, and it may be desirable to await a more opportune moment for their discussion.

#### THE ADJOURNED SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta  
WILL BE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL,  
on Thursday, the 17th January 1889, at 3 P. M.,  
when the business left undisposed of at the  
Special General Meeting held on the 31st January  
will be brought forward.

At the close of the Adjourned Special General Meeting,

A SPECIAL MEETING  
will be held to sanction the application of  
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JOWN COWIE,  
Secretary to the Corporation.

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the Senate House, College Square, on Saturday,  
the 19th January, at 3 P. M.

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costume are admissible, on presenting themselves  
at the Senate House, at 2 P. M.

P. K. RAY, D.Sc., Registrar.  
Senate House, the 31st Dec. 1888.

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**OPINION OF THE PRESS.**

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee: a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kinder satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargam" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Musulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to quark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee *pariah*, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, add took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at least, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "*We serve flesh and blood.*" The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his consideration and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kisto Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise to recognise and winnow carefully to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word true as well as generous ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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(PRINCE AND PEASANT)

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# Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. {

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1889.

} No. 357

## CONTEMPORARY VERSE.

### THE SOUNDS OF INDUSTRY.

I LOVE the banging hammer,  
The whirring of the plane,  
The crashing of the busy saw,  
The creaking of the crane,  
The ringing of the anvil,  
The grating of the drill,  
The clattering of the turning-lathe,  
The whirling of the mill,  
The buzzing of the spindle,  
The rattling of the loom,  
The puffing of the engine,  
And the fan's continuous boom—  
The clipping of the tailor's shears,  
The driving of the awl—  
The sounds of BUSY LABOR,  
I love, I love them all.

I love the ploughman's whistle,  
The reaper's cheerful song,  
The drover's oft-repeated shout,  
As he spurs his stock along ;  
The bustle of the market man,  
As he hies him to the town ;  
The halloo from the tree-top,  
As the ripening fruit comes down.  
The busy sound of thrashers,  
As they clean the ripened grain,  
And the huskers' joke, and mirth, and glee,  
'Neath the moonlight on the plain,  
The kind voice of the dairyman,  
The shepherd's gentle call—  
These sounds of active industry,  
I love, I love them all.

For they tell my longing spirit  
Of the earnestness of life,  
How much of all its happiness  
Comes out of toil and strife ;  
Not that toil and strife that fainteth,  
And murmureth all the way—  
Not the toil and strife that groaneth  
Beneath the tyrant's sway ;  
But the toil and strife that springeth  
From a free and willing heart,  
A strife which ever bringeth  
To the striver all his part.

O! there is a good in labor,  
If we labor but aright,  
That gives vigor to the day-time,  
And a sweeter sleep at night,

A good that bringeth pleasure,  
Even to the toiling hours ;  
For duty cheers the spirit  
As the dew revives the flowers.

FRANCES D. GAGE.

### THE BLIND BOY.

IT was a blessed summer day,  
The floweret bloomed, the air was mild,  
The little birds poured forth their lay,  
And every thing in nature smiled.

In pleasant thought I wandered on  
Beneath the deep wood's ample shade,  
Till suddenly I came upon  
Two children that had hither strayed.

Just at an aged birch-tree's foot  
A little boy and girl reclined,  
His hand in hers she kindly put,  
And then I saw the boy was blind !

"Dear Mary," said the poor blind boy,  
"That little bird sings very long,  
Say, do you see him in his joy ?  
And is he pretty as *his song* ?"

"Yes, Edward, yes," replied the maid,  
"I see the bird on yonder tree ;"  
The poor boy sighed, and gently said—  
"Sister, I *wish* that I could see.

"The flowers, you say, are very fair,  
And bright green leaves are on the trees,  
And pretty birds are singing there,  
How beautiful for one who sees !"

"Yet I the fragrant flower can smell,  
And I can feel the green leaf's shade,  
And I can hear the notes that swell  
From these dear birds that God has made.

"So, sister, God is kind to me,  
Though *sight*, alas ! he has not given ;  
But tell me are there any *blind*  
Among the children up in heaven ?"

"No, dearest Edward, there all see !  
But wherefore ask a thing so odd ?"

"Oh ! Mary, he's so good to me,  
I thought I'd like to look at God."

Ere long, disease his hand had laid  
On that dear boy so meek and mild ;  
His widowed mother wept, and prayed  
That God would spare her sightless child.

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He felt the warm tears on his face,  
And said, "Oh never weep for me!  
I'm going to a bright, bright place,  
Where, Mary says, I God shall see.

"And you'll come there, dear Mary, too,  
And mother, when you get up there,  
Tell Edward, mother, that 't is you,—  
You know I never saw you here."

He spoke no more, but sweetly smiled,  
Until the final blow was given,  
When God took up that poor blind boy,  
And opened first his eyes in heaven.

"KENNST DU DAS LAND," ETC.

AWAY with all jesting, sit procal! ye scorners,  
I sing the land of tobacco about!  
Of Gnadige Frauen, and Hoch Wohlgebornen,  
Of Hamels Coteletten, and eke sauer kraut;  
Where even the language can interdict joking,  
Nor gleam of bright fancy can ever arouse  
The brains that are torpid by hourly smoking,  
Or inventing flat phrases to flatter fat Fraus;  
Where men have no higher enjoyment than spitting,  
Or lounging in gardens to sip sour wine;  
And lady like pastimes are centred in knitting,  
Or cooking fat messes adapted for swine;  
Where age is like childhood, and childhood old-fashioned,  
Where prising and twaddle are taken for sense;  
Where even young manhood is never impassioned,  
And the semblance of pleasantry deemed an offence.  
The fancy-struck maiden— I hope I shan't kill her  
By letting such treason escape from my hand;  
But such is the country of Goethe and Schiller,  
And such are the types of the famed Fatherland.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

*Punch* disposes of the great question, which is exercising the *Indian Mirror* and its satellites, with a conundrum. Why is Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji like the devil? Because he's not so black as he's painted.

ONE Hiralal Mulji Mackwana, by an advertisement in the *Bombay Government Gazette*, has cast away his native name altogether, and will henceforth call himself Herbert Maurice Dixon. This poor fellow who is ashamed of his parentage, will for all his efforts, be a Mokanna.

THE Americans not only earn but also spend. Nay, what is more to the purpose, they can give away without compunction. Their liberality is free like their boundless prairies. Look at Peabody! Look at Slater! Look at Daniel Hand! who has just given \$1,000,000 for the education of the freedmen in the old slave States.

NATURE has supplied her own barometer. The "weather plant," first noticed by an Austrian savant, was tested by the Committee of the late Vienna Exhibition and found to report the weather correctly in 97 cases out of 100, for six months, 48 hours beforehand. The discoverer has offered to report the weather daily from his vegetable barometer to the various English newspapers.

LUN-YUEN PHUOCK, the redoubtable adversary of the French in Tonquin, died lately. He was appointed Viceroy of Tonquin by the Emperor of China, and after the peace with the French, retired to China where he obtained a command.

At a Durbar at Nowshehro Feroz, the Commissioner in Sind gave away some presents, more substantial than empty titles. Khan Bahadur Kadirdad Khan, in charge of a sub-division, received a rifle. This is a distinguished recognition in a land where the possession of arms by natives is penal. Rao Saheb Esardas Metharam, Special Inspector, Salt Department, was given a *kinkhab* and a *lungi*. A few Zemindars were also presented with *lungis*.

At Hohenmuth, in Bohemia, during a public performance of a strolling menagerie, a young female tamer named Bertha Bumgarten was torn to pieces by a Bengal tiger.

"She entered an empty cage, and the door of an adjoining cage was then opened to let a lion and a Bengal tiger enter. The lion walked on quietly: but the tiger, a ferocious beast, which had three times wounded its keepers, crouched in the doorway and showed temper. The girl lost nerve, cried for help, and slipped. As she did so the tiger made a spring, bit her on the shoulder, then seized her by the throat, literally rent her to pieces, and tossed her body about. Half the audience ran to the doors in horror, while the attendants tried to beat off the tiger by poking hot irons into the cage; but the girl was dead long before the animal was driven away. The lion seems to have been as much frightened as the human spectators, for he took no part in the carnage."

This Bertha Bumgarten is the third victim to the same tiger in the same Show. And yet these Shows are not prohibited!

MR. MARSDEN has sentenced a desperate villain of a Jehu to 3 months' hard labor, for refusing to hire out his conveyance and whipping his would-be fare, J. Bennett of the Mint, and for rash driving. According to a Police report in the *Statesman*,

"On New-year's day complainant sent his bearer for a carriage, and though accused was at the stand at the foot of the Hooghly Bridge, he refused to go. Complainant on hearing of this walked from the Mint to the spot, and accused again emphatically refused to hire out his conveyance, giving some frivolous excuse, on which complainant mounted the step. Immediately after accused whipped his horses and drove off, leaving complainant to stand on the step of the conveyance. While thus driving, accused commenced to whip complainant, whose hat was knocked off. He then resorted to the butt end of the whip, and again assaulted complainant, who bore marks of violence on the face, head, and body. As he came into Canning-street, accused drove so furiously that his conveyance came in contact with some materials on the road and capsized, causing complainant to fall on the road, and injure himself. Baboo Gopal Lal Seal appeared for accused and pleaded not guilty. The Charge having been satisfactorily proved, his worship sentenced accused to three months' hard labour."

Served right!

*Native Public Opinion* of Bombay begins the year, we are glad to observe, in, if not quite a new shape at any rate, an improved style of get-up, with new type and good paper and some increase of size. The matter is nearly all about the Congress, and not the newest and best of its kind. This is how our contemporary disposes of the charge of sedition:—

"But suppose for argument's sake, the aims and objects of the Congress were of a questionable character, how could Lord Dufferin himself whose beneficence at the St. Andrew's dinner at Calcutta seems to have got better of his otherwise sympathetic mind, propose a scheme of reform in our Legislative Councils to the Secretary of State? One of the local contemporaries seems to throw doubt upon this statement but the mention of the same scheme in the *London Times* is an evidence confirmatory of the statement. The existence of a proposal like the one we mention from Lord Dufferin himself is a standing protest against the charge of sedition against the Congress."

THE relations between the young Nawab of Sachin and his Administrator, Mr. Nannu Mia, have for some time been very unsatisfactory. Government is understood to have interfered. It is believed that Nannu Mia will be provided elsewhere and the Magistrate of the Chou-rasi Division of Surat will succeed him at Sachin.

THE *Advocate of India* learns on good authority, that, after the conclusion of the Crawford Commission, the Commissionership of the Central Division itself will be abolished, the work now done by it being redistributed.

MR. T. M. Gibbon has rejoined his permanent place in the Bettia Raj and taken over charge from Mr. W. B. Hudson.

THE Income tax is payable on the amount actually received, therefore, the Government of India has ruled that no tax is payable on the fines deducted from salaries, in other words, they are not to be taken into account in calculating the tax.

THE Syndicate of the Parisian Press have nominated the officers of their *Bureau* for the year 1889. M. Adrien Hébrard of the *Temps* is President, M. Edouard Hervé of the *Soleil*, Vice-president, M. Maunon of the *Petit Journal*, Treasurer, and M. Joseph Reinach of the *Republique*, Secretary.

THE French Government has appointed a Vice-Consul at Bushire in consequence of the opening of the river Karum for foreign navigation.

ACCORDING to the *Statistische Monatsschrift*, the "illiterates" in the three Slavic States of Roumania, Servia and Russia are the greatest in number. In these 80 per cent. of the population are unable to read and write. Of the Latin-speaking races, Spain comes out foremost with 63 per cent., then follows Italy with 48, France and Belgium giving 15 per cent. Hungary numbers 43, Austria 39, Ireland 21, England 13, Holland 10, United States (white population) 8 and Scotland 7. In the purely Teutonic States, the "illiterates" are reduced to very poor percentage, namely, Switzerland 15 and the whole German Empire only one per cent.

WE reported last week the theft at Dr. Salzer's house. His loss was a gold watch and chain and two boxes containing Rs. 600 in currency notes. Of these, notes to the value of only Rs. 150 were recovered and the Police subsequently found Rs. 1,300 in the thief's house. What is the destination of this sum? The presumption is that it is stolen property, and there is only one person known who has a claim against the last possessor of this sum for Rs. 600.

THE following paragraph appears in many journals:--

"The Shah of Bokhara has, on the suggestion of Russia, recently constructed two regular cantonments for troops. One at Darwazai Nimazgah and the other at Bahaud Din. Hitherto there have been no fixed stations for troops in Bokhara, but the soldiers used to live at their own homes. All this is to be changed, and the barrack system has been introduced, and drill and discipline are taught by Russian officers."

That is a typical example of the ignorance of our journals and the carelessness with which they are conducted. Whatever the enterprise of the Press, the value of the news purveyed by it, to say nothing of its reflections, is reduced to a minimum by the absence in the conductors of acquaintance with the rudiments of geography and history. The above news may have been procured at considerable cost, and there may be truth as probability in it. But what confidence can be placed on the statements of a writer who speaks of the Shah in the connection?

By a Presidential decree, importation of saccharin and all compounds of it have been interdicted in France and Algeria.

THE Supreme Government has asked the opinions of the local Governments for an alternative standard for the University Entrance Examination.

THE benefits of a foreign civilization are not enjoyed without a heavy cost. Thus English education has clearly blunted the edge of vivacity of the nation, until its most eminent publicists openly express disappointment with a book of the class of *Eothen*, *The Crescent and the Cross*, Victor Hugo's *Rhine* and About's *Greece*, for not dealing with the burning political and social topics of the hour. The Congress movement seems to have the same benumbing melancholy effect on our people. It has led to a good deal of spouting and literary activity, but not of a kind to be proud of. In fact, it has developed decided symptoms of the *cacoethes loquendi* and the *cacoethes scribendi*. In the South, the epidemic has taken a metrical turn. The organ of the Congress there is, from time to time, filled with the outpourings of the sufferers who are probably regarded with the interest with which patients under hysterics and convulsions have sometimes, even in Europe, been treated. Sometime ago, we reproduced some specimens for the delectation of our readers. The friends of the Congress who thought that the verse did not come up to this standard of the perfection of the great movement, actually accused us of having, in our mischievous way, manufactured the pieces, without for a moment reflecting how far the feat was above us. But these are evidently the true salt of the Congress earth. The genuine Congressists are above unworthy suspicions. They at once recognize their own. Accordingly, we find the Allahabad *Indian Union*, the out and out Congress organ of Raja Rampal Singh, has conveyed the odes of WELCOME TO MESSRS. EARDLY NORTON AND WOOMESH CHUNDER BONNERJEE, BARRISTERS-AT-LAW, from our issue of December 8, not in Pistol's sense, but honourably, with full acknowledgment, with our intermediate characterization and final remark.

THE robber and murderer Gustave Bacquet has been condemned, by a French Jury at the Seine Assizes, to penal servitude for life. He is only

18 years of age, and murdered his employer Madame Ploq de Berthier, and attempted the life of M. Cavallo, the organist of St. Germain des Pres, whom he wanted to rob by first cutting out the poor fellow's tongue. He was in constant request by artists as a model for beauty of the angelic order. How deceitful are appearance! The charming dandy little *Kal Nagini* is the deadliest of the reptile world.

MR. W. C. FORD, of Washington, U. S., is collecting the letters and other writings of George Washington.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE return of the Chinese Amban, on failure of his mission, has been intercepted for the moment. He was to have started the day before yesterday, but the night before last he received a telegraphic order from the Peking Government to await the arrival of an English official of the Chinese Government who has been deputed to assist in the negotiation. He is expected early next month. Meanwhile, however, Sir Henry Durand returns to Calcutta to-morrow. Such is the report of the *Englishman's* special. Is Peking connected by electric wire with the Himalayan frontiers?

AFTER the last Revolution in Nepal, the new Government despatched an embassy to the Suzerain China at Peking. The party has returned at last at Katmandoo, after a year's stay at the capital of the Celestial Empire. Besides the usual presents to China, they took with them a lot of merchandise of indigenous produce for which they did not find a ready sale. The most valuable of their cargo was Nepal opium, but even this did not sell well. And why not? Was the Nepal drug of inferior quality? Or, was the Cheefoo Convention in the way? The Government of India which depends so much on this article, should inquire.

AFTER an adjournment for a month, the Parnell Commission resumed business on the 15th. It commenced with the trial of Mr. W. O'Brien, M. P., proprietor of the "United Ireland" for contempt of the court. In a letter in that paper Mr. O'Brien had called the Commission "Forgeries Commission" and otherwise attacked its conduct. The Parnellite denied that he was personally disrespectful to the Judges, but would not withdraw any portion of the letter. After taking time to consider the order, Sir James Hannen censured the letter but let off the writer. A wise step, as it was a manly one on the part of the journalist to stick to his phrase. Such mild literary scorn as is implied in the nickname is no legitimate subject of judicial complaint, though it may be a source of annoyance, more or less, according to temperament.

IN view doubtless of coming complications in Europe, Belgium is settling her house in order. She is about to revolutionise her whole military system. The Belgian army is about 130,000 men. A Bill is ready for introduction in the present session of the Chamber for the establishment of universal obligatory service. By this means it is proposed to raise the effective force in time of war to 250,000 to 300,000 men and to reduce the number in peaceful times to 18,000, without any increase of the military budget. The success of the contemplated measure will certainly make Belgium a Power of consequence, whose alliance will be worth counting by the great states. Unfortunately, she is geographically placed at a disadvantage, without natural defences, exposed to attack on all sides, and surrounded by powerful neighbours who covet her rich country with its teeming thrifty thriving and intelligent population. Under the proposed conscription, with a first class alliance, she may yet for long maintain her separate existence, until the inevitable absorption into the next nation with which she may develop the most social and political affinity. It were well for France and perhaps Europe too, if she could unite with her sister of the same tongue on her Northern frontier. That would more than compensate her for her losses on the Rhine and Eastern frontier. But there is no immediate prospect of any such windfall in her favour. In the first place, the Belgians are still as sturdy in their self-consciousness as Cæsar found them or Goldsmith in the last century described them. They are full of that love of independence so characteristic of small states. At the same time, the French have lost character. Finally, Germany will not permit of any such strengthening of her old rival and now victim,



and Germany is mistress of Europe. After the incredible folly of France in continually threatening her, Germany cannot be blamed for her jealousy of French aggrandisement.

It is said that Mr. Moreton Frewen lately telegraphed to the Nizam for permission to represent His Highness at the Congress, and that the consent was given, but the managers of the Congress refused to allow Mr. Moreton Frewen to attend. They were afraid it was a dodge to discredit the movement in England as trying to intrigue with the Native Princes. This is a poor compliment to an accomplished English gentleman of good connections, whose influence in the Deccan has been for the best. It was he whose persistent efforts forced the frauds in connection with the Mining Company upon public notice, until a Parliamentary Committee was appointed. Such a man was entitled to a better turn than a gratuitous insult. Mr. George Yule might just as well have been suspected of a conspiracy, only that he was of the *Doyen's* choice. Or, was it that Mr. Frewen, by reason of his relationship to Lord Randolph Churchill, belongs to the opposite party in English politics to that which the Congress is courting?

WE condole with Mr. Nanabhai Haridas on his sad bereavement. In the death of Bai Kamalagauri, not only has the Hon'ble Justice lost an only daughter on whom he doted, but society has been deprived of a jewel. An enlightened Hindu gentleman himself, the father had given his daughter the best education. She was fully worthy of the care bestowed on her. An elegant scholar in her vernacular Gujarati, she was acquainted with both Sanskrit and English. She had learnt science too, and was well grounded in the principles of biology and chemistry. She has been taken away from this world after she completed her teens, leaving only an infant son for the solace of her parent.

THE Municipal Elections are on us. The Municipality has published the Franchise Roll as laid down in the law—of persons qualified to vote by virtue of their ownership of any land or house or of occupation of any house assessed at Rs. 300 and upwards, or of payment of Rs. 25 and upwards for trade license. There are other persons competent to vote, but they must apply for enrolment of their names. The published list is admittedly defective. Other information vouchsafed will be found in the following Notice of the Chairman dated the 14th January 1889:—

"In publishing this list under Section 20 Act II. (B. C.) of 1888, the Chairman takes the opportunity of reminding intending candidates and electors that as the register of owners and occupiers is at present much more imperfect than it may be hoped, that it will be, after the new Act has been some time in force, the list necessarily contains many names of voters who are dead or have long since ceased to own or occupy the properties against which their names showed.

Intending candidates or their agents should, so far as they may be in a position to do so, object to these names within the next 15 days under Section 21, so that the final list of voters published under Section 22 on or about the 28th February, may be more correct. Persons whose names are omitted, though legally qualified to vote, should also apply for inclusion of their names within the same period.

Voters whose qualification arises from their owning and also occupying houses assessed at Rs. 150 to Rs. 300, are specially reminded that the present list does not purport to shew their names. It is for them to come forward within 15 days, and apply in writing to have their names added to the list.

The same remark applies to voters whose qualification is due to their having paid in all Rs. 24 as rates and taxes. It is for them to apply and shew how the amount is made up, bringing with them, if possible, the receipts for such rates and taxes.

All claims to the admission of new names to the list or objections to names already in the list, will be heard ward by ward on dates, which will be fixed hereafter when the number of such objections is known, and the hour and date of hearing for each ward will be duly notified in all places in which this list is published.

A copy of this list may be obtainable at the Municipal Office on payment of one anna."

It is a delicate subject for us to speak upon, but much inconvenience has been caused, and even absolute mischief by the general Election and the new conditions under which they are to be held, not being duly advertised.

WHILE the most desperate and costly efforts are being made in Australia, to uproot the plague of rabbits from land, in the Mother country, under game laws passed and maintained by a legislature of landlords and would be landlords, they do not permit starving men to live by reducing by one the worshipful rabbits preserved for sport by zemindars, which are such a nuisance to the neighbouring farmers whose

cultivation they overrun. At Woolwich, lately, three wretches were prosecuted. The poor fellows did not deny the cruel impeachment. But, then, one was out of work, another had eight children, and the third had ten boys and girls. It had been a hard struggle with them to live, and they had been tempted to try to catch a few rabbits, which were running about by hundreds, to the great injury of the adjoining farmers, that they might give themselves and their families some food. The plea was so true that the prosecutor did not press for a heavy penalty. Notwithstanding, the Magistrate Mr. Marsham fined them 5s. each, with 2s. costs, or seven days. As there was no charitable soul to offer the guinea, the three men were taken to prison. There at least they were sure of a dinner for themselves. Their families were left to starve at home. In no Asiatic country, under an indigenous system, is such a mockery of justice possible.

AT Ahmedabad, they have formed a "Guzerat Ladies' Club" "to promote social intercourse between Europeans and the people of India, to the steady improvement, if possible, of the latter." The Club already numbers 46 members. The Committee is composed of Mrs. Doig, president, Mrs. Moscardi, treasurer, Mrs. Morgan Thomas, secretary, and Mrs. Dalal, Mrs. Manilal Chotalal and Miss Cornelia Sorabjee, B. A., members. The Club would not let the grass grow under its feet, but must take immediate measures for giving effect to its views. It has already begun its operations for the great object of the promotion of social intercourse between the two races, to the steady improvement of the natives, if possible, and the certainty of converting our Bais into Beebees. It has been resolved that "to this end classes be formed and instruction be given in (a) English, advanced and elementary, (b) needle work, fancy and plain, cutting out, (c) drawing, and (d) games."

THE Burdwan suit maturing in the High Court, Original Side, has brought out the fact that the costs of the Miller prosecution of the *Statesman* for defamation have been charged to the Raj estate under the Court of Wards. In justice to the estate itself, the Board should also sanction the costs of the defence.

MISS MANNING has drawn her programme in Calcutta to a close. After a stay of three weeks, she leaves tomorrow for Lahore. She stayed the whole period with Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Roy, with the exception of a few days that she had been abducted by the Alis, apparently to make political capital of her.

BABOO Nilmoney Dey, the Head Assistant of the Registration Department, who was dismissed for corruption by the Bengal Government, has been taken back to service. On appeal by the Baboo, the Government of India did not fully approve of the action of the local Government, and ordered his reinstatement. The Baboo is not to be allowed to resume his old place, but has been provided for in the Board of Revenue on a reduced pay of Rs. 200. He loses Rs. 100 in the pay.

WITH the retirement of Mr. R. M. Towers, Mr. J. F. Stevens, District and Sessions Judge, Gya, gets a lift to the first grade of District and Sessions Judges from the 1st November 1888, Mr. B. L. Gupta, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Furreedpore, fills the place in the second grade vacated by Mr. Towers, and the Hon'ble Syud Ameer Hossein is confirmed in the post of paid Presidency Magistrate in which he had been hitherto officiating for Mr. Gupta. The Syud is now safe and free for higher game. Was he not to have been translated to the High Court bench? The *Englishman* once mentioned him for a District Judgeship.

THE *Dacca Prakash* reports the conversion of a respectable Brahman to Islam in Dacca. His Hindu name is Manoranjan Ganguli, but he is now a Mahomed with some other Mahomedan surname, of course. Why not Mahomed Ganguli, as converts to Christianity are Peter Bose, Paul Ghose, and so forth? We see that the new Mussulman is bent on forcing his Hindu wife out of her creed to accept him and Islam into the bargain. As she is naturally averse to give up her religion, and live with him, Mahomed *ne* Manoranjan Ganguli has actually filed a suit in the court of the Second Munsiff against the poor lady, Srimati Poornasashi Debya, for restitution of conjugal rights. No right-minded man can sympathise with him. He ought certainly to

have given her time instead of being so precipitate. Time might have revived her love for her lord, crushed for the moment by his extraordinary step in forsaking his creed and society and home and friends. Her loneliness might have conquered her resolution against sacrificing her soul.

ALAS for Cashmere! Here is a straw showing the direction of the wind. Orders have come from St. Petersburg for a supply of the *Guide to Cashmere* advertised in an Indian paper. Thereupon, "We shall probably hear," says our contemporary, "of more Russian visitors *via* Cashmere at no distant date." Not necessarily. The book may be required for the political and military departments, for strategic and other state purposes. The Russians may be contemplating a diversion in that quarter. The book might help them with information for a descent on India, through the passes to Cashmere and down the Valley.

At yesterday's sitting of the Supreme Legislative Council, the Finance Minister presented the report of the Select Committee on the Metal Tokens Bill to prohibit the making or issue by private persons of pieces of metal for use as money and the making of coins in resemblance or similitude of coins of Foreign States. The only non-official member who spoke on the report was the Hon'ble Mr. Steel. He wished the Bill had been wider in its scope. It only prohibited the manufacture and importation of unauthorized coin and the receipt of such coin by any local authority or railway administration, but not the ordinary circulation now in existence. He pointed out that the Bill does not redress the existing inconvenience, on the contrary, it may increase the inconvenience of the holders by shutting out the outlets. Here was touched the weakest point in the Bill. He therefore suggested the buying up of the unauthorized coins and substituting them by copper of Her Majesty's Mint, the cost of conversion not being prohibitive. In its present form, he considered the Bill as a palliative in preparation for a radical cure. Sir David Barbour replied. Government would be a loser by taking up the coins at their value, and more coin would be manufactured for Government to buy up. Besides, there are places where the Queen's coin is not in circulation, and it would indeed be a severe measure to prohibit the unauthorized coin altogether. The Bill wisely prohibits the manufacture only, leaving for a future period a more drastic measure, if found necessary. Sir Charles Elliot had only one word to add to the short discussion. In his investigation of the accounts of the Mints, on the part of the Finance Committee, he found that the gain to Government in the copper coinage was extremely small, almost infinitesimal and he doubted whether there would be any compensation to the Government from the circulation of its own coin in place of the coin to be suppressed.

The Finance Minister withdrew the Salt Duty Bill introduced by Mr. Westland to regulate the payment of duty on salt when there has been an alteration of the rate of duty payable thereon. Sir David at the same time signified his intention to bring in a general Bill to include other goods as well, letting the Council know that there was no proposition thereby to revive the import duties.

The next business, with which the Council closed for the month, was (after leave granted for the purpose) the introduction by Sir David Barbour of a Bill to amend the Sea Customs Act 1878 and the Indian Tariff Act 1882. The object of the Bill is fourfold. *First*,—to repeal the proviso to Sec. 37 of the Sea Customs Act, 1878, which enacts that when the rate of duty or tariff-valuation (if any) applicable to any goods imported has been raised after the grant of port-clearance at the port of shipment, the rate and valuation applicable to such goods shall be, not the rate and valuation in force on the date on which the bill-of-entry thereof is delivered to the Customs-Collector under section 86 of the Act, but the rate and valuation in force on the date on which port-clearance at the port of shipment was granted. The proviso has seriously disturbed trade, causing heavy loss of revenue. It has no existence in the law of England or of any other country. *Second*—to make it clear that where, after goods liable to duty have been assessed and warehoused, the duty is repealed, the goods may be cleared from the warehouse for home consumption free of duty. *Third*—to introduce into India the rule enacted in 18 & 19 Vict., c. 97, s. 9, and continued in 39 & 40 Vict., c. 36, s. 20—enabling sellers and purchasers to add to or deduct from the contract-price, an equivalent to the duty or increase, or decrease or remission of duty of customs or excise imposed or ordered on any article after the making of any contract. *Lastly*—to define the expression "arms, ammunition and military

stores," as used in the Indian Tariff Act, 1882, and to enable the Governor-General in Council to declare from time to time what articles are to be deemed to be "military stores" within the meaning of the Act.

FOR all its high education and readiness for revolution at the slightest pretext, the Continent is still eminently conservative. Thus enlightened Western Europe itself is not yet prepared to recognise the pretensions of women to share in the rougher business of life. For the first time, lately, in Belgium, appeared a lady before the Barreau, or society of the bar, equivalent to the Benchers in England, asking to be admitted as an advocate. Miss Popelin, such is the lady's name, is a native of Brussels, of about 31 years of age. She was entered at the University of Brussels, where she very brilliantly passed her examinations. Having consecrated the best years of her youth to the study of the law, she at last obtained her diploma of Doctor in Law. Presented to the Barreau by one of the Committee of the Belgian Bar, Mr. Gaillery, she maintained before that body with energy and well a good thesis. Her cause having been rejected in the first instance, it was taken up and defended with spirit by Mr. Gaillery. The Court, however, decided against Miss Popelin, and thus, after all, she was not admitted as an advocate. Nearly three hundred years ago, Shakespeare showed the effectiveness of a forensic address delivered by a lady, though disguised in the garb of a man. In France, the authentic case of Eloisa had still earlier proved the female capacity for hard studies. Nevertheless, women are not there admitted to the professions. In India, the British are more go-ahead than at home, and just as we enjoy advantages which others had to acquire with their blood, our ladies have been admitted to privileges of education and employment without the preliminary of a tedious Woman's Rights agitation. Up to this, our enterprising girls are all going in for medicine. Is it not time enough for a diversion in another field? Why should not some of the charming Ghoses and Boses try the Law, and appear as advocates in our Courts? Surely, they would be more welcome, if only as a variety and an ornament, than the rougher namesakes. The Age of Chivalry is not so wholly gone that they will want briefs to display their powers. And once they get the chance, they are sure to command juries without eloquence and win judges by a smile. The time is ripe for the novelty. There is indeed a crying want. The bench is human enough, we hope, and the hideous male bar is abusing its monopoly. We can think of no other plan to put down the irrepressible Woodroffe. Hurrah for the girl Counsel!

WEDNESDAY was a special night at the Emerald. The house was crowded. It was an all-round patronage night—of the Bench and the Bar as well as the platform and the counter. The Bench was represented in the person of Mr. Justice Macpherson. Messrs. Woodroffe, Bonnerjee, the younger Ghose and others of the Bar were there, either in the house or in the refreshment room. For Hon'ble Mr. Steel and Mr. Yule both represented European Commerce, while the latter is the now famous President of the Indian Congress. There were other Europeans besides. They all enjoyed themselves as well as they could, without understanding the language, sitting out the first two of the three pieces put on the boards, drawing, at the end of the first, fresh inspiration by a welcome visit to the green-room. It was a night indeed, for the third piece must have extended to the smallest hours.—Tonight, the Hon'ble Mr. Scoble goes.

WE have no time this week to notice the Convocation of the Calcutta University. We shall only mention that the Viceroy was there and spoke, the Vice-Chancellor reading the convocation address. Sir Conner Petheram was better prepared this time. The lucky son-in-law was at his best. As Registrar, he had freely distributed cards of admission, but before the appointed hour he kept strict watch at the door, apparently not to admit any who was not known to himself or his or was not related to any on whom he depended for his power and pelf and continuance in place.

*Holloway's Ointment and Pills.*—These remedies are unequalled throughout the world for bad legs, wounds, foul sores, bad breasts, and ulcers. Used according to direction given with them there is no wound, bad leg, or ulcerous sore, however obstinate or long standing, but will yield to their healing and curative properties. Many poor sufferers who have been patients in the large hospitals under the care of eminent surgeons, and have derived little or no benefit from their treatment have been thoroughly cured by Holloway's Ointment and Pills. For glandular swellings, tumours, "piles," and diseases of the skin there is nothing that can be used with so much benefit. In fact, in the worst forms of disease, dependent upon the condition of the blood, these medicines, used conjointly, are irresistible.



THE New Year's Fellows of the Calcutta University are :—

Deputy Surgeon-General A. H. Hilson, M.D.; W. King, Esq., B.A., D.Sc., F.G.S.; C. E. Buckland, Esq., B.A.; Shams-ul-Ulama Shaik Mahmud Jilani; J. H. Apjohn, Esq., M.A., M.I.C.E.; G. W. Küchler, Esq., B.A.; Babu Protap Chunder Mozumdar; C. Little, Esq., M.A.; J. C. Bose, Esq., B.A., B.Sc.; Babu Srinath Dass; Babu Ashotosh Mukhapadhyaya, M.A., F.R.A.S., F.R.S.E.; Babu Gonesh Chundra Chundra; Moulavi Muhammad Abdur Rawuf.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1889.

### PROGRESS IN SOUTHERN AND WESTERN INDIA.

GOVERNOR REAY'S LAST TOUR.

ON the 9th of this month, the Governor of Bombay returned to his capital, after a short tour in the Southern part of his jurisdiction. It was a hurried business visit, replete with interest. His Excellency had an opportunity of seeing with his own eyes and hearing on the spot with his own ears, the great changes taking place in the provinces. It must have delighted his liberal heart to see the evidences of activity and growing intelligence and material prosperity all around him in the country through which he passed. We wish our people in the North and East would study the record of these Governors' journeys, if they could not go to the places themselves. Nothing like a personal inspection, and the object is well worth the sacrifice required. We in these parts have no idea of the vast strides our brethren in the West and the South are taking. We talk of progress in Bengal, but we only talk; there they do. Our very Bengal idea of progress is a poor contemptible weakling beside the robust manlier model of the active South and the busy West. We are immersed in the pursuit of words and phrases; book-knowledge is our be all and end all. Hence, we are content to acquire degrees and diplomas—our highest ambition is to wear the decoration of some Order or another. We vegetate on our titles of honour and starve on our academic distinctions. Our country remains still a virgin field untouched. It is a reservoir of boundless possibilities untapped, unless by the stranger. We have neither discovered any new resources nor developed any old resources. We are not ashamed to crowd the old professions. We are a nation of clerks, schoolmasters, lawyers, doctors, and road engineers. We are political, if distributing a moderate share of literary and political talent between a numerous press and a number of imperfect or make-believe societies is to be political. Nevertheless, our best work is literary—our proudest achievement the creation of a respectable indigenous literature. How much superior are our brethren in the distance! Madras is extremely handicapped, yet she has done her best in the very teeth of Nature, and Bombay, favoured by situation and climate, has done wonders. Her people have developed a truly European energy. They have made the most of their advantages, utilising their knowledge and opportunities as children of the soil, until they successfully compete with Europeans.

At Dharwar, the Governor was received with the usual address from the municipality, which was read by the Chairman Rao Bahadoor Trimalrao Venkateah. His Excellency's reply was translated into Canarese by the Secretary. Notwithstanding his detention till a late hour, at a party given by the leading official inviting the residents to meet the Governor,

Lord Reay was up early following morning to inspect the jail, the hospital, and the lunatic asylum. Fifty Burman prisoners constitute the speciality in the *personnel* of the jail. The visitor was charmed with the mad establishment. He gave the genial Irishman at its head what must have sounded a rather strange compliment, when he said that Dr. McConaghy was just the man for the place or something to the same effect. Before breakfast, he had also seen the mission-house of the quiet philanthropic Basel brotherhood, and joined divine service. After breakfast, the local magnates received each the honour of a formal interview. First came their Highnesses Sir Desai of Sawantwari and the Nawab of Savanour, whose visits were returned in the afternoon. Then followed Rao Bahadoor Trimalrao Venkateah and Mr. Sorabji Byabatti, Chairmen of the Dharwar and Hoobli Corporations respectively, Mr. Rodda, Deputy Inspector of Schools, and Principal Venkatta Katti, of the Training College. This was too much activity of the world worldly to stuff the Sabbath with, and probably Lord Reay felt it. So he had divine service in the evening at church before he consigned himself to chew the cud of penitential reflections till the kindly approach of "tired Nature's sweet restorer."

The partial rest of Sunday was more than compensated for the next day, when the Governor went to the College, which he thoroughly ransacked as it were, not only going over every part and into every corner of the buildings and offices, in and out, but even entering into conversation with the students about their comforts and conveniences, their position and prospects, their studies and aims in life. He not only examined the boys but carefully inspected the school books. The comic element in this tour on business was supplied by the strange apparition of a huge mammoth in a tight imitation bearskin all over, with dogskin gloves lined with lambwool, looking much like an Esquimaux in search of the North Pole, which His Excellency discerned in passing down the quadrangle. He made bold to beckon it. On nearer view, the mystery evaporated like camphor. It was neither ghost nor mammoth, but, in the classical language of the *Times of India's* Special, a "stout party" only, who was the teacher of gymnastics. Lord Reay got some work and amusement out of this queer being, who put some of his class through some interesting exercises, and finally put his own great corporeal mass into some impossible situations. Before leaving, the Governor made a short speech to the students, which was interpreted by the Principal, on their duties and responsibilities. He reminded them that they would be the teachers of a new generation, and appealed to them to make themselves worthy of such high vocation. Some might be journalists, he thought, and he impressed upon such the bounden duty of careful inquiry and absolute veracity, even though they were to write anonymously. From the normal college, the Governor went to the High School. The School was closed for the holidays, still the Governor insisted on going through the deserted buildings. The next object of inspection was the girls' school, a flourishing institution containing a number of interesting scholars. Here, Mr. Rodda did the honors. In his speech, alluding to the help in needle work, &c. given by the Basel missionaries, his Lordship thought that the time was come to have a normal institution for the raising of women schoolmasters for girls. Many years ago, in 1867, on this side, the same point was pressed in a lecture before

the Bethune Society by Sir John Phear. On that occasion, we were amused to see what appeared a self-evident proposition to the assembled Indian audience, utterly condemned by the late lamented Rev. C. H. A. Dall, the Unitarian missionary, rich in his trans-Atlantic experience. But the people were not yet prepared to Americanise their institutions, and so the protest fell flat. It was in pursuance of Mr. Justice Phear and Miss Carpenter's agitation, that ladies like Miss Ackroyd (now Mrs. Beveridge) came out as Zenana teachers, but they soon carved out better career for themselves than enlightening the daughters of the soil. After having a look at the public tank which had failed to supply water, Lord Reay, with a large party, left at a quarter past 11 in the forenoon, by special train, for the now important town of Hoobli, the centre of the railway system in the Southern Marhatta Country.

From the railway station, the Governor drove between rows of flying flags and through triumphal arches, till he reached the awning for his reception. These arches, we are told, were the veriest make-believe, constructed of newspapers—a base use of the records of the intellectual activity of the instructors of Civilization, against which we protest. The Caliph of European calumny could not be guilty of a worse vandalism. We are reminded of the noble dust of Alexander stopping a bung-hole. But the dust of Alexander is no better than the dust of Johnny Snooks and good for nothing more exalted. Whereas there is still evidence of a living mind in the newspaper, however old. People have no idea of the waste involved in the destruction of old newspapers. There is scarcely an inquiring spirit but has derived ideas and information of much interest and usefulness from stray copies of newspapers thrown away as rubbish. The older and more ill-conditioned the newspaper, the more valuable. The enlightenment of the future will, we are sure, take more systematic care of what is now indiscriminately destroyed or put to uses which are but one remove from pure waste. The business at Hoobli was more important, as the reception more popular and grand. The Municipal address read by Mr. Byabatti, noticed many interesting topics, on all which the Governor dwelt suitably in his reply. The chief of these related to the starting of a commercial and industrial school in connection with the railway workshops, and the development of technical education in which that Presidency, under the sympathetic encouragement of the Governor, has taken the lead, while we at Calcutta are still at the talking stage. They have already established the Victoria Technical Institute at Bombay, and they are ready to start another sister institution at the great railway town of Hoobli, which promises, in the near future, to be an Indian Crewe or Swindon. This latter will be a second grade technical school, supported by a Government grant and favoured by the Railway Companies. These Companies will not only assist in training the boys, but also in finding employment for many, for they need skilled hands. The school will have the advantage of the laboratories of the railway workshops. After the students have completed their terms here, they will be provided with scholarships and drafted to finish their education at the superior Institute at Bombay. Thus has Bombay solved the question of Technical Education. We are more concerned with a miniature Parliament as the panacea for all the evils of pauperism and idleness and discontent. Even on this question, strange as it may sound, the strength of

the Congress which is agitating it, lies in the South and West, rather than in the North and East.

#### VOLAPUK, OR THE NEW BABEL.

OUR readers have, doubtless, from time to time, heard of Volapuk. Few of them, we are afraid, have any clear notion of what it may be. The Indian public have now an opportunity of learning it in the *Indian Spectator*, which lately contained a notice of a pamphlet purporting to be "An Introduction to the Universal Language, Volapuk," by Jules A. Van Aalst, an officer of the Chinese Customs Service. Volapuk is an invention with the object of enabling foreigners to speak and correspond with one another, without knowing each other's vernacular. It was the discovery of a German is might be expected—named John Martin Schleyer, born in 1831 in Baden, the son of a teacher and himself a priest, now pensioned and living at Constance, where he was last plying his vocation. It is necessary that he is a linguist, and we may easily imagine that he had a turn for linguistics from the first. The writer in the Bombay paper—not our khas brother of the quill—in his enthusiasm for the Wizard of a new trick, holds this language:—

"It would seem that his greatest pastime is the study of languages, which he has pursued with such success that he has mastered the extraordinary number of 50—and deserves to be called the greatest living linguist. In addition to this, he is a poet and a musician, is skilled in chemistry, and the Physical Sciences, and is certainly one of the most eminent men of this century."

In other words, he is a Mezzofanti, a Goethe, and an Admirable Chrichton rolled into one! And this wonderful compound has been strangely overlooked!

The Volapuk Creed has been reduced to 18 Articles. The first, on which all the rest rest, is—"To one humanity one language." And why not, one figure—one colour—one appearance—one thinking—one country? Strange, it did not occur to these amiable gentlemen how their fundamental clashes with obvious facts, not to say, what a blasphemous criticism it implies of the divine plan with its location of a diversified humanity in different parts of the globe. Our Oriental and Orientalist readers will remember the famous opening of Meer Aman's *Bagh O' Bahar*, in which the Almighty is glorified for having produced countless varieties of the human family, with individuals in each no two of whom agree in their physical characteristics. It now seems all a mistake—where praise is given by the wondering Mussulman, blame should attach, in the opinion of this enlightened ex-pastor of Constance. Volapuk will remedy the original defect.

The following are the fundamental principles which guided him in the elaboration of his system:—

"1. To one humanity one language; 2. To one language one writing; 3. To one writing one reading; 4. To each sound only one sign; 5. To each sign only one sound; 6. Roman letters to be used; 7. No mute or superfluous letters; 8. Everywhere the same orthography; 9. The accent always on the last syllable; 10. Simple rules and no exceptions; 11. No artificial genders; 12. Only one declension; 13. One simple conjugation and no irregular verbs; 14. No adative, in instrumental or locative, &c.; 15. At the end of declinable words, the letters S, J, C, X, Z to be avoided; 16. Only one sound of plural; 17. Monosyllabic radicals; 18. All the good, the beautiful, the short, the simple, the free, and logical of other tongues to be used."

As explained by the present disciple,

"the compared study of languages is based on three elements. The alphabet, the grammar, and the dictionary. The number of alphabetical signs in the Indo-European languages is nowhere sufficient for the number of fundamental sounds. Sanskrit has 17 letters, Russian 32. Italian 22 numbers, insufficient, since many of the letters have accidental sounds. French has only 25 letters for 37 phonetic elements, and some sounds may be written 20 or 30 different ways. Volapuk has only 27 letters and 27 sounds. Its letters have no accidental sounds, and the same sound is always written with the same letters. As to the English it possesses 26 letters, 26 models of inconsistency."

Unless there is a misprint here, whatever languages this master Volapukist may be versed in, he does not know Sanskrit, the key-tongue of Comparative Philology. The great Mahomedan languages too are ignored. The difficulty will be with these all. It is not possible to represent the more recondite sounds of Sanskrit and Arabic by any existing European alphabet, and we do not think the Volapuk will do it. Its makers are not expected to catch the sounds in question.

#### SCHOOL BOOKS.

WE have received a number of schoolbooks for notice, of which we have been able to look into only a few. Baboo Manmatha Mustafi is already known to our readers for his useful *Speaker* which we noticed last year. He makes his appearance again with a sort of *Joyce's Scientific Dialogues*.

It\* is a small *brochure* shabbily printed, because to be sold cheap, but likely to be of great use to junior students as an aid to the memory in passing their examinations. It pemi-canises the more urgent contents of a large number of scientific text-books and hand-books, from old Joyce of our youth to Huxley, Ganot, Jevons, and others.

Babu Bireswar Pande is a well-known compiler, who has produced a new Bengali Grammar† for schools of all three classes. There has been no end of Grammars in Bengali since the great Ram Mohan Roy and the illustrious Baptist Missionaries first gave law to the language, down to the Shama Charans and Loharans and the Vidyasagars and Nyayagishes of our day. Still there remained work to be done, and at the advice of men like the Hon'ble Baboo Gurudas Banerjee, Baboo Bireswar Pande undertook to do it. The present work supplies many of the deficiencies of previous ones. The merit of the performance may almost be taken for granted when, as we are told in the preface, that, besides Dr. Gurudas Banerjee, eminent scholars like Baboo Chandra Nath Bose and others have assisted in the execution.

The same author has published two other schoolbooks of an excellent character. *Arya Pātha*‡ and *Arya Shikshā*§. The first consists of elementary examples of good conduct, illustrating the great virtues of probity, all drawn from Indian history. The second, besides such illustrations, contains a chapter on the early homes of the Aryans in India, and another on Hindu Astronomy. These would form a good preparation for the regular study of history and science. It would be easy to find fault with books of this description, traversing such wide ground, involving the most debatable questions in ethics, in history, and in the history of science. A queer statement, for instance, appears at p. 82 of the latter to the effect that, according to tradition, Brahma the progenitor lived and produced the world or mankind on the banks of the Saraswati. On the whole, Babu Pande has done his work well and on rational lines.

A very excellent School Reader in Bengali has been put forth by the literary veteran Baboo Nobin Krishna Banerjee, the successor of the late Akshay Kumar Dutt on the *Tattwabodhini Patrika*. It is now thirty years since we reviewed his *Natural Theology*—the first of its kind in Bengali. He has lost nothing of his cunning of his hand by age. His present book is a mixture of Indian instances with the principles and facts of science discovered by Europeans, and all the more welcome on that account. Apart from its educational purpose, it is very interesting and may be read with profit and amusement by all classes.

Mr. Mustafi has published also Dialogues on Physical Geography||. We are glad to see this book better got up, while it shows equal industry in compilation. But strange to say, the title page has no date, either of place or time! Our bookmakers must take care and enter a more decent appearance than they are wont to do, or we shall refuse to notice them hereafter. People do not know the harm that this reign of slovenliness does to the best interests of the nation.

## INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

### II.

*Allahabad, the 17th January, 1889.*

Still at Allahabad! Leading a camp life, away from the frequented parts of the city. I overlooked, in my last letter, one important feature of the "City of dust and of *ekkas*." Sitting now as I do in the heart of the city, with *khaprañis* above, below and around me, it is but proper that I should not ignore perhaps this most important feature of the seat of the Fourth National Congress. Well, if I have remained behind when all have gone back to their respective homes, carrying with them, it is hoped, pleasant reminiscences of the Fourth Congress, I must pay the penalty for this overstay. I have to endure the sight of Lowther Castle relaps-

ing into its old form. It is again a scene of desolation and ruin, the haunts of jackals and wild birds. It seems as if the magic wand of *Viswa Karma* turned it into a temporary paradise for the purposes of the Congress, only to disappear again gourd-like on its expiry. There was, however, a peculiar fitness of things in holding the Congress at a place which was by turns a nunnery, a seminary of education, the Government House, and the nursery of our infant political aspirations. I say only, the evolution is natural!

The Congress has not only outlived the calumny of its traducers, both official and non-official, it has also outgrown. We are once again in a position to assert its originally contemplated dimensions. About 1,500 delegates were present. The number of delegates generally was more than double: the number of Mahomedan delegates had trebled itself this year. Is it merely for serio-comic performances that these 1,500 delegates came—some of them from the farthest corners of India, from Peshawar and Travancore? Can the rankest opponents of the Congress deny that this annual assemblage of the best and the most enlightened in the land—the galaxy of Indian geniuses—represents one of the best, if not the best, phase of the British rule in India? To assume that those, who have been the recipients of the greatest good at the hands of the British Government, should come all the way and meet annually openly to preach sedition against the very Government, which has been the making of them, tantamounts to this: that the seed of English education sown by Macaulay, Trevelyan and others has fallen upon barren ground and that a century-and-a-half of British rule could not make a better impression upon the people. This is the standpoint of our opponents, and it involves a condemnation both of English education and English rule. But we of the Congress take our stand upon a different and as, we believe, a higher platform. We are deeply grateful for the past blessings and past advantages; we now claim for more. We no longer regard the British Government as an alien Government, but look upon it as a national Government. English is our *lingua franca*: of English institutions we have become deeply enamoured; and, as we have been trained up on lines peculiarly British, we cannot do aught but ask for the privileges of British citizenship. Now, which view is more creditable to the British nation? To argue that a grateful nation like the Indians, whose obliging and grateful nature has passed into the regions of History and Philosophy and who are easily contented to a proverb, who have deified their smallest benefactors, which fact, according to Sir Alfred Lyall (*Vide* his *Asiatic Studies*) explains for the thirty-three crores of Indian gods and goddesses—to argue that such a race is discontented and dissatisfied with British rule, is like cursing it with bell, book and candle! It is not true that we see no good in British rule; on the contrary, we see much, and naturally wish for more. We feel and wish that our interests be indissolubly bound up with those of the English. Our argument is that there is still room for improvement, and our confident faith is that our prayers for reform, not revolution, will not be refused. If it were true that the secret ambition of the Congress was the overthrow of the British Government, no Europeans would be found taking part in it, there would be no Hume, Adam, Norton, Howard, Kennedy, Hearsey, Atkins; there would be no Christian converts, Kalicharan Bannerjee, Ram Chandra Bose, David Mohun, Peter Paul Pillay; no man enjoying high position and honor, Sir T. Madhava Rao, K.C.S.I., W. C. Bonnerjee, the Hon'ble K. T. Telang, C.I.E., the Hon'ble Govinda Ranade, the Hon'ble G. Subramaniya Iyer, the Hon'ble P. Mehta, the Hon'ble Pandit Ayodhy Nath; no landholder having a permanent interest in the country, as the Maharaja of Durbhanga, Sheikh Raza Hossein Khan, Raja Rampal Singh, Sirdar Dayal Singh, Raja Tejnarain Singh, and many others of this class whose names must never see the light of day but who are nevertheless supporting the Congress with men (yes with men!) and money; bankers like Lala Ram Charan; and, last but not the least, the Bengalees whose worst enemy have not denied them the possession of a keen intellect, and who have little to gain and almost everything to lose, by subversion of the British Government. Our opponents, when they charge us of sedition-preaching, give us little credit for common prudence, when they see that we carry on our proceedings in broad day-light, before thousands of visitors—belonging, as some of them do, to the camp of our enemies. Perhaps, this we do to lull suspicion and allay apprehension!

\* *A Guide to the City of Allahabad, to the Elementary Science* By Manamatha Mustafi, B.A. Calcutta, 1888.

† *Bangla Bhasa Grammar*. By Bireswar Pande. Calcutta.

‡ *Arya Pātha*. By Bireswar Pande. Calcutta. 1295 Bengali.

§ *Arya Shikshā*. By Bireswar Pande. Calcutta. 1295 Bengali.

|| *A Guide to Physical Geography, containing about 400 Questions with Answers including miscellaneous, glossary of terms, and answers to Entrance Examination Questions for the students preparing for the Entrance Examination*. By M. Mustafi, B.A.

Well, in spite of the many obstacles thrown in our way, of which the general public has no idea, the last Congress at Allahabad was an unqualified and unqualifiable success. Look at it from whatever point we may, either as regards the number of delegates present or as regards the attendance of Mahomedan delegates, the fresh accession of strength—by the adhesion of non-official Europeans or the co-operation of the leading landholders and Taluqdars—it was such a complete success that even “fools who came to scoff remained to pray.” For proof of this, I would point out to you the columns of the eagle-eyed *Pioneer*. Finding nothing in the programme of the Congress nor in its methods and measures, objectionable, it took to reviling individual delegates, rummaging their private life to see if it could find out something to the tastes of its readers, something that would “pay.” To call one a “nervous parrot,” to find fault with one’s hat because there was nothing faulty in his arguments, to call another a “half-caste” and a “brown Captain,” to find nothing else to edify him and to attract his notice than the stand for the “national barbers,” to be forced to avow that although we spend the whole year in sedition-preaching, once a year at least we conduct ourselves loyally!—are these not damaging confessions in all conscience for the *Pioneer* to make? Not only this. Mr. Allen, of the *Pioneer*, was not only present throughout the two sittings of the Congress and signified, as is notorious now, his approval of at least one resolution—the key-note of all our reforms—in the only way he could do, but went out of his way to invite two of the Congress leaders, Messrs. Bonnerjee and Norton (Mr. Norton and Mr. Allen, it is said, are related through their wives) not one day but I believe thrice, to his house. There Mr. Allen was not slow to throw out the hint that Mr. Hume should be now made to retire from the movement. Such was his solicitude for the Congress that he was afraid of Mr. Hume’s further connection doing it harm. There also Mr. Norton, probably for the first time, made the declaration that he proposed very soon to go to England to contest for a seat in Parliament and dedicate the remainder of his noble and precious life to India’s service. Perhaps this it was that made him say in the opening part of that speech of his would be the last of its kind in India. We for our part would have preferred to see Englishmen of robust moral fibres of the stamp of Mr. Norton, whose number in India there is, alas! so small, to stay here longer to inspire us in their person with hope and encouragement.

Only three small incidents occurred during the sittings of the Fourth National Congress to disturb or rather to interrupt the otherwise harmonious character of the Congress. *First.* The attempt of a Mahomedan prophet of evil—a Beelzebub hailing probably from Aligarh—to decoy or spirit away Mahomedan Congress-wallahs. For once he had counted without his host. For once he was mistaken in the choice of his victims. This took place on the eve of the Congress. The *Mullah* was caught red-handed plying his ugly job, and no mistake! He was hauled up before the Hon’ble President of the Reception Committee, who recognised in him an old Mahomedan acquaintance. The Pandit told him he had been doing a base and dirty work. He excused him that time, however, but warned him that, on a repetition of the offence, he would meet with condign punishment. The warning was lost; evidently, the *Meah Sahib* counted too much upon his old acquaintance’s leniency, for, he was caught at his old game again. He had to be expelled. *Second.* The second incident of course was the unexpected adhesion, at the last moment, of Raja Siva Prasad, C. S. I. It may not be generally known, but it is a fact that the Raja was one of the earliest depositors of the delegate’s fee. He not only paid his Rs. 10, but paid another ten rupees for any “indigent delegate.” Prolonged conversation went on with him and that sturdy taluqdar patriot—“the citizen Singh,” Raja Rampal. But nothing practically came out of it. Less than a month ago, this very man was the central figure of a movement to damn the Congress. What made him to change sides in the *rulerim*? Was it the *fiasco* in which the Lucknow demonstration ended?—or was it the exchange of angry and even obscene words between him and Sir Syed? Be his motives whatever they may, there he was in our midst—as a staunch Congress-wallah. True, none counted him for much. His adhesion was regarded by all as an accession of weakness rather than

of strength—in short, he was rated at his true worth. There was not one redeeming feature in the antecedents of this mealy-mouthed patriot. A consistent supporter of everything for which there could be found an official standing up, a notorious turn-coat, a profound calculator, a born time-server of the *kamia* class, how could any man pin his faith upon him? And he by his subsequent conduct more than justified our misgivings. For some reasons not known, he did not turn up on the inaugural day, the 26th. On the 27th also he was looked for in vain at the opening time. It was sometime after noon, business had commenced, the Hon’ble K. T. Telang had already riveted the attention of the audience by the flood of eloquence that he was pouring forth, and a perfect silence reigned throughout the vast hall, when a gate-keeper brought a note to Raja Rampal who went out. In another moment lo and behold! the very Raja Siva Prasad, supported by Raja Rampal Singh, was seen entering the hall. This was the signal for a few suppressed hisses. Raja Rampal conducted him to a seat by him near the Reporters’ Lodge. He then sat down and began to attack Raja Rampal with repeated questions to the evident annoyance of the latter. Next rose Baboo Surendra Nath Bannerjee, whose wordy torrent filled the whole audience, not excepting the unimpressible titular Raja, with a vague excitement more akin to animal spirits than intellectual satisfaction. Some other speakers followed him, when up rose Raja Siva Prasad and solicited permission to speak a few words. He ascended the platform amidst hisses and groans which Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, assisted by Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee and others, managed to stop with great difficulty. But when the audacious Siva Prasad went on, perfectly heedless of, and indifferent to, all these, as if he was used to this kind of treatment, and brought forward his proposal for the suppression of the very Congress, all at once the pent-up feelings of the 6,000 persons sitting beneath the pandal burst out with a fury. For a time, all order was lost, and it seemed as if quiet could not again be restored. It was a moment of sore trial both to Raja Siva Prasad and to those upon whom he tried to palm off his view and thus win a diplomatic victory. Not only the delegates but even the visitors who were strictly forbidden to signify their assent to or dissent from any proposal, for a time forgot themselves and became awfully excited. Many were prepared to hurl their shoes at him, but wiser counsels prevailed. The silver ringing voice of Bonnerjee availed not, the thundering admonition of Surendra and the Hon’ble Pandit Ayadhya Nath’s stentorian warning fared hardly better, Hume’s cry for “order” was drowned in the universal din, when the repeated sound of the gong brought the people to their senses. For a few moments the Pandal was a scene of utter confusion and disorder. Methought at the time that the very object for which Siva Prasad came had been gained. It was the convulsion of a moment only, however. To continue our account. Who is that yonder figure—is it human or inhuman? Wait, let me see. Is it not the clearly-shaved visage of the Honourable member of one of these councils for whose reform we were just listening to the Hon’ble K. T. Telang, C. I. E.? Now, how comes it that one councillor, still in the Council and far more able and enlightened, supports it with his whole heart, while another opposes it tooth and nail? No, no, it can’t be a Member of the Council. Why is it trembling like an aspen tree? Am I in my right senses? It must be a criminal hauled up before a Court of Justice. Hush! he is speaking. Now I am more than ever convinced that it is certainly not Raja Siva Prasad that is speaking, whoever else it may be. He has a louder, a steadier voice, a less faltering accent. See he is coming. Let us try if we can recognise the perspiring figure, reddened by this physical and moral struggle. He takes his seat piteously asking for the reporter of the *Pioneer*. Bah! before me stands, still oscillating like the pendulum of a clock, the self-same Raja Siva Prasad—yes, the very person who thirty years ago was selected for his voice to read out the Royal Proclamation of 1858 in Benares. How signally and miserably his voice failed him today! Such is the stifling and paralysing impotency of a vicious intrigue! He would not for the fear of his very life go without an escort of notable Congresswallahs. Mr. Bhimji and Captain Banon conducted him to a safe distance in his conveyance, or which is the same thing the old Maharaja of Benares’s conveyance. *Third.* The last and

the least important of the interruptions was due to an excited frame of mind of a nervous Jessore pleader, Baboo Jadu Nath Mazumdar, who after the performance of his part with which he seemed to be perfectly satisfied, was anxious to inform people that he was for sometime connected with the *Tribune* (Lahore) as its editor, as a set off, we believe, to the impertinent words that he, in an unguarded moment, let fall from his lips. I understand he afterwards had the good sense to apologise for his rude behaviour. He is an example of a person making a good cause appear bad and weakening a strong defence—a drawback by the way inexcusable in a pleader. But to his credit it must be known that he was the first to rise up against the resolution on the Arms Act which Surendra's well-mouthed fluency and eloquent gesticulation carried through the Congress by a large majority. In a rambling low-voiced speech, then, the Jessore pleader opposed it, but failed as did Mr. Telang, Captain Hearsey, &c. A more detailed and exhaustive discussion and review of the several speeches, I reserve for a future issue. In the meantime, I cannot help admiring the wonderful command and influence which your "Surrender Not"—for once true to your interpretation of his name—can and does exercise over his audience.

B.

\* \* So much the worse for his hearers! It scarcely gives us an exalted idea of the *personnel* of the Congress that the 1,500 or, for that matter, 6,000 odd men from all parts assembled at Allahabad, could not be persuaded by an expert in ratiocination like Mr. Telang, supported by the experience of such an ancient dweller of the frontier hills in the North, but submitted easily to our Bengalee windbag. But it has ever been so. The more noise, the less wool. But it is sound and fury that illusionises the general.—ED. R. & R.

## MONGHYR.

*Jamulpore, January 14.*

We had a downpour the other day accompanied by hail in abundance, varying in size from  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to 2" respectively, lasting for a few minutes. The streets, and by-lanes and "compounds" of several dwellings were covered as if with white sheet for some time, having a beautiful aspect. This untimely shower will no doubt seriously tell on rabi-crops.

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MRS. AMEER ALI ...*8, Harrington St.*  
MRS. JOUBERT ...*54, Chowringhee.*

If any Native Gentlemen should wish to see the arrangements made for the Zenana Ladies, and will previously communicate with Lady Wilson, 34, Chowringhee, she will be happy to meet them at the Free

I am sorry to inform you that the local H. C. Native School, which, since its establishment, won golden opinion from all quarters in the Behar district, is now going to lose its reputation owing to an indiscreet and whimsical action of the school committee, in selecting pupils for the coming university examination. I understand the whole of the first class boys numbering twenty-six, are to be sent up for the matriculation examination this year, notwithstanding that two-thirds of them have been plucked more or less in three or four branches in the test examination. In a matter like this, the Head-master was the best judge and not the committee members. I am at a loss to make out why this indiscriminate selection was permitted in defiance of the Headmaster's wishes.

The rate-payers of the Jamalpur Municipality are still in suspense regarding various irregularities and more especially the exorbitant tax fixed for vats, notwithstanding several memorials submitted to the Chairman and the District Magistrate from time to time. Receiving no redress from any quarter, the hard-pressed rate-payers have determined to form a rate-payers' association to be headed by a local Behari Zamindar. The move appears to be in the right direction. The sooner the association commences its operation, the better.

The present topic now-a-days here is nothing but reduction in the E. I. Railway office establishment, more especially in the Loco. Branch offices. It is a great pity indeed to see many of the clerical staff who spent the major portion of their lives in the E. I. Railway service, now about to be sent adrift.

The happy New Year went off here with an unpleasant incident. During the New Year holidays there were a number of sports in the race course maidan purposely got up for the occasion, such as racing, &c. A Tomy Dod, a metal pointer was in full swing at the races. Both natives and Europeans were allowed to play. Some disagreement arose between a European and a native Behari of the place regarding winning numbers, hot discussion ensued, wherein the former pushed the latter and the latter took off his country shoe (Nagra), struck the European with it, causing a wound on his forehead. The Behari was prosecuted before the Magistrate of Monghyr and, on conviction, sentenced to one week's imprisonment and a fine of Rs. (10) ten.

I presume you are aware of the ex-Viceroy's walking stick, an ebony one with a gold handle, a present to His Excellency from the Raja of Patiala, being stolen by one of the hired servants, during Lord Dufferin's visit to Jamulpur. The thief was detected and, on conviction, has been sentenced by the Magistrate of Monghyr to one year's rigorous imprisonment.

School, on Thursday, the 31st instant, between 10 a. m. and 12 noon.

## NOTICE.

In accordance with the Resolution of the Government of Bengal in the General Department, dated the 6th March 1886, published on page 541 of the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 31st of the same month, notice is hereby given that an examination for the admission of female students to the certificate class of the Calcutta Medical College will be held in the Theatre of that College on Tuesday, the 12th February 1889, and following days.

*Hours and Subjects of Examination.*

*Tuesday.*—English dictation, Grammar, and Composition—from 1 to 4 P.M.  
*Wednesday.*—History of England and India. Geography: General, and of India in particular—from 1 to 4 P. M.  
*Thursday.*—Arithmetic: the first four rules, vulgar and decimal fractions, and proportion—from 1 to 4 P.M.

Candidates must apply in writing to the Principal of the Medical College, Calcutta, not later than Saturday, the 9th February, for permission to appear at the examination.

Applications for permission to reside in the Sarnanayi Hostel should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary to the Bengal Branch of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund, 36, Chowringhee, Calcutta.

A. CROFT,

*Director of Public Instruction.*

The 7th January 1889.



## NOTICE

Is hereby given that the right of disposing of blood and dung, &c., of cattle slaughtered in the Municipal Slaughter Houses, from 1st February 1889 to March 1890, will be put up to public auction, at the Municipal Office, on the 22nd January 1889, at 12 A.M.

JOHN COWIE,  
Secretary to the Corporation.

## THE SILVER JUBILEE

OF THE  
MAHOMEDAN LITERARY SOCIETY.

The Society having completed a career of a Quarter of a Century, will hold its *Twenty-Fifth Annual Conversazione*, at the Town Hall, on Monday, the 28th January 1889, at 9 P.M.

ABDOOL LUTEEF,  
Secretary.

## READ THIS CAREFULLY.

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NOTICE.

This Company's Steamer "MYSORE" will leave Calcutta for Assam on Friday the 18th inst., and on Tuesday the 15th idem the Steamer "OUDH" will leave Calcutta for Cachar.

All cargo for shipment by either of the above vessels should be sent to the Company's Godowns at Juggannauth Ghat the day previous to the vessels leaving Calcutta.

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## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little *brochure* written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah, Bahadur, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman. *The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers: those who know India and are unable to see her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good

humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien taint in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course. — [Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract].—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

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Asrukana is a collection of poetical pieces of singular pathos and beauty of expression. \* \* It is a series of mournful songs that the reader is here presented with and they must touch a sympathetic cord in every heart that can feel. There is a singular appropriateness in the title of the work, and in its pious dedication to the memory of the husband of the fair writer. — *The Indian Nation*.

The authoress is not unknown to Bengali readers. She has already published two or three poems by which she is favourably known, but between these poems and this is a difference that hardly admits of being measured.

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We have read Sumati Girindra Mohini's poems in a reverential spirit. The poems are all of a lyrical description. The lyre is soft, sweet and tender, but awfully strong.

The tone of the poems is inexpressibly gentle, inexpressibly pure, and inexpressibly tender and affectionate. It is the tone of a world mother.

Bengal should be proud of this poem—*The Calcutta Review*.

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The Report of the 3rd Indian National Congress, held at Madras during the last week of 1887.

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# Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. {

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1889.

} No. 358

## CONTEMPORARY VERSE.

### THE BROKEN FIDDLE.

*Translated from Beranger.*

COME here, my poor dog, honest beast,  
Munch away, never mind my despair,  
Here's a morsel of cake for to-day, at the least,  
If to-morrow black bread be our fare.

Last night in our valley the foe—  
Victors only by trickery—spoke :  
"Play a tune, we would dance ;" but I boldly said, "No !"  
So my fiddle in anger they broke.

'T was the villagers' orchestra ; now  
Happy days, pleasant *fêtes*, are no more !  
In the shade who can get up our dances ? or how  
Shall the Loves be aroused as of yore ?

Its strings, they were lustily plied—  
At the dawn of the fortunate day,  
To announce the young bridegroom awaiting the bride,  
With his escort to show her the way.

Did the priest give an ear to its touch  
He our dance without fear would allow ;  
The gladness it spread all around it was such,  
It had smoothed even royalty's brow.

What and if it has preluded strains  
That our glory was wont to awake !  
Could I dream that the foeman invading our plains  
His revenge on a fiddle would take ?

Come here, my poor dog, honest beast ;  
Munch away, never mind my despair,  
Here's a morsel of cake for to-day, at the least,  
If to-morrow black bread be our fare.

How long will the Sundays appear,  
In the barn, or beneath the old tree !  
Will providence smile on our vintage this year,  
Since silent the fiddle will be ?

How it shortened the toils of the poor !  
How it took the chill off from their lot !  
For the great, and for taxes, and tempests, a cure  
All alone it enlivened the cot.

What hate it hath served to suppress !  
What tears hath forbidden to flow !  
What good—all the sceptres on earth have done less  
Than was done by the scrape of my bow.

But my courage they warm—we must chase  
Such pitiful foes from our land !  
They have broken my fiddle—'t is well—in its place,  
The musket I'll grasp in my hand !

All the friends whom I quit—a long list—  
If I perish some day will recall,  
That the barbarous hordes I refused to assist  
In a dance o'er the wreck of our fall.

Then come, my poor dog, honest beast ;  
Munch away, never mind my despair,  
Here's a morsel of cake for to-day, at the least,  
If to-morrow black bread be our fare.

### TO AN OPTIMIST.

DIM eyes, clear-sighted only for the distance,  
Fond fancy poring on those hills of blue,  
Blamest thou me, bent only on resistance  
To ills of nearer view ?

You were a painter born, and I a fighter ;  
You to love beauty, I to set wrong right ;  
You, where a thing is bright, to paint it brighter,  
I to say, "Black's not white."

Had you been saved of old when heaven's great ruin  
Crashed down in flood, and Hope itself looked dark,  
You had admired "the good that rain was doing,"  
And praised "the accommodation of the Ark."

You see but cherubs where, in misery bundled,  
Poor children rot unheeded in a mews ;  
You note the rainbow when a mop is trundled  
With rinsings from the stews.

I have the fatal fault to see too clearly,  
Blight in the bloom and ill in all to spy,  
Believing truth itself is bought too dearly  
If purchased with a lie.

So fail I, friend, to see earth as you see it,  
All sunshine, angels bursting from the blue ?  
Though with good health and money, I agree, it  
May, while they both last, do.

What then our difference ? This ! As clever jugglers,  
Who force the court-card, will not yield the plan,  
You quote the one blest, not the hopeless strugglers,  
The millions in their pain.

I too see good, but do not pause to praise it ;  
Leave opiate praise, love rather tonic blame ;  
"Improveable" I hold the world ; to raise it,  
Man's only lawful aim.

Yet, oh ! thy pardon, Heaven, if oft-times grumbling,  
I murmur o'er lost harvests' wasted toil ;  
I know it must be, yet it is so humbling,  
That best things soonest spoil.

A. G. B.

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## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE Parliament reassembles on the 21st February.

THE Lieutenant-Governor returned on Thursday from his Behar tour.

THE present has been a remarkably mild winter in Afghanistan.

THE Duke and Duchess of Connaught arrived at Hyderabad on Wednesday. The Nizam received the royal guests at the railway station.

CHOLERA is raging in South Travancore. The Travancore Government has deputed a Special Medical Officer—Assistant Surgeon Ponnen—and a staff of medical subordinates and servants to visit the afflicted localities and render medical aid and to take measures to preserve sanitation.

THE Crawford Commission has ended. It is a relief indeed. The public had long ceased to take any interest in the trial, it had grown into such a nuisance! The length of the trial extending over sixty-eight days scared away all except those immediately connected. Mr. Justice Wilson and his colleagues are to be congratulated for the trial they themselves have gone through. They will now make their report to the Bombay Government.

THE Naghabad riot case at Moradabad has ended in the conviction of seven Mahomedans. Two of them have been sentenced to six months each, four to four months and one to two months' imprisonment.

WE read in the vernacular columns of the *Dacca Gazette*, that Manaranjan Ganguli *né* Dil Mahomed—a convert to Islam—had two wives. The elder followed her lord in his new Faith but the younger, Purna Sashi—beautiful and accomplished—refused herself the pleasures of the world, and devoted herself to the service of her god. The suit against Purna Sashi in the Munsifi for restitution of conjugal rights has been decided in her favor. But the girl, immediately the order was passed and she was returning home, was forced away from her friends and taken to the house of a Mahomedan, from which she was rescued by the Police. The matter has again gone to Court.

THE Chief Magistrate has sentenced an old offender—named Kali Churn Kurni—to four years' rigorous imprisonment, for theft of clothing and brass utensils from No. 1, Lindsay Street and No. 24, Wellesley Street. There were two separate charges, and in each case Mr. Marsden awarded the punishment of two years. He evidently preferred to exercise the highest power given him by law to sending up the prisoner to the Sessions.

KUNJEN MENON, the late Sub-Judge of Tellicherry, convicted of bribery, has escaped by death the further disgrace of residence in jail. He had applied to the Privy Council for leave to appeal, but in the absence of the judgment of the Sessions Court, their Lordships refused to give any opinion, giving the appellant leave to apply again.

A GREAT mystery hangs about the African heroes, who now for some years command the attention of the world to their movements. Such a one is the now famous Osman Digna. We for one at first thought that the *n* in the surname was a European mistake for *m*. For long, we struggled against the continuity of error or the tyranny of fact. We insisted on Digma instead of Digna. Digna had no associations for us, but Digma sounded more Arabic like. In fact, we cherished the hope of identifying this Osman with a kinsman of the well-known horse-dealer Abdulla of that ilk. But alas! for the vanity of the hunt after linguistic affinities and nomenclological analogies. The telegrams and newspapers stuck to Digna and Digna let him remain to the end of the chapter. But who is Digna? There have been different accounts, but the point is undecided. A correspondent has come forward to enlighten the *Army & Navy Gazette*, thus:

"He is understood to be a Frenchman. George Nisbet, *alias* Osman Digna, was born at Reuen in 1836, and attended a school at Paris till he was 13. The Nisbet family then removed to Alexandria, and shortly after the father, Joseph Nisbet, died. Madame Nisbet having made the acquaintance of a Mussulman merchant from up-country,

married him; and she and her boy George went first to Cairo and then to Suakim. George attended the military school at Cairo, and was brought up a Mussulman. He took his stepfather's name, Osman Digna, and joined him in his business as a slave-dealer at Suakim. The stepfather died in 1865. Young Digna became the Mahdi's friend and General, and the enemy of the Egyptian Government. He was a fellow-student of Arabi Pasha, and the latter's insurrection paved the way for his present career."

The editor—who by the bye is no other than the great Dr. William Howard Russell, the father, or rather the grandfather of war Correspondence—quietly notes:—

"So it is said. But so many things are said which are not true. Osman certainly does not speak French."

THE Deputy Commissioner of Bara Banki has been authorized by the local Government to raise a loan of Rs. 6,20,000 to pay off and consolidate the debts of the Ramnagar Dhameri estate.

THE exchange difficulty still plays havoc with the Indian revenues. The loss on this account during the current official year is estimated at sixty lacs. In the Budget estimates, the exchange was calculated at 1s. 4<sup>9</sup>/<sub>16</sub>d, but the actual is 1s. 4<sup>3</sup>/<sub>16</sub>d to 1s. 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>16</sub>d.

DR. TESSARINI, of Pisa, has found tobacco smoke a valuable disinfectant. He experimented it upon micro-organisms. He devised an apparatus composed of two funnels placed with their mouths opposed, and sealed with paraffin. To each small end of the funnels, tubes were attached and a cigar placed in one end. The smoke was thus drawn into the large space made by the funnels and into it was introduced a plate containing various cultures of micro-organisms. 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> to 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> grammes of tobacco—Virginia cigars, Cavour cigars and the best cigarette tobacco—was burnt and the microbes subjected to the smoke for about half an hour. The result is stated to be that the smoke had the effect of preventing the development of some micro-organisms wholly and of retarding that of others. The smoke in its passage through water loses its germicidal properties.

MESSRS. IMMISCH AND CO., of Malden Electric Works, Kentish Town, have launched at Platt's Eyot, Hampton, the largest electric pleasure boat of their own construction—*Viscountess Bury*. She is 65ft. in length, with a beam of 10ft., a mean draught of 22in., and a displacement of 12 tons. She is Mahogany built and will carry 70 to 80 passengers. The launch is worked by twin propellers, which obtain their impetus from two Immisch motors, each 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> horse power, and driven by 200 accumulators placed underneath the floor of the boat. The whole deck is thus available for passengers.

THE Parsee High Priest of Poona, Sirdar Dr. Hosungjee Jamaspjee opened and consecrated at Bhusaval, on Sunday before last, a new Tower of Silence. Parsees from various parts of the Bombay Presidency, Malwa, Nagpur and Benar, attended the ceremony. The Dastoorjee Stoleb was presented with addresses and shawls. The assembled guests were treated to a discourse on the utility of consigning the dead to Towers of Silence.

THE editor and publisher of the *Chittul Gazette* have served out their 3 months in jail. A subscription was raised to pay the fine and it was paid down, thus saving them additional residence in an undesirable place.

It is understood that the *New York Herald* has purchased the old *Globe* office in the Strand, London. It was till lately occupied by the *People*. The object is stated to be to bring out in the English capital a morning daily on the lines of the *Paris Herald*.

PREVIOUS to the prorogation of Parliament on Christmas Eve, the Royal Assent was given to the Law of Libel Amendment Act, 1888.

It has transpired in the Irish Scotch action against the *Times*, that Mr. Walter holds one-sixteenth share and the half of another sixteenth share in the Thunderer, the other proprietors numbering hundreds.

M. DE LESSEPS and the Directors of the Panama Canal Company have arranged with a banking firm for a fresh issue of shares to the value of sixty millions francs. The canal project must succeed.

THE offices of the *Town and Country Journal* and the *Evening News*—fine newspaper buildings in Sydney, Australia—have been destroyed by fire. They are said to have been most complete and perfect in that island continent. Built only four years ago, they were four stories high and cost about £1,00,000.

MR. GLADSTONE completed his 79th year on December 29, 1888.

THERE was a total eclipse of the sun on New Year's day. A San Francisco telegram dated January 1, says:—

"Reports have been received here from various stations on the Pacific Coast of the total eclipse of the sun to-day. The weather was clear at nearly all points of observation. Mr. Smith, Director of the Warner Observatory, stationed at Nelson, in California, reports that, as far as it afforded an opportune search for an intra-Mercurial planet, it was a failure, owing to clouds and haze at all four contacts. A well made chronometer, previously set to Lick University time, was used. Five very small colourless protuberances were seen, all having pointed apexes. Near the point of one was another detached from the sun. Bailey's beads were seen at the second and third contacts, but entirely unlike those seen at Denver in 1878. The corona could not be drawn, but as seen through the telescopes, it was not very extensive. At Brass Valley during the period of totality the stars and large planets were seen with the naked eye. From that point the corona and protuberances offered a grand spectacle. The thermometer fell seven degrees between the moment of first contact and totality. At Virginia City, Nevada territory, the thermometer fell ten degrees during the progress of the eclipse. To the observers at Healdsburg nineteen-twentieths of the sun's surface were obscured. The period of totality was 80 seconds. Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Mercury, and the principal fixed stars were visible. The corona appeared with long rays of light parallel to the sun's equator. Professor Toll secured a number of fine photographs of the corona showing rays extending ten or twelve degrees from the sun. Only rose-coloured protuberances were visible. At Orland the period of totality was 110 seconds. Venus and other stars were visible. Three successful photographs were taken. At Winnemucca, Nevada, the observers were entirely successful. Accurate observations were made of the times of contact. One observer discovered a comet near the sun. No appreciable change of temperature was noticed at this station. Accurate observations were also made of the shadow bands. The corona was similar in general appearance to that of 1878. The streamers extended to a distance of from three to four diameters, and the red protuberances were strongly marked."

The *New York Herald* of the next day published a despatch from its Chicago correspondent stating that

"Nine photographs were taken during totality and seven between the first and last contacts. The naked eye view of the corona was very fine. At the beginning of totality intense red flames burst out on the sun's western side, covering a space of 90 degrees. During totality the birds flew into the trees to roost, and the cocks crowed."

AMERICA was lately startled by the romance of another and happier Alexander Selkirk. It was stated that an old gentleman of Brooklyn had, on the 11th September, received a letter from a Captain Green who, in 1858, had sailed in command of a ship named *Confederation* which was supposed to have been wrecked in the Pacific Ocean. The letter was brought by a whaling barque from Ojee, an island in that ocean hitherto supposed to be without human inhabitants. It stated that the *Confederation* foundered at sea and the Captain, with his crew of 14 men and two women, took to the boats and managed to land on the island of Ojee. They found themselves in a charming tropical country abounding in fish and fowl and fruits, with enough of fresh water. So this community of sixteen contrived to live well under their king Green, their only grievance was probably the thought of being forcibly and almost hopelessly cut off from civilization and the great world of men.

HERE is what M. Leibknecht, a socialist Deputy, has lately said regarding the annexation of Alsace-Lorraine, in his speech at the German Reichstag:—

"We now clearly perceive that the annexation of Alsace-Lorraine has been not only a crime against a nation's sovereignty, but also a grave political blunder. Every development of the German people suffers from the continual fear of a French alliance, and at the same time there is kept up within the country a system of oppression towards political adversaries as violent as that which exists in some despotic states."

The French Press is more calm than the press in Germany. I know the public spirit in France. I assure you that there does not exist a Frenchman who thinks of attacking Germany. But as a set-off all Frenchmen are to be attacked by Germany, and they believe that Germany is forming a coalition against them as in 1792. It is the German Press which is the cause of this situation—it is the officious press that continually excites Europe against France. You seek for the alliance of Russia at any price. You shall never obtain it. As to the home politics I will only recall to you the antagonism which an Emperor has called the disgrace of the 19th century and what was said against the English during the reign of Emperor Frederick.

The high pressure is much heavier in Germany than what was predicted in 1870; the indirect taxes we doubled, and it is precisely the expenses of the workmen that have increased."

The present armed state of Europe and the consequent dread of an outbreak of war, are no doubt an outcome of the annexation of Alsace-Lorraine by Germany.

A TELEGRAM dated Shanghai the 17th January, says:—

"Great distress prevails in China from famine in the Yangtze and Yellow River valleys.

The prefectures of Fengyang, Yingchow and Shuchow, in the province of Anhui, have been flooded by the Yellow River.

In the prefectures of Zingchow, Chinkiang, Hsuechow and Chiangning, in the province of Kiangsu, the crops have entirely failed from drought.

In Shantung and Newchwang there are extensive floods.

The area of suffering is immense; it is impossible to estimate the numbers of starving, probably several millions.

In the Hofer district alone the number is half-a-million. The distress is widespread, and is a national calamity.

A strong committee has been formed at Shanghai by request of the Chinese authorities to collect subscriptions. Assistance is earnestly sought."

The Lord Mayor of London has invited public subscriptions.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

SIR Henry Mortimer Durand has not yet come. He is expected tomorrow. In the meantime, the Chinese delegate Mr. James Hart—has arrived and is the guest of Mr. Balfour, Agent of the Hong-Kong and Shanghai Bank. He cannot idle himself here but must leave for Canton. He probably awaits Sir Mortimer's arrival. He has had an interview with Mr. Cunningham, the Under-Secretary in the Foreign Department, and with a representative of the *Indian Daily News*, but Mr. Hart was courteously reticent to both as regards his instructions. How could he disclose his line of action, except in proper time to proper men?

THE Great Circumlocution Office is still on the Great Exodus Question—that is, dodging round and round it. The Government here, which enjoys the change from a tropical summer to the bracing and pleasant coolness of a temperate zone on the heights of the Himalayas, must naturally be indisposed to face it. The superior authority in England is formed of men who, while in India, were committed to the maintenance of the periodical migration, having enjoyed the privilege themselves, and are certainly connected by ties of kindred and fellow-feeling with the official classes in India. The question is, moreover, practically in the hands of the Government of India. Between the several authorities, it has been whittled down to a minimum. Zeus has been prevailed upon not to abolish the Indian Olympus, but he thinks it preposterous that many gods of all degrees, with their cupbearers and army of underlings, should crowd and vulgarise so nice a retreat. Simla is to be maintained, but reserved for the supreme duties' delight during the scorching heats of the plains. Such was the Secretary of State's fiat. It is now an old decision. The Government of India was so overjoyed at this result of the popular agitation against the "Exodus," that it gladly undertook to assist the Home Government in reducing the proportions of the periodical transport of departments to the hill retreats. For two years, it has been at it, collecting opinions and information. The late Viceroy was anxious to settle the matter, but was not allowed: All the necessary information was not forthcoming. We are glad to find that the present Viceroy has early taken up the subject, and in earnest. The new officiating Secretary in the Financial Department, Mr. Fanshawe, has been directed to draw up a memorandum exhibiting in brief the views of the different authorities.

We are not of those who are clamouring against Lord Lansdowne's going to Simla at all. Perhaps it will be necessary for his Lordship to go for once, the better to be able to judge its pretensions. Only, there is the chance of the blandishments of Capna proving too much for the soul of a young exile.

AMID the weakness of the greater portion of the native press, in the entire Bengal Presidency, it is a relief to find some capital organs of native opinion. Such a one is the *Lahore Tribune*. We have reason to be proud of the ability with which this paper is conducted. For that matter, it has, with rare exceptions, been always very respectable. But, of late, there has been a remarkable change for the better. It is

now unusually vigorous and even smart. In a part of the country exceptionally strong in its British press, the credit of Young India needed particularly good publicists. The *Tribune*, we are glad to see, is able to hold its own against its British neighbour. We regret that we can not share many of our contemporary's views—for instance, it is imbued with the unfortunate prejudice against the late Viceroy, so common with the ultra congressist journals—hence our opinion might be all the more entitled to consideration.

THERE has been consternation in the high official camp. It was understood that Lord Lansdowne contemplated a longer stay at Calcutta than has been usual with the Government of India of late years. Thereupon, the *Pioneer* thus broke out—

"There is nothing in the wide world to stop them (the Viceroys) from remaining in Calcutta from January to December. For aught that can be foreseen, the present Viceroy may do so; but as long as Calcutta is what it is, there is small likelihood of his repeating the experiment."

"Cold words these and rather desponding," cries the *Tribune*. Oh, no! Desponding perhaps, but not cold. To us they seem more as the expression of tender querulousness of love in a pet. It is much as when you hear, "Men are proverbially inconstant; they may do just as they choose, and who is to prevent them? You may make love to all the girls in the country; indeed, not to put a fine point on the matter, you are that heartless man. But I don't care, you may please yourself. There is only one little request—no, not request, but one piece of advice to give. Have a care for yourself. For Heaven's sake, do not sacrifice your reputation in this world and your prospects in the next. Avoid that flirtatious old spinster in the corner over whom you are getting so silly. She is a plain creature, I can assure you. And as for her character—well, you ought to know what is what." There is no doubt an undercurrent of pathos in that defiance of indifference.

THE *Tribune* thus "chaffs" the *Pioneer* :—

"While, therefore, condoling with him in his sorrow that Lord Lansdowne does not intend to start for Simla before the snow on its hills has melted away, we would put the question whether his apprehension has really got any foundation in fact. Will Lord Lansdowne actually forego the pleasures of a whole Simla season for the sake of the grave and responsible duty the gravest and most responsible that a statesman may be called upon to perform—that has now devolved upon him? The news seems too good to be true."

Our contemporary continues, in a serious vein—

"But why? Is there not a precedent in the matter? Did not Lord Northbrook make a similar sacrifice during the Behar famine in 1873? Has not Calcutta much improved during the last 15 years, and now come to be regarded as one of the healthiest cities in India? What Lord Northbrook did at the call of duty, it is much easier now for Lord Lansdowne to accomplish. For ourselves, however, we do not much care where Lord Lansdowne stays during the year, provided he does not come to Simla. His Lordship's health and comfort are matters of great concern to us, and nothing is further from our thoughts than that His Lordship should undergo any unnecessary hardships. But nevertheless we think it would be a very wise step if His Lordship did not come to Simla this year. We say so most advisedly. Simla is territorially in this province, and it is, therefore, a matter of pride and pleasure to us that the Viceroy stays there during the best part of the year. But the surroundings of the place are adverse to the expansion of political views, and it is consequently most desirable that Lord Lansdowne should spend his year of probation, if we may be permitted that expression, outside its vitiated atmosphere. The 'Indian Problem,' as Sir William Hunter calls it, is not easy of solution. It requires a careful, earnest and diligent study, which it is impossible to carry on properly amidst the frivolities of the Simla season. Moreover, there are other than Jungo interests to be served in India. There are other opinions besides those of the *Pioneer* to be consulted. And there are other people outside the circle of a close bureaucracy and its following to come in contact with."

WE have much pleasure in laying before the reader the following extract from a private letter from a Hindu friend now for some years in England. It contains the reflections of a thoughtful mind. While it traces the change undergone by an Indian from the new experience, it notices the speciality of English life :—

"I am over two years now in England, ample time for the growth of some attachment for the country and its people. Nothing of the kind; It is, what they call, as water on a duck's back. This is a land of work,—affection, attachment, heart, are meaningless terms in the people's vocabulary. London is a large mint, nearly five millions of human beings in it are shoving and pushing and jostling each other to scrape some gold dust. Hundreds of thousands are gasping their death gasp on account of this inhuman struggle. English philanthropy backed by English wealth is taxed to the uttermost to prevent death by starva-

tion—to preserve some semblance of tenderness and charity in this huge human hive. The rigours of the conditions of bare existence here, it would be simply impossible for any mortal, bred up in another sphere under a more genial easy system, to withstand. And yet the hardy and hard-working Briton finds time and strength and temper not only to put things quite square at home, but to conquer continents, spread peace, foster civilization, in fact, to serve mankind in a way which no nation has hitherto done or is likely to do soon. As far as I can see it now, if I were to present you with a human equation of attainable perfection, I would take an Indian heart *minus* all morbid sensitiveness, an Indian head capable of calculating higher problems than what are set in the B. A. and M. A. papers, such as those of the unification of races and the growth of nationalities, and a stalwart Punjabi physique; and add to it the doggedness, the life and death determination, the never-to-back-out trade-mark of these shopkeepers (!); and I could not find you a higher ideal.

I could give you a long account of the different characteristics of the two peoples. You see here such an altogether new phase of humanity, your prejudice vanishes from the moment you step on board the steamer. I remember every minute of my life since I left home. I have not ceased to torment myself with the obstinate "why". Crudeness disappears laughing such a laugh at prescription, that I myself feel ashamed at its abrupt and unceremonious retreat; with all my instinctive and ingrained conservatism, I can't even tempt my old idols to stand a trial. They vanish like Macbeth's witches when I would most wish them present. New ideas, no doubt, don't find easy admission. Alas! many a time, with tearful eyes, the mind involuntarily looks back to that hallowed land left far behind, in the vain search for an adequate silencing answer to give to the intruders, who as a rule rely on their naked beauty and demand entrance with a conqueror's voice."

THE Western races have always been fond of the canine species. What wonder that the most Western of them should be preeminently doggy! By the latest advices, the Transatlantic ladies have developed a manly taste in their sympathy for the canine order. Pugs are at a discount. Lapdogs they leave to Old World women. They go in for the heroic. Their preference is worthy of the belles of the Amazonian Continent. They affect big powerful mastiffs for pets. They attack quiet homes with enormous Newfoundlanders and penetrate the sacred precincts of drawing-rooms with hulking St. Bernards by their side. This is going ahead with a vengeance. But what of our Old World myth of the "gentle sex"?

THE District Judge of Dacca, Mr. Beighton, had been to Moonsheegung on tour. The Pleaders of the Munsiffi gave an entertainment in his honor. The programme, among others, consisted of *Nautches*. A Correspondent "D" and the *Dacca Gazette* are wroth that the Judge was so honored or that he encouraged the *Nautch* Girls by his presence. The poor *Bujras* are all evil to our Brahmo brother, but he forgets that they are not so bad as he paints them. Indeed, they are altogether a more respectable and self-honoring class than many of our modern *Barbees* of an unpronounced social order.

THE last or second year's working of the Income Tax in Bengal was a decided gain to Government. The receipts were more and the charges less than in the previous or first year of the impost. The receipts were Rs. 37,35,621 or Rs. 1,05,641 more and charges Rs. 1,57,485 or Rs. 1,26,734 less than in 1886-87, or a net gain of Rs. 2,32,375 in 1887-88. Leaving out of calculation the assessments on the salaries of Government servants and on Government securities, the Board fixes the average incidence of the tax on the whole population of the province at Re. 1 to every 37 persons; and the proportion of the number of persons assessed to the whole population at 1 to 663. The average incidence was Re. 1 to every 203 persons in the whole province and to every 37 inhabitants in Calcutta. Including Government Servants and Securities, the incidence is reduced to 179 instead of 37 persons. The chief contributors to the tax—who are the least able to protect themselves and whom the Congress would desire to be exempted, for it recommends the raising of the taxable income to Rs. 1001—were the assesses under class I, with incomes from Rs. 500 to Rs. 750. Next to them came class VIII with incomes from Rs. 2,500 to Rs. 5,000

The first paid Rs. 5,93,769 and the last Rs. 4,69,495. The largest contributors to the tax were

Money-lenders and changers	...	...	Rs. 5,66,897
Government servants	...	...	" 3,78,045
General merchants	...	...	" 3,66,867
Dealers in other articles...	...	...	" 1,83,341
Piece-goods merchants	...	...	" 1,50,024
Barristers, &c.	...	...	" 1,28,601
Managers and Assistant Managers	...	...	" 1,26,800
House proprietors	...	...	" 1,24,371
Clerks and Accountants	...	...	" 1,12,918
Grain merchants	...	...	" 1,12,371

It is significant the money-lenders top the list, and yet how often they escape or are underassessed.

Barring individual instances of hardship—in pursuance of *zid* or idiosyncrasies of the assessing officers—coercive measures were sparingly enforced. The actual sales—for realisation of the tax, penalty and cost—out of the total 100,238 assessments, were confined to only 477 cases. In this list the Rungpore District figures the highest (96), then comes Monghyr (63), after it Sarun (45), next appears Furreedpore (42), followed by Dinagepore (36) and Gya (32). The largest number of warrants, however, were issued in Calcutta and next to it in Mozufferpore, but the sale in this last was only 15. It is claimed that the working has been such as to disarm opposition, the unpopularity of the tax being traceable only to the disinclination of the people to pay money. It will take many many years in India, if at all, to popularize the tax, and the Board will have enough work in future years, if the tax is still to be retained, to control the zeal and caprices of its subordinate officers in this direction. Rs. 64,311 were levied on 6,662 persons as penalties and Rs. 21,191 as costs. The Collector of Tipperah generally remitted the penalty, on prompt payment of the tax after the issue of warrant. Its indiscriminate issue in Calcutta was less than in the previous year. The percentage fell from 21 to 11. The Board points out that some persons court coercive measures to make them the ground for exemption in the following years, but it is not blind to the fact that some default from ignorance of the rules of payment and some from negligence. The Board complains of the opinion of the Advocate-General that "when once an assessment list has been completed and notification made, the Collector has no power to serve a fresh notice of an amended assessment during the year," and ascribes to its adherence, the falling off in revenue in Calcutta, and suggests alteration in the law in the next amending Act.

THE Chief Justice has made a desperate effort to retrieve his academic reputation. His Convocation Address this year was a delightful surprise. If he had only been better prepared to read it, he would have made a hit, and between an eloquent Chancellor and a classical philosophical Vice, the Convocation of 1889 would have been historical. The substance of the Address was in strange and agreeable contrast with the barrenness and inanity of the last year's attempt rather than performance. We are forcibly reminded of the *Edinburgh Review's* notice of a famous book—Hope's *Anastasis*. Though cursed with the 18th century vice of interminable length, it is a charming book, eloquent and powerful, still unapproached by any novel of Eastern life, Palgrave's *Hermann Agha* not excepted. It appeared anonymously, but was understood to be the production of Mr. Thomas Hope, the father of Beresford of that ilk of our day. This gentleman was a rich banker, innocent of printer's ink. He was believed to be a man of taste, but it was shown more in the character of the surroundings of his home than in the productions of his own mind. A virtuoso, he paid preposterous prices for broken marbles and rare china, and cared more for the torso of an old master than a whole of the greatest contemporary. He had a special craze about upholstery. At the best, he was a *dilettanti* rather than a scholar. *Anastasis*, if he was guilty of it, was his only offence in the literary line. Called on to review it, Sydney Smith did not know what to think of the phenomenon of such an unexpected spring of taste and ripe penmanship from so unlikely a quarter. He made no secret of his astonishment. He said:—

"Mr. Hope will excuse us,—but we could not help exclaiming, in reading it, Is this Mr. Thomas Hope?—Is this the man of chairs and tables?—the gentleman of sphinxes—the (Edipus of coalboxes—he who meditated on muffineers and planned pokers?—Where has he hidden all this eloquence and poetry up to this hour?—How is it that he has, all of a sudden, burst out into descriptions which would not disgrace the pen of Tacitus—and displayed a depth of feeling and a

vigour of imagination which Lord Byron could not excel? We do not shrink from one syllable of this eulogium. The work now before us places him at once in the highest list of eloquent writers, and of superior men."

RECALLING the collapse of the Vice-Chancellor last year, as we read the scholarly and thoughtful discourse given from the Vice-Chair this year, we could not help exclaiming in a similar strain—Can it be you, my Lord? Can this be the hand of our good Chief? The thing is that Sir Comer Petheram had never given any indications of the qualities the possession whereof was necessary to the production of such a piece. He had doubtless many gifts and acquisitions of head and heart, but the humanities formed no part of them. There are, however, occasionally what in Bengali parlance we call "colour-stealing mangoes"—fruits which look green to the last, even though they may be ripe to the verge of rottenness, or, for that matter, to absolute rottenness. The wonder is how this amiable dignitary could so long contrive to hide his light under a bushel.

THE Mahomedan Literary Society celebrate their Silver Jubilee at the Town Hall on Monday. The Founder-Secretary and his old coadjutors deserve the highest praise for having maintained the Society for a quarter of a century, and they will, we are sure, receive the amplest congratulations on this happy occasion. The Mahomedans, and not a few Hindus, are indebted to the Society for bringing them together in friendly intercourse in pursuit of knowledge and instruction. The Mahomedans may well feel proud on the occasion. We hope our Hindu brethren will, by their attendance and bearing, shew their appreciation of the efforts of their fellow citizens in the good cause of fellowship and knowledge. Lord Lansdowne is expected. We trust our native friends will remember the friendly admonition of the *Indian Daily News*, and show themselves in becoming costume. All who understand the proprieties will, of course, wear turbans. Certainly, no one in flimsy Lucknow or Benares caps should ever deliberately appear before the representative of the sovereign. No "comforters" of course, unless of Indian shawl.

THE Honourable Andrew R. Scoble, Member of the Supreme Council, is no dark-souled Draco, who has retired into his sage's tub in the spirit in which a certain class of men, according to Dickens, elect the office of turnpike collector. He is no mere legist absorbed in his official pursuits without time or inclination for the amenities and obligations of life. A ripe genial man, with a well-balanced soul, he is ready to discharge the social duties appertaining to his high position, and to mix familiarly with all classes of the population. No doubt, he thereby not only enjoys himself but also improves in professional efficiency itself. The other day he presided at the Anniversary of the Calcutta Mahomedan College, the earliest educational institution under British rule, founded by Warren Hastings. Last week, he handsomely patronised the Emerald Theatre and passed an evening at a native play. This afternoon, he was present at the *fête* of the Calcutta Training Academy and gave away the prizes to the boys, concluding with a suitable speech. After the Oriental Seminary, this is the oldest independent private school in Calcutta, entirely under native management. It has survived the vicissitudes—including the intrigues and jealousies—of thirty years. Babu Nemat Charan Bose's Shambazar Amateur Band was in attendance and opened with a well-played march.

We are glad to announce that Sreemati Sarbamongala Dey, the widow of the late Kumar Satya Jeban Ghosal of Bhukolas, has kindly contributed Rs. 500 towards the cost of erecting a building for the Victoria Barahanagar School. This is a most discriminate act of genuine charity and, coming from a Brahman widow, it is a princely donation.

THE fortunes of a wealthy Kabri Brahman family settled high up in North Bengal, must always be interesting to us down in or about South Karh. We are, therefore, highly gratified to read in the papers the good accounts of the young Chaudhuri Baboo of Chanchal, in the Malda District. As a minor under the Court of Wards, he was fortunate in his tutor and guardian Babu Tripura Charan Banerjee, an accomplished young gentleman, who appears to have succeeded in training up this child of opulence in the way he should go. He maintains a school at a cost of Rs. 200 per mensem, besides supporting inferior educational agency in other parts of his estate. He bears the chief share of the local contributions for the local Charitable Dispensary. He is trying to induce the Telegraph Department to connect the local post office by wire.

## REIS &amp; RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1889.

## SIR LEPEL GRIFFIN ON ANNEXATION.

SIR LEPEL GRIFFIN has found out a new way of conciliating a people "passionately fond of independence." It is by subverting their independence. That a sane man should hold and preach such a doctrine, seems incredible; but we quote Sir Lepel's letter, dated Dec. 18, to the *Times* :—

"The policy suggested and foreshadowed in your leading article of this morning is the only one that can restore peace to the Red Sea littoral, and until it is adopted the action of this and every succeeding Government will be exposed to criticism and censure as just and reasonable as that which Lord Randolph Churchill applied to it last night. As long as we hold Suakim for the justly detested Egyptian Government, so long will the fanatical tribes under their religious leaders swarm about our outposts like bees, ever driven away and ever returning. Annex Suakim and the surrounding country to the British Empire, and station there a locally or an Indian raised corps under Englishmen, with English civil and political officers, and in six months the country will be as quiet as South Kensington. There is no other means of salvation, and all the diplomacy of officials or amateurs will be vain when the people know that we are holding Suakim as a mere temporary measure, and that it will be some day surrendered into the hands of their ancient oppressors. My experience in Afghanistan was of a population very similar to the Soudanese. The Afghans are fanatical Mahomedans—brave, and passionately fond of independence and freedom. They were completely under the control of their priests or mollahs, and were not to be influenced except through them. Our difficulty in Afghanistan was precisely that which we now experience at Suakim. We came to occupy temporarily, not to annex, and every one's hand was necessarily against us. Had we annexed Afghanistan, which we will assuredly do the next time we enter that undesirable country, the difficulties of its management would at once have disappeared. England has a special talent for ruling Mahomedans, who thoroughly appreciate her system, and her Majesty governs to-day a far larger Mahomedan population than the Sultan of Turkey, and with far greater contentment and success. The Mahomedans of the Soudan do not hate the English, but are well disposed towards us. They hate the Egyptian Government, for excellent and sufficient reasons, and we have no divine mission to slaughter brave and well-disposed tribes in the interest of that Government, which is inherently bad and corrupt, and which will return to its evil courses the moment we cease to control it, if we are ever so imbecile as to do so. If Mr. Gladstone's Ministry had only acted with decision and courage and seized Opportunity by her hair when she passed them by, and had annexed Egypt when no one was in a position to object, we should have no troubles there or in the Soudan to-day. But the chance was lost and may not return until the country and Parliament have found the sense and patriotism to accept Lord Charles Beresford's advice, and so strengthen our naval force that no Power will lightly dare to declare war against us.

"Meanwhile, let the Government do what can be alone effectual for our immediate necessities, and annex the Soudan district. Suakim cannot, with any safety, be abandoned; and, if it be held, it should be owned and administered by England, and not by Egypt."

Sir Lepel will hardly deny, what all the world maintains, that, to a people "passionately fond of independence," the yoke of the stranger is a great evil; otherwise, the "love of independence" is an unmeaning phrase. To hear him assert that such an evil is intolerable only when it is temporary, but that it will be welcomed as a boon as soon as it becomes permanent and perpetual, is enough to make one doubt his sanity. Common sense would suggest that a temporary evil is better than an endless calamity; but the acute intellect of Sir Lepel Griffin appears to be above common sense. We are called on to infer that, if the English had dethroned Shah Sujah and taken possession of his country, Akbar Khan would have rushed into the arms of Sir William Macnaghten and embraced him as a friend, and the tragedy of the Khoord Cabul Pass would not have taken place; it is only because the occupation of Cabul was temporary, that Sir William was murdered and the army of occupation massacred. Sir Lepel is at liberty to entertain such an opinion; but the public will say it is simply absurd.

Again, what is the analogy between the Indian Mussulmans and the Afghans or the Soudanese? They profess a common creed; that is all. The Soudanese and the Afghans are fanatical; the Indian

Mussulmans, with a few exceptions, are not. The Afghans and the Soudanese are, according to Sir Lepel himself, passionately fond of independence—a feeling which has been almost extinguished in the breasts of the Indian Mussulmans, by long subjection to a foreign rule. Sir Syed Ahmed, the typical Indian Mussulman, is doubtless a brave man; he is certainly braver than his *bête noir*—the Bengali Babu—who hides himself under the table at the sight of a carving knife; but it is no disparagement to the gallant knight to say that, in respect of both good and bad qualities, he is as different as possible from the Mahdi, the typical Soudanese. In short, a precedent drawn from Indian history is wholly inapplicable to the Soudanese. The followers of the Mahdi are much more like the followers of Abdel Kader of Algiers than they are like the Indian Mussulmans, and it would be astonishing, indeed, if the English conquest of the Soudan be not followed by the same kind of troubles that attended the French conquest of Algiers, and most fortunate, if English arms be not disgraced by a crime similar to that which has left an indelible stain on the memory of Marshal St. Arnaud.

Sir Lepel says, "England has a special talent for ruling Mahomedans who thoroughly appreciate her system." By "Mahomedans," he means, of course, "Indian Mahomedans." If the Egyptian Mahomedans thoroughly appreciated the English system, Arabi Pasha would not now be at Colombo. That the Indian Mussulmans, in common with the Hindoos, are thoroughly loyal to Her Majesty and that they appreciate the benefits of the British rule, is doubtless true; but whether such appreciation can be said to be "thorough," depends on the meaning we attach to the word. Take the case of the Nizam, the greatest Mahomedan Chief in India. Can his Highness's appreciation of the British rule be said to be thorough, when his standing grievance is the annexation and unjust retention of the Berars by the British, and when a certain high British official connived at his being fleeced, on the right and left, by greedy adventurers, native as well as British? If by thorough appreciation by the mass of Indian Mussulmans, the absence of all grievance is implied, Sir Lepel is quite mistaken. The Mahomedans are at one with the Hindus in holding that they should have a larger share in the administration of the country; only they pursue the same object in different ways. We are much afraid, that, however benevolent the intentions of Her Majesty's Government may be, officials like Messrs. Cordery and Marshall and Plowden and Wilson and Salmon—to take a few recent instances out of a host—will make a thorough appreciation of the British rule impossible.

## THE EXCISE.

## THE OUTSTILL SYSTEM.

MR. WESTMACOTT'S enquiry into the abuses of the outstill system has, at any rate, done one good. It has brought back the question into retrieval. The present Government of Bengal appears to be determined that, if the outstill system should be retained, its working must be free from those evils the existence of which, after Mr. Westmacott's report, even the Board of Revenue are not prepared to deny. The present attitude of the Board towards the subject, is in marked contrast with the indifference and even cynical contempt with which all representations from the public, against the practical effects of the system, were used to be received. This change is, no doubt, due to the explicit expression of opinion which Sir Stuart

Bayley recorded on Mr. Westmacott's report. The Board are now at great pains to set their house in order. In the last report on the Excise Administration in these provinces, the Board have considered the subject at great length and pointed out the various safeguards which have been employed for minimizing the evils of the outstills.

The main object required to be kept in view is, that the manufacture of liquor at these stills should be limited to the local demand, and that the price at which outstill liquor is sold should be sufficiently high not to stimulate its consumption. The difficulty, however, of ascertaining the local demand, appears to be almost insuperable, and the Board's report is not without indications of their appreciation of it. It is true the Patna system of working the outstills has been extended into ten additional districts in course of the last year, but some of its characteristic features were omitted. The minimum prices were not fixed, nor the use of metal vats insisted on. This system, notwithstanding these reservations, is reported by District officers to have worked fairly well, but the fact is these reports of excise officials are plainly contradicted by the actual experience of the people.

However alive the Government might be to the pernicious effects of the administration of outstills, its action in the usual course must be based upon advices from its officers. Sir Steuart Bayley, however, has come to the conclusion that the extension of the outstill system into metropolitan districts was a mistake. Of course, this extension was adopted in Sir Rivers Thompson's time upon the Board's recommendation which, in its turn, followed upon the opinion of officers. "With the light of the experience since acquired," says the present Government, "the Lieutenant-Governor is, however, disposed to think that it is probably a sound principle that, in the metropolitan districts at least, outstills should not be substituted for distilleries, and it remains for the Board to consider whether, in the face of all the facts elicited by this special enquiry, it would not be wise even now to revert to the distillery system in these districts."

We cannot be sufficiently grateful to the Government for the above expression of its views. Indeed, were it not for the active and passive obstructiveness of the Excise Department of the Government, the system would be doomed. The following extract from the Resolution of the Government would show that so far as the Government is concerned, the system has very little chance:—

"But the most valuable conclusion to be drawn from Mr. Westmacott's report is that to which the Lieutenant Governor has already drawn attention in the Government Resolution of the 13th October last, that if the outstill system is to be maintained, the regulation of the outturn is the main point to which all efforts must be directed. If this has to be given up, the system must be abandoned. The Lieutenant Governor is glad, therefore, to notice the evidences which are furnished by the Board's Administration Report that the importance of this duty is fully recognized by the Board of Revenue. Under the Patna system, —so called because it was first introduced into that district, the size and capacity of each still, and the number and capacity of the vats in which the yeast for distillation is prepared, are regulated by the local demand, and it is upon this demand that the upset fees are calculated. The difficulty of this process is obviously very great; but it ought not to be impossible, and the object aimed at is one which it is necessary to attain irrespective of revenue considerations. The Patna system was extended in 1887-88 to ten other districts, and in the current year to seven more. In regard to the local demand in these districts, the Collectors have reported that they believe the statistics furnished by them to be correct and trustworthy for all practical purposes. It is also said that there was not much difficulty in limiting the capacities of stills and vats in conformity to the local demand. The abkars made no other complaint than that the restrictions entailed additional labour and expense in distilling liquor; but this is so far satisfactory that it leads directly to the price of liquor being raised. The local officers are unanimously of opinion that the system has worked fairly well. This is a very encouraging report; and though the Lieutenant-Governor fears it is somewhat more sanguine than the circumstances altogether warrant, it indicates the determination of

officers concerned to give a fair trial to the recommendations of the Excise Commission with which the Government has identified itself."

We are in hopes, at any rate, of substantial changes in the system. The time is full of promise. Mr. Westmacott is again to be deputed to deal with the practical administration of this branch of the excise. Public opinion, in the meantime, has come to a head. The strong adhesion of the Missionary body to the cause has brought an accession of strength to the popular organization for combating the evil. The study which Mr. Caine has, during his recent tour in this country, bestowed on the subject, is also expected to bear fruit. And, last of all, we have at the head of the Government a man who appears to have already been convinced of the enormities of which the excise administration in the past was capable.

## MUNICIPAL RECONSTRUCTION IN THE SUBURBS.

### A DEPARTURE IN PRINCIPLE AND PRACTICE.

THE South-Suburban Municipality is proposed to be split up into two municipalities. In the opinion of the Special Committee of the Suburban Municipal Commissioners, with delegates from the Baranagar and South-Suburban Municipalities, it was decided that, after the exclusion of all agricultural and waste lands, the South-Suburban Municipality should be divided into two Municipalities with the Diamond Harbour Road as the line of demarcation, and that the excluded portions of Wards I., V. and VI. of the Suburbs should be added to the Municipality on the east and on the west of the line. This Resolution appears to have been almost unanimously agreed to at the Special Committee meeting, but as the proposed revision of boundaries can only be effected by the Government on the recommendation of the Commissioners of the South-Suburban Municipality in meeting, there is a difficulty in the way. The Commissioners are not disposed to ratify the vote given by their delegates, and some of the delegates, too, are understood to be now actively opposing the arrangement to which they had given their consent at the Special Committee meeting.

As regards the Baranagar Municipality from which delegates were invited, little change was suggested. While these delegates were authorized by their Commissioners to assent to a scheme of amalgamation of the whole of their municipality with the excluded portion of Ward I. of the Suburban Municipality, namely, Cossipore and Chitpore, nothing of the sort appears to have been in the contemplation of the Suburban Municipal Commissioners. In fact, it is difficult to see why delegates from Baranagar were asked for at all, unless it were to endorse a proposal of Babu Asutosh Biswas, Vice-Chairman of the Suburban Municipality, for taking in a bit of Sintoee now enclosed in the Baranagar Municipality and adding it to the Suburbs. This the Baranagar delegates refused to do, and the only Resolution with regard to the northern portion of the excluded area was that the excluded portions of Ward I. of the Suburban Municipality, lying on the North of the Circular Canal, should be formed into a separate Municipality, the dissenting members being the Baranagar delegates and a Commissioner of the South-Suburban Municipality. Indeed, it appears to have been so far a foregone conclusion with Mr. Bolton, and his Vice-Chairman and Commissioners that, beyond a little portion of Sintoee, there should be no amalgamation with Baranagar. Not a trace of the proposition urged by the Baranagar delegates for the amalgamation of their Municipality with Cossipore and Chit-



pore, on the strong grounds of the whole of these townships being of an analogous character and their having a common system of drainage, is, however, to be found in the proceedings.

The only Resolution about which there seems to be no difference of opinion, relates to the excluded portions on the east. The unanimous arrangement come to, was that the excluded portions of Ward II of the Suburban Municipality lying on the east of the Circular Canal, together with the portion of Ward I of the said municipality lying on the south and east of the said Canal, should be formed into a separate municipality.

Four municipalities are thus to arise and form the Suburbs of New Calcutta. They will necessarily be much smaller in extent than those which they supersede, and indeed the idea which seems to have found favor with the authors of this scheme, is that smaller municipalities are better for administrative purposes than larger ones. Whatever the merits of this opinion, it is, at any rate, thoroughly opposed to the principle which has all along been in the ascendant in official minds, and only a practical application of which is now the all but accomplished fact of the extension of the limits of Calcutta. As regards the Baranagar municipality, it is strange the present Commissioners of the Suburban Municipality are so strongly disinclined to any proposals for amalgamation with Baranagar, for their action now is in marked contrast with the object persistently had in view for about the last quarter of a century, by successive district and divisional authorities, for adding Baranagar to the then unwieldy limits of the Suburban Municipality, before the annexation of its best portions to Calcutta, and the present scheme of partition into small municipalities on every side.

#### ALCOHOL AND VIRTUE.

##### THE NEW SCIENTIFIC ROAD TO HEAVEN.

IT was Lord Beaconsfield, we believe, who, speaking of France, observed that it is the unlikely that happens there. That remark would lose none of its force by being made general. On all sides, we are being confronted by the unlikely. Nay, more than that. *Impossible? c'est le mot d'un fou!* cried Napoleon. During the greater part of a century that has since elapsed, that ominous word has gone on losing credit, until it is at its lowest. We now dare not call anything impossible, for fear of a sudden rude awakening. This is particularly the case in the sphere of science, and its application to the arts and conveniences of life. But it is scarcely less in the moral world. It is an age of surprises in every department, whether of thought or action. Discoveries come upon us thick and fast

Thick as autumnal leaves that strow the brooks  
In Vallombrosa.

Truly does the Poet sing

The old order changes giving place to new,  
And God fulfils himself in many ways.

It is not only that the progress of knowledge and the multiplication of arts and industry have made things pleasant for us. The departure in the region of the mind is no less remarkable. We are passing through a revolution. Old methods have been succeeded by new—old principles have been surrendered in favour of new. There seems no help for it. The old intellectual and moral order has been slowly and imperceptibly but surely undermined, and the beliefs of ages are expiring. In fact, there is more destruction than construction. The scene is filled with broken towers, but there are no equal traces of new architecture. There is far too much prevalence of distrust and doubt everywhere. Earthquakes are the order of the day. The ground has become peculiarly sensitive and liable to disturbance.

There is no depending on the security of any foundations, however stable. One would have thought, for instance, that whatever might be uncertain, the connection between drunk-

eness and crime is, at any rate, sure. But even that position is now being assailed, and by a formidable enemy, with a strong heavy battery. While Mr. Caine was agitating throughout India the cause of temperance, a European philosopher in France was laying before the world the results of his patient inquiry into the effects of ebriety and inebriety on the nations, and giving the palm to the latter. We refer to Mons de Flaix, who, after a study of the influence of alcohol on morality and health, has come to the following conclusions:

"France consumes less alcohol than the United Kingdom: its birth-rate is less, and its mortality, criminality, and suicide rates are greater. Italy consumes very little alcohol; its criminality is appalling. Spain consumes three times less alcohol than Italy: its criminality is double. Sweden, Denmark, and Norway, with a population of about one-third, consume four times the quantity of alcohol consumed in Italy, and yet the criminality of the former is very small, while that of the latter is appalling."

Could anything be more startling? If ever there was unanimity on any point, it was on this. The most abandoned toper never claimed any special merit for his grog—he only apologised for his individual weakness. The boldest reasoner dared not to go beyond a word in favour of mild hilarity over a glass. It is cruel, therefore, to be so treated in respect of our most cherished notion. But it is a hopeless case, we are afraid. There is no contending against fate. The truth has been declared by the voice of statistics. Facts are stubborn things. The irresistible logic of figures has declared against the established consensus of opinion, and opinion—even the consensus of it must go. Truth is great and must prevail. In loyalty to it, let us be content to make this sacrifice.

Sacrifice, indeed! The surrender involves little sacrifice. The sacrifice is all the other way. What could be more welcome to mankind than the teaching of M. de Flaix's facts and figures? We are all ready enough for the devil without much effort at temptation from that restless old gentleman. But what a handle for a plea does he give! The rosy paths of pleasure need little extraneous encouragement to fill them. The opportunity of sinning in good company proves too strong a call to many minds. Here we are not only beguiled by the "fascination of a name hoodwinked," but actually commanded as it were to vice by all-knowing philosophy and all powerful science.

But is the case really so bad? We confess the *finale* of M. Flaix's enquiries—the conclusion of his labours as summarised in the above quotation—brought forcibly to our mind the famous epigram of Lord Melbourne—Nothing is so fallacious as facts—except figures. A profound truth, the fruition of the rich experience of life and affairs of a sagacious, and by no means a truly cynical, statesman. Here, all at once, we perceive the superiority of the *a priori* method. Our instinct tells us that there must be some mistake in the matter. At any rate, there can be no ground for the alleged connection between crime and temperance as between intemperance and a virtuous life and conversation. There must be other causes, which have been lost sight of, to account for the anomaly—the queer result. Herein, indeed, is always the rub. Hasty generalization is the bane of reasoning.

We are apt to be staggered by an array of facts and figures. It would be better if we kept our heads and maintained our courage to look into the matter and look about us. Facts may be stubborn, but we ought to take care to ascertain that they are not pretenders under a false name. The logic of figures may be inexorable, but we ought to remember that figures may be inaccurate, and even "cooked." We impute no dishonesty to M. Flaix, but he may have been deceived. We know as a fact that they are often wonderfully manipulated by reasoners who could not in private life tell a fib even for a great advantage.

In the present discussion, accepting the facts and figures, all that they make out is, that certain countries are none the worse for indulgence in alcohol, while others are no better for their abstention. But who knows but that the good are so in spite of indulgence and that the bad are bad from some other reason independent of temperance in vinous liquor.

M. Flaix's announcement must be a godsend to the publicans and sinners. The former have, of late, been in rather a bad way, from the assaults of their enemies, chief of whom is the progress of education and of comfort in home life. Our teetotal friends are not likely to lose heart under the revelation. They are bigotted enough to stare in the face of electric light in comfortable unconsciousness.



## THE CONVOCATION ADDRESS

DELIVERED BY SIR COMER PETHERAM.

Your Excellency the Chancellor, Members of the Senate, and Graduates of the University of Calcutta,—Literature is full of truisms based on the contrast between promise and performance, on the disproportion of lofty designs to the meagre results which they too often produce. The vanity of human wishes, the futility of human schemes, has been part of the stock-in-trade of the critic ever since men began to reflect upon the irony of cause and effect. Wit of this order is mainly occupied with pointing the morals to be drawn from attempts to do something very great which result in achieving very little. It fixes on a would-be mountain of a cause and makes merry over the tiny consequence to which it has given birth. The converse case is one we hear less about. The critic finds small scope for ridicule in those apparently minor causes which commence life in a quiet and unpretentious style and end by bringing about consequences out of all proportion to what was expected of them. Many, if not most, of the forces which have transformed the world were in their origin obscure, nor had the men who set them going the least idea of the importance of what they were doing. To the day of his death Columbus believed that he had merely found a new way to India, when he had really discovered the whole vast continent of America. In the face of contrasts of this sort, where performance so immeasurably outruns promise, the average critic is silent. There is no opening for his cynicism there. He usually takes refuge in being studiously wise after the event, and protests in more or less ornamental language that he knew it all before. The measure to which the Calcutta University owes, if not its existence, at any rate the highly-developed form in which it comes before us to-day, seems to me worthy to rank among the second of the two classes of causes which I have endeavoured to distinguish—among those measures the effects of which surpass rather than fall short of the expectations of their authors. Fifty-four years ago, when Lord Macaulay wrote the splendid Minute, which led Lord William Bentinck to decide that “the great object of the British Government ought to be the promotion of European literature and science among the natives of India,” it may be doubted whether any of the men who took part in that historic controversy fully realised the momentous character of the decision which closed it. Lord Macaulay himself, though laying stress on the civilizing influence of the languages of Western Europe, seems to have regarded the whole question mainly from the literary point of view, and to have had no inkling of the far-reaching consequences, social, religious, and political, which the Governor-General’s decision involved not for India only, but possibly for the whole of Asia. This need not surprise us. Lord Macaulay was in the first place a man of letters—that was the natural bent of his mind, and he lives for us and for the world in that character. He was a statesman only in a secondary degree, and I am doing no wrong to his deservedly great reputation—a reputation which the Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University should ever be the first to honour—when I say that he has no claim to be venerated as a prophet. He was the Columbus of Education in India, but he too realised very imperfectly the full importance of his discovery. He thought he had found an old world, when he had really created a new one—the India of the future. But without travelling beyond the literary aspects of the question, no one can fail to see that the marvellous spread of the study of the English language and literature in India is one of the most remarkable phenomena in the history of the world. Where else shall we find an instance of the leading classes of the population of a large continent, classes representing several distinct nations and speaking diverse languages—adopting of their own free will a foreign language for the expression of their most highly educated thought and feeling? Here is no question of Government influence or pressure—of a Russia striving to extirpate the Polish language from Poland, and using every device open to a really despotic Government to discourage and prohibit its use. Such things have been done, but not in India and not by England. Nothing indeed is more striking than the spontaneous character of the demand for English education in Bengal, and the comparatively small extent to which it has been artificially fostered by Government. When a stranger entering one of our district courts hears the advocates on both sides arguing in fluent English, his first thought would naturally be that we had followed the example of the Mahomedan rulers of Bengal and had made English, as they made Persian, the official language of the courts. Nothing of the kind, however, has been attempted or thought of. The vernacular of each province is the language of the courts, and the daily increasing use of English in pleadings and other public business is due solely to the zeal with which the upper and middle classes have given themselves to the study of that language. Historical parallels to such a state of things are hard to find. Instances are not wanting where the people of one country have derived their standard of literary excellence from the great writers of another country, but the influence thus exercised has usually been limited to style and treatment, and has not proved strong enough to induce men to turn to a foreign language as offering the readiest and most telling medium for the expression of

their best thoughts. The Roman students of Greek literature did not write in Greek, nor was their close imitation of foreign models conceived of as undertaken with any other purpose than that of purifying and perfecting their own literature. Things went further, it will be said, in the Western Provinces of the Roman Empire, and, centuries later, in those parts of America which fell under Spanish influence. But in each of these cases the change of language which took place was initiated by the colonizing activity of the ruling race, and was favoured by the fact that the languages displaced were little better than barbarous dialects. Turning now from historical analogies, which are mostly futile, and may easily prove misleading, we may find much in the present state of things to arouse our keenest interest. No one is now disposed to overlook the importance of the intellectual movement that is taking place throughout India. The tendency in fact is somewhat of the opposite character. The critics fully recognise the vigour of the forces at work, and are inclined on the whole to exaggerate rather than to undervalue the actual results that have been or shortly will be produced. “We are giving,” says a philosophic observer of Oriental modes of thought, “we are giving to the Indians leisure and education, the scientific method, and the critical spirit; we are opening to them the flood-gates behind which Western knowledge is piled in far greater volume than the stream of Grecian philosophy which the Romans distributed over their Empire.” Sir Alfred Lyall goes on to predict, as the consequence of our gifts to the people of India, a wide and rapid transformation of religion within two or three generations. The same line of thought may be traced in other writers who have perhaps less claim to our respectful attention than the late Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces, the founder of the sister University of Allahabad. All agree in prophesying great things of the new learning, and in speculating on the manifold changes which it may be expected to effect in all departments of human life in India. Now, it seems to me that this tendency to indulge in general statements, is one which requires to be carefully watched and, strictly controlled, if we would avoid the danger of deceiving ourselves and the rest of the world. The precept of self-knowledge is perhaps the most enduring maxim of the ancient philosophers. It is certainly one to which we may profitably turn our attention to-day. Here in Calcutta, at the centre of Western learning and culture in the East, the Delphi whence oracles issue to all Indian worshippers at the shrine of knowledge,—here surely is a fitting place, as the close of our academic year is the appropriate time, for enquiring what fruits the tree of knowledge has borne for the peoples of India. There are those who see in it even now a mere exotic sapling which will never grow into a serviceable tree, while others hold that its roots have already struck deep, and that its branches are destined to over-spread Asia and renew the failing life of the East. By the fruits only can we know which of these opinions is the nearer to the truth, and it is for this reason that I ask you to follow me now in an attempt to form some estimate of the actual results, social, religious, and political, of the English teaching of the Calcutta University. I feel that any one who addresses the members of an Indian University on this subject must be much in the position of the intelligent foreigner who figures so conspicuously in the social apologues of the eighteenth century. From the nature of the case he can observe things only from the outside, and he must expect that some of the more obscure causes will escape his view altogether. But making full allowance for this source of error, it strikes me that many of the changes which may be put down to Western influence lie only on the surface of Indian life, and that the really important factors in the social system are comparatively unaffected. No doubt there has been an enormous increase in the number of people who speak English, some prejudices regarding food have been laid aside, European dress is beginning to be fashionable, and one of the most ancient usages of Eastern etiquette has been abolished by the agency of Western boot-makers. Travelling has become more general, Indian social ideas have adapted themselves to the requirements of railways, the fullest use is made of the Post Office and the Telegraph, and every inclination is shown to take advantage of the comforts and conveniences which European ingenuity has to offer. But below this veneer of imported civilisation what signs can we discern of the weightier social changes which Western teaching might have been expected to induce? The elaborate scheme of prohibitions on intermarriage, which is called the caste system, appears to be as strong now as it was when Lord Macaulay was in India. Here and there the stringency of a rule may have been relaxed, but in its essentials the system is the same. Members of different castes can no more intermarry now than they could then, and the leading principle of the institution thus remains unshaken in spite of its manifest incompatibility with the precepts of Western culture. It may be said that to argue thus is to ask too much, that the habits of centuries cannot be unlearned in a few years, and that ideas only just struggling into existence must needs work imperfectly for a time. With the voice of warning which deprecates too rapid advance, I am, I need hardly say, entirely in accord. But if the spirit of English education had really penetrated among the people of Bengal as deeply as is alleged, might we not expect it to have effected something more definite in the way of promoting social progress and in-

dividual freedom? Could anything be more opposed to the liberal spirit by which modern India affects to be animated than the rule forbidding a widow to take a second husband, and the custom, so injurious to the physical and intellectual vigour of the race, which requires a girl to be married before she attains puberty? These blemishes are gross and palpable; they are of comparatively recent origin; and the Indian of the Vedic or Epic ages would have condemned them as strongly as the Englishman of to-day. The hesitation to attack them in earnest can only be due to the fact that the deeper lessons of English education have not really been learned; that the Indian ideal of life is still contemplative rather than active; and that the notion of going forth to combat great abuses is as strange and distasteful as that of adopting a profession which demands physical exertion as one of the conditions of success. But this contemplative habit of mind which prefers ideas to realities, theory to practice, book-learning to the observation of facts, whatever may be its weakness in the domain of action, becomes a source of strength directly we enter the cloud-land of religion. It is the fashion of the day to assume that European science and philosophy are making short work of the Hindoo religion. The distinguished writer whom I have already quoted thinks we "may conjecture that its roots are being effectually cut away," and this is a fair specimen of the tone in which the subject is usually treated. Such conjectures, if not wholly erroneous, are certainly much in advance of the evidence. This is not the place, nor have I now the time, to enter upon any lengthy discussion of the prospects of Hindooism in its encounter with European science. But the question reminds me, of the famous scene in the "Talisman" where Cœur de Lion and Saladin try their weapons. To my mind it seems as impossible for Western science to shatter the impalpable fabric of Hindooism as it was for the sword of the English King to cut through the silken cushion of the Syrian Chief. It may even be argued that in its capacity for resisting the onslaughts of science and criticism the Hindoo religion has some positive advantages over faiths of a more rigidly dogmatic type. Thus much at least is certain, the Hindooism, so far from falling to pieces in the presence of Western thought, is extending itself remarkably in certain directions. Railways have facilitated and popularised the characteristic Hindoo duty of pilgrimage, while the opening up of remote tracts of country yearly swells the ranks of a religion conspicuous for its power of adapting itself to novel conditions. If, then, in social and religious matters the tangible results arising from the teaching of this University are on the whole insignificant, to what cause should we assign the fact that its general influence is held so high?

(To be Continued.)

## DACCA.

January 19, 1889.

Little of interest has transpired here since the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava left our town. And now that the celebrated Kartik Baruni Mela is drawing to a close, a word about it may not be uninteresting to your readers. It begins in December and lasts for two months. Traders from different parts of the country, meet here with varieties of articles of commerce. Situated as it is along the banks of the Dhaleswari, near the junction of the Megna, the Burigunga and the Pudma, this Mela occupies a pretty convenient site. It is only a few minutes' journey from Munshigunj, and the Dhaleswari separates it from Naraingunj, the port of East Bengal. Hundreds of shops are set up in rows, and commodities of different kinds are offered for sale. Cloths, metalware, timber, stationery, &c., are all to be found in abundance. But what struck me most was the absence of any country-made cloths throughout this big Mela, whose fame has spread so far and wide. It is a pity that native industry is gradually decaying, and we will no more hear of it ere long, if our public men do not pay immediate attention to its encouragement. But, after all, this Mela is a grand affair and ought to command the attention of those who take any interest in the commercial prosperity of India. Our patriots would be well advised to encourage this and similar other institutions in different parts of the country.

Fire worked its utmost horrors in some parts of the town only the other day. Many native sheds and huts were burnt down and heavy damage was done to the poor inmates. We fondly hope that the big folks of Dacca will not stint their liberality to render every possible help to those who suffered from the late outbreak of fire.

We are having a splendid time of it now; the weather is fine, the sky clear, and general health good: Rice is selling at Rs. 2-4 to Rs. 3-8 a maund, but the prospects of crop are anything but favourable.

*Holloway's Ointment.*—Miners and Workers in the Goldfields. This invaluable and renowned Ointment is extensively used and patronized by such people to their very great advantage, being easy of application and portable in small compass. When used in conjunction with Holloway's Pills in accordance with the clear and concise directions for use which accompany each pot and box, there are but few of the diseases which afflict mankind which will not yield to the sanative powers of the combined remedies. Holloway's Ointment and Pills do not deteriorate by keeping nor by change of climate, and as they contain no deleterious mineral drug, they can be used with the most perfect safety under the most adverse climatic and sanitary conditions.

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PRESENCE OF

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## MASSED BANDS.

Gates open from 4-30 to 11 P.M.,

Admission fee Re. 1, Children 4 As.

Saturday, 2nd February,

From 1 o'Clock to 4-30 p. m.

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If any Native Gentlemen should wish to see the arrangements made for the Zenana Ladies, and will previously communicate with Lady Wilson, 34, Chowringhee, she will be happy to meet them at the Free

School, on Thursday, the 31st instant, between 10 a. m. and 12 noon.

## Rivers Steam Navigation Co. "Limited."

## ASSAM AND CACHAR LINE NOTICE.

This Company's Steamer "MYSORE" will leave Calcutta for Assam on Friday the 25th inst., and on Tuesday the 22nd idem the Steamer "OUDH" will leave Calcutta for Cachar.

All cargo for shipment by either of the above vessels should be sent to the Company's Godowns at Juggannauth Chat the day previous to the vessels leaving Calcutta.

## DHUBRI & DEBROOGHUR MAIL SERVICE.

The Steamers of this Service leave Dhubri daily immediately on arrival of the mails from Calcutta, and are connected with the E. B. S. Railway for booking of traffic through to river stations.

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## NOTICE.

In accordance with the Resolution of the Government of Bengal in the General Department, dated the 6th March 1886, published on page 541 of the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 31st of the same month, notice is hereby given that an examination for the admission of female students to the certificate class of the Calcutta Medical College will be held in the Theatre of that College on Tuesday, the 12th February 1889, and following days.

*Hours and Subjects of Examination.*

*Tuesday.*—English dictation, Grammar, and Composition—from 1 to 4 P.M.

*Wednesday.*—History of England and India. Geography: General, and of India in particular from 1 to 4 P.M.

*Thursday.*—Arithmetic: the first four rules, vulgar and decimal fractions, and proportion—from 1 to 4 P.M.

Candidates must apply in writing to the Principal of the Medical College, Calcutta, not later than Saturday, the 9th February, for permission to appear at the examination.

Applications for permission to reside in the Sarnamayi Hostel should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary to the Bengal Branch of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund, 36, Chowringhee, Calcutta.

A. CROFT,

*Director of Public Instruction.*

The 7th January 1889.

## THE SILVER JUBILEE

OF THE

## MAHOMEDAN LITERARY SOCIETY.

The Society having completed a career of a Quarter of a Century, will hold its *Twenty-Fifth Annual Conversazione*, at the Town Hall, on Monday, the 28th January 1889, at 9 P.M.

ABDOOL LUTEEF,

*Secretary.*

## READ THIS CAREFULLY.

Strong, accurate, pretty, open-faced Nickel silver short winding Keyless Railway Regulator, of small size, jewelled, enamelled dial, bold figures and hands, shewing two times with tempered machinery and dust tight cases for only Rs. 7-8 per V. P. P. with spare glass, spring, box and guarantee. Warranted to stand rough usage. Can be easily repaired. Have no appearance of cheapness about them. Others sell at double our rates. Mr. A. R. Mehta from Bandora says:—"The 7-8 watch I purchased from you two years back, gives correct time as yet." Acting Superintendent, Government Farm, Khandesh, says:—"A watch maker has valued your Rs. 7-8 watch for Rs. 15." Mr. J. Sutcliffe, R. W. Fusil, Regt., Lucknow, says:—"Some valued it at Rs. 15 and were completely surprised when I told them it only costs Rs. 7-8." Pretty Canadian Gold Chains, Lozets, Pencils, complete shirt Studs and Rings set with chemical diamonds, rubies, &c., at Rs. 2 each. Mr. J. A. Yelmsore, Satur, says:—"The best goldsmith of this place values the chain for Rs. 7 and the locket for Rs. 10." Mr. G. Smith, Salt Inspector, Sanikutta, says:—"A German valued the diamond ring at Rs. 50 and the ruby at Rs. 30." WESTERN INDIA TRADING CO., BOMBAY.

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Behar and Orissa.)

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1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street,  
CALCUTTA.

## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Fariduddin Jah Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*, October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to

his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the vigorous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whether he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how central is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most envying description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course:—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract].—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

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AND

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## CONTEMPORARY VERSE.

### THE SOLILOQUY OF MARCO.

In Manzoni's tragedy *Il Conte di Carmagnola*, translated from the Italian, Marco, a Venetian senator, the count's intimate friend, is confidentially informed by the Council of Ten that an order has been despatched recalling Carmagnola from the command of the army, with a view to his trial for alleged treasonable designs against the state. He is then induced to sign a paper, pledging himself to impart to no one the secret which has been thus communicated to him. His weakness of mind, infirmity of purpose, and treachery to his friend occasion a soliloquy, of which the following is a free translation :

A villain I—the die already cast—  
Virtue's broad line irrevocably pass'd—  
Tempted and fallen—ere this morning's light  
How little knew I mine own soul aright !  
Oh ! what a secret have I learnt this day ;  
And could I then my trusting friend betray ?  
Mark yon assassin lure him to the snare—  
Yon flashing blade, yet whisper not "beware ?"  
I *might* have saved my friend—he now must bleed—  
And Heav'n, which I invoked, shall watch the deed.  
This hand hath signed his doom ; if blood be spilt,  
I am the damning cause—be mine the guilt.  
What have I done ? why fear'd ? had I forgot  
That life is oft preserved when virtue's not ?  
Whence, then, this treacherous oath, and whence this fear ?  
Were these grey hairs, or was my friend most dear ?  
All-seeing God ! vouchsafe thine high control ;  
Binge Thou my mental eye—lay bare my soul,  
That I may know what caused this abject state,  
Whether 't was dulness, cowardice, or fate.  
When thou, my friend, shalt see (how deep the shame !)  
Mid yon vile signatures, thy Marco's name—  
That *he* invites thee—doubt shall yield to joy—  
Mistrust to faith—O God ! 't is I destroy ;  
Yet spoke they not of mercy—such, forsooth,  
As reckless power awards to naked truth.  
Mercy to him ! 't was named because his heart  
Sought noble pretext for its treacherous part ;  
Fear had done much, perchance without avail—  
Mercy's brief mention turned the trembling scale ;  
Fool did I trust, but villain did I not,  
Or reason's rule or virtue's was forgot.  
To each these traitors have his part assigned  
By the dark guilt inherent in his mind—  
To this the wreathed smile—to that the steel—  
The third in brutal threats enured to deal ;  
My part to make the tragic game complete,  
Was base submission and most vile deceit ;  
And I sustain it—baser far than they  
Whom, whilst I scorn, I fear to disobey.  
I sought him out—was dazzled by his fame—  
His lofty genius and commanding name.  
Oh ! wherefore thought I not what onerous woes  
Strict ties of friendship with the great impose ?

Why did I seek up Fame's rude height to toil,  
Partake the danger and divide the spoil ?  
My proffered hand he grasped, and now betray'd—  
Beset by foes—that hand withdraws its aid.  
Waking, he seeks his friend, and where am I ?  
One look of quiet scorn—he turns to die.  
What have I done ? nought yet ? yon fatal scroll  
Bears a deep oath—'t is graven on my soul ;  
Yet if that oath were wrongful, Conscience' voice  
Bids me abjure it—such be then my choice.  
'A vast abyss yawns darkly 'neath mine eyes.'  
One step, and I am lost ; then hold, be wise ;  
Is there no *middle* course, my friend—mine oath ?  
One word of warning shall destroy us both.  
'T was a mere threat perchance—perchance 't was true.  
The dreadful truth breaks flashing on my view ;  
No righteous council left. Mid your dark spell,  
Dissembling knaves, one thing at least is well ;  
Yourselves have shaped the course that I shall go.  
Yours be the obloquy, be mine the woe.  
Nought will I do—enslaved and fettered still,  
To your vile keeping I submit my will.  
Land of my birth, adieu ! I ask no more  
Than speedy death ere tidings from thy shore.  
Here—urgent dangers mock my ling'ring stay,  
And Heaven's especial grace ordains my way ;  
I may not die for thee, most cherish'd lot,  
And all thy pride and fame avail me not.  
Integrity and friendship once were mine,  
Both these I yield—rare offerings—at thy shrine ;  
Do thou benignant teach me to control  
The deep misgivings of a guilty soul !

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

ARRANGEMENTS are being made with the new Meteorological Reporter of Bombay, for publishing a daily weather chart and report at the expense of the Chamber of Commerce and the Port Trust. So much for *Primus in Indis*.

THE *East* of Dacca of the 2nd inst. opens with this modest piece of information—which is doubtless going the round of our press—

"The present King of Siam has forty thousand wives !"

But which King ? For that strange country enjoys the rare luxury of more than one at the same time. The Second King's honour must require at least 30,000 of Eve's daughters to wed. Such a wide field of royal matrimony must produce an enormous mass of princes who must also marry at a princely rate, say 20,000 and 15,000 for the two Crown Princes, 15,000 and 10,000 for the Heirs Presumptive, and 4,000 on the average for each of the rest. Then there must be princesses and bridegrooms to provide for many of them. Altogether there is not room left for domestics for this family host, to say nothing of such superfluities as ministers and executive officers, in the capital which has a population of only 400,000 souls.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

ALL the English and Americans, who leased extensive lands in Goa for agricultural purposes, have, it is said, given them up. The soil is not adapted for growing coffee, opium, cinchona, &c., the taxes are high, and the Portuguese Government refuses to open out roads in the interior which it promised. Portugal remains Portugal still—the sister of “proud hopeless Spain.”

SIR John Gorst—Under-Secretary for India at the India Office—is to be promoted to one of the Secretaryships for Her Majesty. It is rumoured that Sir Richard Temple and two other well-known Anglo-Indian M. P.s are in the running for the place to be vacated.

A SHANGHAI telegram of the 6th says that the British Consulate at Chinkiang, and seven houses of the “outer-barbarians” have been burnt to the ground. There was a riot, we are told, against the foreigners, and Her Majesty's sloop of war *Mutine* has been sent to the scene of disturbance.

THE Legislative Council of the N. W. Provinces has completed the first three years of its existence. The official members Messrs. Woodburn and McConaghey go out, their places being filled by Messrs. W. C. Bennett and E. White. The non-official members—Mr. Conlan, Sir Syed Ahmed, Maharaja Partab Narayan Singh, Rai Bahadur Durga Prasad and Pandit Ajudha Nath—have been re-elected. It is evident Sir Auckland Colvin has conceived no prejudice against the Hon'ble Pandit for his fervid Congressal zeal, though after the foolish language of welcome at the Allahabad opening, he might well doubt the fitness of the speaker for the sober business of legislation in the new Chamber of Upper India.

THE mortal remains of the Eurasian leader of the South, Mr. D. S. White, were buried on the 2nd. About a thousand people of every section of the community—Europeans, Eurasians, Mahomedans and Hindus—attended. There were the Governor's Military Secretary, representing the Governor, Members of Council, the Director of Public Instruction, and other European Officials. The coffin was borne in procession formed by the Councillors of the Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Association, of which the deceased was President, the Volunteer Artillery and the Volunteer Guards, the band playing the Dead March.

RAJA Sir T. Madhava Row gave a garden-party to meet Lord and Lady Conmeara on the 2nd. It was a melancholy day, on which the great Eurasian was buried, and we are not well pleased to hear that the chiefs of the European and Native Indian communities, including the Maharaja of Mysore, the Raja of Bobbili, and the Jaghuda of Atri, attended. Something of the callousness of the grave diggers in *Hamlet* was shown by those who proceeded from the one scene to the other. Sir Madhava Row calls himself The Native Thinker, and delights on every conceivable occasion to lash his neighbours for their sins, real or imaginary. Strange, that such a man should have been so thoughtless. Indeed, all Madras seems to have been a party to the indecency of a social dissipation on that day. The party ought to have been postponed by advertisement or private circular.

THE Raja of Bilaspur died on the 3rd. He leaves a minor son studying in the Chiefs' College, Lahore.

ISHAK KHAN has settled at Samarkand. His three brothers are in India under surveillance. As no house could be found for them at Mizapore, they have, at the suggestion of the Commissioner of Benares, been sent to Chunar.

THE Amir has appointed Mir Ahmad Shah Governor of Badakshan, with Sher Afzal Khan of Chitral as Deputy.

The Superintendence of the Revenue Department has been given to Mir Shams-ud-Din Khan.

MAJOR Drummond and Captain Hogg, on special deputation in connection with the utilization of the forces of the Native States for imperial purposes, have gone to Cashmere to reorganize the Maharaja's forces.

ON the 2nd, at a full darbar, assisted by the Resident, the Maharaja of Cashmere commenced the works for a pure water-supply for Jummoo. They have been entrusted to Messrs. Atfield and Hebbert, who have done the same thing for the Rawalpindi Municipality. This improvement will cost the Durbar several lacs. The Government of India telegraphed its congratulations to the Maharaja for “this liberal and useful measure.”

THE Maharaja of Jeypore, for his practical contribution to the defence of the Empire, has agreed to always keep ready at his own cost a thousand transport animals fully equipped for active service.

RAJA Surja Kanta Acharja Chaudhuri Bahadur, of Muktagacha, has given to the Saraswat Samiti, of which the Magistrate Mr. R. C. Dutt has been elected President, the Jubilee land and Fair. We expect great things from the infusion of new blood, the vigour of the President and the support of the local landlords.

AT the late Convocation of the Bombay University, the endowments for the year amounting to nearly a lac of Rupees were announced.

DURING his late stay at Poona for the sake of health, the Maharaja Holkar gave away Rs. 11,000 to the educational and other charities of the place.

RAJA Govind Lal Roy has subscribed Rs. 100 to the Broughton Institution.

THE Joint-Magistrate of Alipore has committed to the Sessions a girl of 16 for culpable homicide of another girl of her age. The two were the wives of a Mahomedan who paid more attention to the deceased than to the surviving wife. This the latter resented, and in proof belaboured her rival from the effects of which operation she died. The accused pleaded guilty.

A BENGAL Brahman, Girdhari Ram—a discharged private of the Queen's Sappers and Miners stationed at Bangalore—has been tried for using criminal force to the Commander-in-Chief Sir Charles Arbuthnot and sentenced by the Station District Magistrate to 3 months' hard labor. The charge was that the condemned Brahman had seized the Commander-in-Chief's bridle at a general parade, intending to force him to receive a petition. The prisoner only admitted that he wished to bring his grievances to His Excellency's notice but had no intention of using criminal force.

SURGEON-MAJOR KEITH having died of cholera at Poona, Surgeon Kilkelly has been appointed Surgeon to His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught. There was an unsuccessful attempt to trace the disease to the tinned provisions served to the royal party at Hyderabad.

ANOTHER Court-Martial at Mhow. Lieutenant Kreyer, Adjutant of the 17th Bombay Infantry, has been under arrest since the Bulkley trial. He is charged in connection with the estate of Captain Mercer of whose Committee of Adjustment the Lieutenant was President.

SIR AUCKLAND COLVIN has concluded his seasonal tour, and reaches Allahabad to-day.

COLONEL MALLOCK, Director-General of Telegraphs, has been granted a year's extension of office.

SURGEON-MAJOR GREGG, now officiating as Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal, will be continued in the post. Brigade-Surgeon Liddell's term of service has expired.

THE Crawford Commissioners have sent in their report.

THE Junagadh-Vinaval section of the Kathiawar Railway was opened on the 1st instant.



THE Municipal Commissioners have recommended to the Government the demolition of the old Lahore Gate of Delhi, as its narrowness is a hindrance to traffic.

MESSRS. Croudace and Tuck, Executive Engineers of the Great Western Indian Railway Survey, have been more successful than Mr. Horace Bell in their journey of reconnaissance from Delhi across the Jeysumir Desert to Hyderabad in Sind. They hit upon the old trade route across or rather down the sandhills. They have not yet made their report on the feasibility of the Desert Railway.

It is probable that Sir Andrew Clarke will be the Chairman of the Delhi-Ambala-Kalka Railway Company. The prospectus of the Company provides for a capital of £800,000.

FOR adjustment of financial transactions between the British and Indian Governments, for the year 1889-90, the Secretary of State for India has, with the concurrence of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, fixed the rate of exchange at 1s. 4½d. in the rupee.

THE convention between Great Britain and Siam, for regulating the traffic in spirituous liquors, comes into operation from the 1st of April next.

THE accelerated experimental mail service from Calcutta to Bombay begins on Wednesday the 20th. A special train will start on Wednesdays at 8 P.M. in connection with the homeward Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's contract steamers. The trial will last only 8 weeks.

THE following interesting figures have lately appeared :—

"The Parisian Library contains 2,200,000 volumes. There are 500 libraries existing in France, which contain 4,598,000 volumes and 135,000 manuscripts, which represent 12½ volumes per every 100 inhabitants. Austria possesses 577 libraries, containing 5,476,803 volumes, leaving the manuscripts out of consideration, which gives an average of 16.8 volumes per 100 persons. Prussia has 398, containing 2,940,450 volumes and 58,000 manuscripts, or 11 volumes per 100 inhabitants. Russia has 145 libraries only, which contain 252,000 volumes and 24,300 manuscripts, say 1.3 volumes per 100 Russians."

THE Lieutenant-Governor, attended only by his Private Secretary, left for Cooch Behar by yesterday's afternoon mail train.

THOMAS BARTON *alias* Cave, of Macclesfield, England, charged with forging stock transfers of the London and North-Western Railway Company, to the value of £20,000, has been arrested in America.

THE Bombay High Court has sent a Jew, Abram Salam, to jail for 5 years, for the brutality of biting off his wife's nose. The modern world declines the wilder forms of justice, or else it is cases like this in which the *similia similibus* principle of the Old Jewish jurisprudence might be practised with best effect. Five years is a terrible punishment, no doubt, but it falls upon guilty and innocent alike. The true treatment for these wretches who abuse their power and opportunities over helpless woman is, besides imprisoning for a shorter term, to whip them in public and brand them in addition for a second offence.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

AS we anticipated, Mr. Parnell's suit against the *Times*, in the Scotch Court, has been dismissed with costs, for want of jurisdiction.

SNOW has fallen heavily on the Jelep Pass, making the communication between Gnatong and Chumbi Valley difficult. The Tibetan troops have dispersed in the Chumbi Valley. The Chinese Ampa is vegetating at Rinchingong. Mr. Paul has gone back to Darjeeling and moves on to Gnatong. The Connaught Rangers are on their march up the Teesta Valley en route to Gnatong to the relief of the Derbyshire Regiment. Where is Mr. Hart?

THE Soorajis, subjects of the Mandi State, have lost all patience with the prevailing misgovernment. They have adopted constitutional

methods. They spare the Chief, and lay all the blame on the minister, only they want to compel the former to give them the right to choose the minister. With this object, they have collected themselves to the number of some thousands to march on the capital. This is a very interesting movement, and we hope, Sir Mortimer Durand will be in no hurry to support a despicable constituted authority. There is not the remotest fear of the exasperated Soorajis disturbing the British peace.

UNDER the new law, the largest number of votes to which an elector in any Ward may lay claim, is 12. To enable him to do so, he must either own or live in a house assessed, for municipal rates, at an annual value of only Rs. 5,000, or Rs. 416-10-8, a month. It is significant, however, of the times, and of the way in which Calcutta is used, that the high officers of Government are not entitled to the highest privileges of the municipal electorate. According to the published list, the Chairman of the Corporation, who draws a house allowance of Rs. 500, has only 9 votes, that is, he occupies a house assessed at less than Rs. 4000; the Law Member and the Public Works Minister have only each, 10 votes, occupying houses assessed at less than Rs. 4,500; the Hon'ble J. R. O'Kinealy and the Hon'ble W. Macpherson each 9 votes, their houses being assessed at less than Rs. 4,000. The Finance Minister has 11 votes, on a house valued at less than Rs. 4,500.

THE Bengal Government has, for the first time, taken in two Mahomedans in the supervision staff of the Education Department—Moulvie Ahmad, M.A., as an Additional Assistant Inspector of Mahomedan Schools in the Dacca and the Chittagong Divisions and Moulvie Mahomed Ibrahim, B.A., an Additional Assistant Inspector of Mahomedan Schools in the Patna and the Bhagalpore Divisions. They will each draw Rs. 200 a month. Both the Government and the Mahomedan community are to be congratulated on this departure, the community for finding the necessary educational qualifications and the Government for readiness to reward them, without prejudice.

THE convenience of the value-payable parcel post has been abused by the unscrupulous for fraudulent purposes. It has been a complaint for sometime that such parcels are addressed with value attached out of all proportion to the contents, and old debts realized on fresh supplies. On the other hand, the addressees at times refuse to receive the parcels ordered, to the loss of the commission payable to the Post Office. The Postal Department has fixed upon the following expedient for protection of its own interests :—

"With effect from the 1st April, 1889, the sender of a value-payable article will be required to sign a certificate to the effect that the article is sent in execution of a *bona fide* order; and in the case of a value-payable unregistered packet, the sender will, in addition to signing the certificate referred to above, be required to prepay the usual money order commission on the amount specified for recovery from the addressee, by affixing postage stamps of the value of the commission to the form filled up by him.

2. In lieu of the forms at present filled up by the senders of value payable articles, two revised forms will be substituted from the 1st April, 1889—one for use with all value payable articles other than value payable unregistered book packets, and the other for use with value payable unregistered book packets. Each form will contain the certificate to be signed by the sender, and space is provided in the form for use with value payable unregistered packets for the postage stamps to be affixed in payment of commission.

3. In case a value-payable unregistered packet is refused by the addressee or returned as unclaimed to the sender no refund of the commission prepaid will be granted."

WE have received a complaint from Junalpoore, E. I. Railway station—not from our usual correspondent. We give it the honours of the leading columns, the more so because it gives us an opportunity for a little "palavering" with our countrymen at large, on their inherent failings and growing vices, with a view to restore the lost understanding between the European and native races.

THE same correspondent notices another grievance. We better let him give it in his unsophisticated way :—

"The prospect of retrenchment of the clerical staff in the Local Branch Offices here has sent a general consternation among the clerks who belong to this Department. It is very strange that it does not occur to any European head to dispense with the services of three or four European officials who can easily be allowed to take rest without risking the Company's efficiency and thereby save the slaughter of so many poor clerks. To dispense with the services of these is really to take away their livelihood and to make them die of starvation. We therefore leave the fate of such clerks as have spent the best portion of their lives in the service of the Company to the higher authorities' honourable decision."



OUR native friends are being exercised over the rumour that Mr. Eardley Norton intends shortly to seek to enter the House of Commons. "We should indeed be sorry," writes the *Advocate*, "to miss Mr. Norton in India, though his presence at St. Stephen's [Chapel] would no doubt be a gain to her" [it]. The writer might spare himself his anxiety. Mr. Norton is young, and, we suppose, not rich enough to retire to the *otium cum dignitate* of a member of Parliament. At any rate, he is still young and with the British scent for the main chance keen. So far from going on to England, in quest of barren parliamentary honours, he does not even return to his own Madras. Having come over to Bengal, ostensibly for the Congress, he made his observations of the country as a *pagoda* soul, and, having satisfied himself, has struck root. And now that in the family dissensions of the Pakpara Rijas he has struck oil, he may be regarded pretty nearly as a fixture already.

THE vacancy in the House of Lords caused by the death of the Earl of Mu and Kelie, of the Scotch Peerage, has been filled by the unanimous election of the Earl of Lauderdale. The news has a special Indian interest. Lord Lauderdale is an Old Indian, having been in diplomatic employ of the Government of India as Major Mutland. The death of his cousin the late Earl, in 1885, called him home. He gave up his Political Agency, and resigned the Service, to come into the possessions and take up the position of Earl of Lauderdale. The new representative Peer, like the rest of his brethren, is a Conservative. Except the Earl of Anner, who is a Liberal Unionist, all the Representative Peers of Scotland are Conservatives.

A GOOD deal of surprise has been caused by the report of Mr. S. Wilson, Secretary to the District Board, Shajehanpore, to the Director of Public Instruction, N. W. Provinces, to the effect that in no fewer than five of the schools in the District, visited by him, he had found girls reading together with the boys, the girls being almost all Rajputs of good family, and young.

There is nothing new in this. In Hindu families, the little boys and girls are taught together in the same classes at home. We do not refer to families that have more or less seceded from the manners and customs of their forefathers and of the rest of their countrymen, but to orthodox households. Forty years ago, might be seen at the residence of the late Raja Radhakanta Deb, K.C.S.I., the Coryphæus of Hinduism, the grand-children, boys and unmarried girls, sitting for instruction at the feet of the Gurumahasaya and the Pandit.

IT is satisfactory to find that the mission of the late lamented Russian traveller Przhevalsky to Thibet has not been abandoned, Colonel Pevtsoff having been appointed by the Government of Russia to succeed him. And now another *savant* is about to start on the same errand of making the civilised world acquainted with the unexplored regions of the Chinese Empire. M. Joseph Martin, the French traveller, is now in St. Petersburg. He will soon start for Peking. After a short stay at the Chinese capital, for making observations and arming himself with the requisite passports and orders for his safety and assistance to his mission, he will recross the Great Wall and descend down South, along side of it or the boundary which separates China Proper from the Greater China onside, till by way of Lake Koko Nor he enters the North Eastern Frontiers of Thibet. Thence he will penetrate to Lhasa for the purpose of effecting a junction with Colonel Pevtsoff. Then he will proceed East through Eastern Thibet to the Panthay country until he reaches the Pacific in Annam, in French Cochinchina. It is estimated that this programme will occupy some three years. M. Martin's is of course a pure adventure for science. The Russian expedition may have an ulterior object. At any rate, the information derived by both the travellers may be utilised for commercial and political purposes by Russia and to some extent by England and France. The Russian expedition will carry the name of the great Tsar to regions which never heard of any Power but China— which no White man has ever touched since the romantic adventures of Marco Polo. No loyal Briton and no Indian who is proud of being a citizen of the British Empire, can look upon these enterprises without a sigh at the thought that England has no share in the glory and the full advantage thereof. Englishmen are still ready as of yore, and in full numbers, for such adventures, but their own Government would not permit any of its subjects to undertake them even on their own hook, for fear of their embroiling it with barbarous chiefs and tribes, to say nothing of sending out such scientific expeditions of its own instance. Nor is the

Government to blame. It is the public temper that is to blame. The habit of hostile criticism on the slightest pretext into which we in these days have got, has had a paralysing effect on rulers.

SPEAKING at the Liverpool Junior Reform Club, on the 3rd January, Mr. Labouchere made a desperate raid on the Parnell Commission, with the obvious object of prejudging the inquiry going on, in favour of his party and of Mr. Parnell. He gave the Judges, the Government, the *Times* and all round, a good round slice of his Laboucherean mind and a typical sample of Laboucherean rhetoric. We have not heard that he has been taken up for contempt. Our Surrender Not was seized on a comparatively smaller exhibition. The *Bengalee* newspaper's language was uncalled for and indeed utterly indefensible. But it was evident that it was mere idle extravagance of speech of a foreigner not quite at home in the use of English epithets and allusions. The writer was scarcely conscious of how far his words went. No man who knows what is what, would think of seriously calling a contemporary Judge of the High Court of Bengal a *Jeffries* or a *Scroggs*. Far different is the case with Mr. Labouchere. A veteran publicist and adroit debater, he knows what he is about when he perpetrates such an outrage as his late speech amounts to. He is reported to have said that—

"those three Judges had to make a political report, not a report upon the criminal question, because the criminal issue had not yet come before them. What did they know about politics? Not more than three old women knew about them. He believed that the *Times* was hoping and hoping that Sir James Hannen or one of the other Commissioners might be taken ill. They were staving off the evil day when they would have to submit the evidence in regard to the letters. He knew this,—that when they did submit their evidence, not only would it be proved that Mr. Parnell and the other gentlemen accused did not write the letters, but it would be shown who did write the letters, and what the *Times* basely paid for them. In regard to that Commission, could anything be more unfair than the action of the Government?"

We have always denied the doctrine of *sub judice*, regarding it as an idle superstition, one of many such which have been handed down to the British from the darkness of the past. We have never hesitated to comment on pending litigation whenever the public interest required such interference. So far as Mr. Labouchere's example is a protest against the mischievous demand on the public to hold their tongue till a cause has been irrevocably determined in the courts, we welcome the authority of the experienced journalist and powerful Parliamentarian. None the less do we regret his aberration in the above. Such outbursts not only vulgarise political and social life, but actually make for anarchy.

WITHIN the short time of its existence as a habitable place, Queensland has already acquired an unenviable notoriety. Of all the wild shores in the far distance on which Europe discharges her superfluous or too disagreeable children, that is the worst Saxon sink. If New South Wales and other neighbouring Colonies were peopled by the true patriots who left their country for their country's good, the Pilgrim Fathers of Queensland were *Walers* and *Victorians* who relieved their respective Colonies of their presence. The Queenslanders have got a leader after their mind. A Sydney Letter dated January 11, in a contemporary thus describes Sir Thomas McIlwraith, their favorite Premier:

"From a quiet English point of view, this man is a regular 'terror.' It was he who at a former period 'annexed' the whole of New Guinea, without even consulting England! It was he who during a late visit to Sydney told the native Australians that the day was coming when Australia should be independent of Great Britain! It was he who so opposed the late Governor of Queensland, Sir Anthony Musgrave, in the exercise of the Royal prerogative of pardon, that Sir Anthony was advised from home to give way, and it is believed that Sir Anthony's end was hastened by it. And now it is the same Sir Thomas McIlwraith who would not receive Sir Henry Blake when appointed Governor to succeed Sir Anthony, and demanded that the colonies should be consulted! The best or the worst of it is that he has had his way, and Sir Henry Blake has given place to Sir Henry Norman, late Governor of Jamaica. You all must remember Sir Henry Norman well, as he was in Lord Mayo's Council, and I am extremely sorry Sir Henry Norman has accepted the appointment. Knowing so much of McIlwraith and Queensland as I do, I can predict that the gallant old Indian soldier will find his position a most uncomfortable one. Of all these colonies, the Queenslanders are the most vulgar and impudent, and, going back to ever so many Governors, I can only recall how they have disgusted and baggered them till they were glad to leave. The Marquis of Normanby, who was so successful afterwards in New Zealand and in Victoria, was glad to leave before his time. I forget who followed him. After him Sir Arthur Kennedy was literally boycotted, because he had a few Chinese servants. After him followed Sir Anthony Musgrave, whose life they made miserable till he died. It was, I think, a mistake on the part of the Colonial Office to give into

Queensland in the matter of Blake's appointment. New South Wales and Victoria are colonies whose co-operation England should always secure, for they are populous and wealthy, and their aid in time of war will be appreciable. As for Queensland with her 300,000 or 400,000, over an immense extent of territory, she will never offer any aid for the next century, but will rather herself need strong protection. She might have been left without a Governor for a time, if only to show her impotence and insignificance, and to show other colonies the sad state in which they would land if bereft of England's lead and headship. As it is, she has had her own way, and will be more bumptious than ever, at the same time that an old and gallant soldier's life will be made miserable. The sort of Governor that would suit Queensland is a man like Sir John Thurston, of Fiji, one, I believe, who will be able to return the vulgar Colonists snub for snub, and twist Sir Thomas Mellwraith round his finger. Sir Thomas Mellwraith feels so ashamed of the part he has been lately playing, in predicting Australian independence, in badgering Sir Anthony Musgrave to death, and in demanding a Governor whom *he* would approve, that he pretends to be very ill, and has gone off on a visit to China and Japan! He is a square block of flesh weighing at least some twenty stones! Let me advise no respectable high-class Governor ever to accept Queensland if they wish to be happy, or to have their most ordinary feelings respected."

The aristocratic Norman, with his high polish and stately manners, is not the man for this wretched Colony. The ministry ought to find for it a desperate Muscular Christian, or for that matter, Heathen.

THE Sessions Judge of Allahabad has confirmed the conviction, by the Cantonment Magistrate, of Captain Hearsey, for whipping the editor of the *Pioneer*. Addressing the Captain, Mr. Elliot, said:—

"As I said to-day at the beginning of the case, the pleas you have urged with regard to your being a European British subject do not avail. In the first place, you were not prejudiced, because Captain Hewett is a Magistrate of the First Class and a Justice of the Peace, and it is also provided that the omission to ask you the question referred to does not invalidate the proceeding. Thus, there remain your pleas which have been urged in extenuation and with a view to the amelioration of the punishment. As to this, I have only to say that the punishment which has been inflicted upon you is that which is provided in cases of hurt inflicted under grave and sudden provocation. The provocation in your case was not even grave certainly not sudden, because the article of which you complain is dated January 1st, and the assault was committed on the 4th January. Neither was it grave, for so far as what you have said in regard to a reflection on your courage goes, it is plain that the words do not bear that construction. There is no reflection on your personal courage whatever. The writer did not name you. There is nothing to show that he knew you. The assault was premeditated and unwarrantable. We have the fact that, between 1880 and January 1st, 1888, you have been convicted three times of acts of violence. In one case there seems to have been in some degree an excuse, but in the other two, there was none. Besides that, there was another act of violence proved against you, the exact date of which does not appear. This being so, I am of opinion that you have failed to make out any case for the reduction of the sentence, and I affirm it."

Captain Hearsey applied for bail, pending another appeal. The Judge was sorry he had no power, but an application lay to the High Court for revision. The Captain was then arrested. Having so passionately resented the expressions "Half caste" and "Brown Captain," Captain Hearsey was bound to stand on his rights as a British-born. But the Judge disposed of that plea saying that the convicting Magistrate was a Magistrate of the First Class and a Justice of the Peace, and that the omission of the question—whether the appellant was a European British subject or not—did not invalidate the proceeding. The only section which saves the invalidity of proceedings is section 455 of the Code (of Criminal Procedure) and it runs in these words:—

"Where a person who is not an European British subject is dealt with as such under this Chapter (XXXIII), and does not object, the inquiry, commitment, trial or sentence (as the case may be) shall not, by reason of such dealing, be invalid."

The concluding portion of the previous section on which, we believe, the Captain rested his appeal, is in these words:—

"Unless the Magistrate has reason to believe that any person brought before him is not an European British subject, the Magistrate shall ask such person whether he is such a subject or not."

Captain Hearsey has reason to be more indignant at the treatment he received in Court than at the expressions in the *Pioneer*. What reason had the Magistrate for his belief, or the Judge to say ditto to Mr. Magistrate? Language could not be plainer nor mandate more peremptory. But what did the defendant gain by the clear provision of the law?

THE annual meeting of the Association for the supply of medical aid to the women of India passed off with *clat* on the 7th, Lord Launsdowne in the Chair, supported by Sir Stuart Bayley and cheered by the presence of Lady Launsdowne. We shall notice the proceedings more fully in our next.

THE enterprising editor of that excellent weekly *Hope* has issued the first instalment of his promised European and American Reminiscences. It is an unpretending little thing but a remarkable book withal. The whole when completed will be a work of permanent value. We really feel proud of our author as a fellow-countryman. He not only uses the English language as one born to it, but writes with the facility, ease, and freedom of a practised penman. His matter is as interesting and useful as his manner is good. He has the gift of observation and he had unusual opportunities for seeing and judging. The book has been written with special reference to the natives of this country, but Europeans and Americans themselves might read it with profit. For our countrymen, its value is immense, inasmuch as it is a thoroughly practical record of observations replete with accurate information and helpful suggestion and intended for their guidance. We hope it will receive the widest circulation. Hereafter we may notice it in more detail.

WE are informed that Major H. Mellis paid a visit to Gwalior, under the orders of the Government of India, and, after inspecting the Forces of that State, and staying there for a couple of days, departed.

ON the important subject of drawing from Native India efficient military help for the British Indian Empire in its time of need, this is what we have learnt about this State from reliable sources. Gwalior, under her Regent and Regency Council, presided over by Bapo Saheb Jadon, is willing and ready to do her best, in all true loyalty. After full discussion, the practical measure has been decided upon. With the concurrence of the Council of Regency, Her Highness the Maharani Regent has addressed the Government of India, through Mr. Henvey, Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, offering, out of His Highness the Maharaja Madho Rao Scindha's Army, to keep a force consisting of one Regiment of Cavalry numbering 500 men, and two Regiments of Infantry numbering 1,500 men, making a total of 2,000 men, ready, in good condition and order, and fit for any active service that may be required of them by the Government of India, on occasions of emergency.

As the present strength of the Maharaja's Army is low compared with the extent of His Highness's territories, these 2,000 men, together with the rest of the forces, shall perform the ordinary duties of the State, until their services are required by Her Majesty's Government in the defence of the Empire. Her Highness trusts that whenever they have thus occasion to leave Gwalior, the State may be authorised to employ a similar number of soldiers for the performance of the ordinary duties of the State, without the inconvenience of special reference for the purpose at each time.

This is so necessary a proviso so inherent in the nature of things—that we cannot contemplate the possibility of our Foreign Office refusing the splendid offer on the terms. There may be some scruple about the first condition, namely, that the troops intended for service in aid of the British Government and equipped, commanded and trained to that end, shall form a part of the regular Forces of the State and as such perform the usual duties pertaining to the military in the State, subject only to be called out for the special service out of the limits of Gwalior. We can imagine some such difficulty started at the suggestion of the Military Department. That Department is responsible for the efficiency of the troops that may be set apart for the service of the Government of India in times of trouble. Anything likely to impair that efficiency, it has a right to protest against. There might be danger no doubt to discipline and to the military fibre from immersion in the miscellaneous nondescript, irregular and unsavoury duties of the so-called military of ordinary Native State. But there is little room for fear with respect to Gwalior. We do not know what report Major Mellis may make, but the Gwalior Forces are popularly understood to be the best drilled and disciplined of all Native India. The late Maharaja Jeyaji Rao was a born soldier, and it was his constant delight to examine and exercise his troops personally. Indeed, he allowed his sepoys and sowars no rest, and none but soldiers true and picked could stand the incessant strain or would stay. It may be confidently presumed that the troops were never put to any demoralising or relaxing duties. Nor is there now any chance in a State with such traditions, of any regiments, far less those specially marked for difficult foreign service, being depraved by a course of incompatible duties at home.

AN application was made to the Assistant Collector of Tanna, in the Bombay Presidency, for a vacant post, the applicant strengthening his claim by a certificate of a vernacular examination. It was discovered, however, that the person applying never passed the examination but he was personated by another at the examination, who obtained in the other's name the certificate of proficiency. Both these were charged with giving false information to a public servant and abetment under Sections 182 and 109 of the Indian Penal Code. The Assistant Sessions Judge found them guilty and sentenced each to 2 months' hard labor. The Sessions Judge, however, had doubts whether the acts came under the purview of the Penal Code or any other Act, and set aside the conviction. The High Court, in its turn, has held that Sec. 182 applies. Mr. Justice Jandine and Mr. Justice Candy are of opinion that the attempt to obtain an appointment by presenting a false certificate is an offence under the law.

A CURIOUS case is now engaging the courts of the South, which is not creditable to the administration. In June last, a preacher of the Madras Hindu Tract Society complained to the Deputy Magistrate of defamation and assault against a Police Inspector named Abdul Subhan. His statement was that, while he was reading the Bhagavata and comparing it with the Bible (a copy of which was placed on a chair by him) before an audience, the Inspector came up and forbade the preaching. As he was not obeyed, he kicked both books down impartially and flung the chair in a rage at the apostle, and threatened to slipper him—by which he meant not to “shoe” the Tractarian but in Bengalee “pigeon” slang “shoeify” him—and give him six months' jail into the bargain. The Deputy rejected the complaint in the absence of the Government's sanction necessary to the prosecution of a public servant. Then the Magistrate of the District was applied to for the requisite sanction, but that authority did not give the sanction. Meanwhile, the preacher applied to the High Court to have the order of the Deputy Magistrate revised. One matter was argued by both sides before the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Aiyar. For the petitioner it was urged that having grossly and palpably exceeded his powers, the Inspector had ceased to be a public servant, hence no previous sanction was required as it was in his personal capacity that he was hauled up in court. The High Court held that the Deputy Magistrate's finding that the Inspector had acted in his capacity of a public servant was final and not subject to revision by that Court. The petitioner was directed to obtain the sanction contemplated by the Code. Their Lordships thought that the allegations against the Inspector called for investigation and it was strange why sanction was withheld by the District Magistrate.

Strange to be sure in all conscience, regarded from the heights of the highest Court. But not strange in point of fact to those who know how the country is governed. Nothing is too high-handed or absurd to do for an irresponsible magistracy in India beyond the capital towns.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1889.

### A LIFTING OF THE VEIL.

MR. MACKENZIE AND HIS MALGUZARS AND MAHAJANS IN THE CENTRAL PROVINCES.

OFFICIAL tours often of late are such absolute shams—an affair of the eternal scarlet cloth and bunting and floral and leafy decorations—in the glare of the spectacular display and the soft influence of the kowtowing and soft sawdaring of an Oriental people. British visitors are so apt to go away with imperfect and even false ideas, that it was with a sense of positive relief we read in the *Statesman* recently of Mr. Mackenzie's movements through some portions of the Central Provinces conducted under very different conditions. “I have been marching,” says the Chief Commissioner, in his address at a Durbar lately held at Hoshungabad, “through the Narsingpore and Hoshungabad districts unaccompanied by any staff in order that I might be able by free intercourse with malguzars and cultivators, to enquire for myself into the condition of the

people and the state of the country at the present time.” *Unaccompanied by any staff* is often a condition essential to right seeing. Bureaucracy, surrounded by a cordon of subordinate myrmidons of every degree, down to the police, has too formidable an appearance to be favourable to real intercourse. Mr. Mackenzie cannot sufficiently be congratulated therefore for adopting a different plan of inspection, and well rewarded was he in the knowledge of things which he otherwise had had no chance of attaining. He saw to his great astonishment that orders, especially passed by the Government for the benefit and protection of the malguzars and cultivators, were practically a dead letter—that the very existence of them had not been made known to the classes so vitally concerned, although there were the tehsildars and other revenue officers whose duty it was to do so. One of these orders relates to agricultural improvements, and provides that any malguzar or cultivator who embanks his field will receive a *sunnud* from the Deputy Commissioner, the production of which at settlement will exempt the area so improved from assessment during the period of settlement. Mr. Mackenzie expresses his regret that these orders as yet are unknown to those whom they most concern. Then the rules about *Tuccavee* advances are likewise inoperative. The Chief Commissioner then presses upon the attention of his officers the importance of reviving the cultivation of sugarcane, and for its encouragement lays down a rule that wells constructed for agricultural purposes, such as growing sugarcane, will receive a similar recognition at settlement as embankments. “I wish every district officer, every tehsildar and every revenue inspector to make this new rule about improvements known in every village of the district. I have myself explained it in every village through which I have passed.”

The gradual extinction of the old territorial families in the Central Provinces, calls forth an expression of the Chief Commissioner's sincerest regret. After describing the decay of these families and the transfer of their estates mainly to money-lenders, Mr. Mackenzie addresses them words of advice in a truly parental spirit. He says:—

“This is a most melancholy state of things. The old patels and malguzars are rapidly being ruined. I found one gentleman a mere tenant-at-will on a part of what had been formerly his family *seer*. About the causes of this depression there cannot, I fear, be any doubt. Extravagance and improvidence are alone to blame. You are given by the generosity of Government rights of property in your villages, which you were not wise enough to safeguard. A light assessment encouraged you to spend—and the money lenders were only too ready to invest their capital on the security of your meahals. Some of the more important families we have been able to save by disqualifying their malguzar member at his own request and taking the villages under the Court of Wards. For this assistance I am aware that many of you here present in durbar to-day are very thankful. But it is impossible for the Deputy Commissioner to undertake the detailed management of a mass of small estates. If you are most of you to be saved at all, you must take steps to save yourselves. My strong advice to you would be that the principal castes should meet in their *punchayets*, and first consider the extent to which it is really incumbent on a son to make himself responsible for the personal debts of his father. Most of the indebtedness is the result of extravagance on the part of those who are dead and gone, and is only burdening the present generation because of its feelings of filial piety. There may, however, perhaps be limits even to that. It is for your *punchayets* to discuss and settle the point. Next I would have you settle the maximum limit which might reasonably be imposed on the expenses of marriage and other family ceremonies. These should be regulated surely with reference to a man's net income, not with reference to the supposed status of his family, or the amount of his debts. Further, it would be well if those of you who are not absolutely overwhelmed with debt would face the necessity of heroic remedies. Many a malguzar could clear himself once for all by selling a village or a share outright. It is the clinging to the appearances of being big men, while the kernel of your prosperity is being eaten out, that is leading many of you to absolute ruin. Lastly, as regards seed-grain advances, cultivators would get these from Government under the Agriculturist Loan Act on much easier terms than the ‘*siwai*’ or ‘*derh*’ of the mahajans that now carries off all the

profits of their crop. Every Revenue officer in the district should know the rules for these loans and see that they are made known to the people."

Heads of Provincial Governments are hardly permitted to be brought face to face with their people, but when, by any chance, they can see their condition for themselves rather than through the eyes of subordinate officers, far more of the real state of things is always disclosed to them than is possible by any other means. The truth is, the decay of the old respectable classes, observed by Mr. Mackenzie in his own province, is at work in every part of the country. The kernel of prosperity is being eaten up everywhere, so far as the old *bhadra logues*—the "Bhadra-craacy," to use Sir John Budd Phear's handy word—are concerned, and though British rule may have been attended with decided progress and prosperity as regards several other classes of the people, its effects upon the old landed classes as well as the nobility of caste have been disastrous. By means of the Court of Wards, by agricultural advances or loans, by timely remission of assessment or exemption from the revenue, or other sympathetic acts of personal intervention on the part of Government officers, the course of decay might be arrested, but how too little is done in this behalf by subordinate revenue officers has been clearly demonstrated by Mr. Mackenzie's personal enquiry. These officers are mere birds of passage, whose stay in any district is scarcely long enough for knowledge of its peoples, far less for the growth of sympathy. After all, it is the system rather than the agency that is the prime sinner. Indeed, it is the system that is responsible for the agency. That system is, in some measure, one of the inevitable conditions of foreign rule—at any rate, of an ultra-foreign rule like that of the British in India. The evil can no doubt be abated, but for distinct mitigation a higher and purer statesmanship is required than has yet been shown by our rulers. Meanwhile, it is something to have such wise and generous functionaries as Mr. Mackenzie.

## THE DIFFICULTIES OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT IN INDUSTRIAL TOWNS.

### THE RAILWAY TOWN OF JAMALPORE.

A CORRESPONDENT gives a pitiable picture of Jamal-pore and its affairs. The White Town is all right. It is, to our mind, the nicest, beautifullest, airiest, quietest, most comfortable, most picturesque little town in the plains in the Bengal Provinces. Situated in a salubrious climate, on high ground beside a low range of the Monghyr hills, built on a regular plan, with wide well-kept metalled streets, clean and free from dust or decomposition, flanked by noble avenues, between elegant villas and cottages, inhabited by a small busy but far from noisy European population all connected with the Railway, but no official civil or military element; with a fine institute for reading rooms, theatre and lecture rooms, with drilling and parade grounds for the important body of Railway Volunteers, with target shooting ground, with racket court and tennis lawns, and connected with Monghyr, besides the rail, by a broad trunk road between rows of noble trees, it is a delightful retreat for a short honeymoon or a holiday trip for quiet unadventurous folk who would not undertake the risks of climbing up the Himalayan railway or have no taste for mountaineering in the Jelapa Pass. So far so good. But, then, over the way is the antithesis of the Black Town—the home of the "Baboos" and *bearers* and *khansamas* and *kits* of the white *Salah*

*logues*—the *Bustee* of hovels and shanties, of reed thatching and flimsy tile-roofing, with dark and dank alleys, alternately damp and dusty, always dirty, through which the unfortunate beggars have to stumble to find their way to their low ill-ventilated uncomfortable haunts. This contrast is typical of the empire, and it is a reproach to Native as well as European. Yet, if the truth is to be told, the responsibility lies more on the former than the latter. The European makes the best of the situation, not only exerting and employing his resources for his own benefit, but also using the Native to that end. The Native has neither wits nor energy nor disposition to improve his surroundings. What wonder that he should go to the wall! The poor fellow takes the wall himself, before compulsion! What is to be done with a man who seems to dote upon his ancestral dirt and shrinks from paying for his own improvement? If he is made to pay for the stranger's health and comfort, that is almost unavoidable. Perhaps, he is rightly served. It may do him good by opening his eyes to his own interests. If it irritate him to a demand for reserving his contribution for his own improvement, the temporary injustice may well be regarded as a blessing.

No doubt, the stranger has a duty towards the people. And he does perform it, more or less willingly. He has been performing it, adequately or inadequately. Where would have been the Native progress of which we now hear so much, without the countenance and example of Europeans, non-official no less than official? The example can never be withdrawn. If there has been, in any degree, a failure on the score of that countenance, this is in part to be explained by the fact that the Natives do not now stand in need of help as heretofore, but chiefly by the impracticable attitude of many Natives,—by that failure of courtesy which is being imbibed by the present generation from a foolish press and irresponsible orators.

This attitude is mere silliness—idle vapouring from a distance, or noise from behind a screen. Were there any real sturdy feeling of independence, there would be ample compensation for the rudeness, which latter would soon wear out and be succeeded by a more modest bearing. But no—the worst "check" is usually shown by the most craven.

We suppose it is the same at Jamal-pore, as elsewhere. Our correspondent complains that the resources of the municipality are expended chiefly for the benefit of the European town. There are, however, Native members. Why don't they raise their voice for obtaining their fair share for the improvement of their quarter? The explanation given is that the native Commissioners are mostly clerks in the railway, subordinates of the European members. That is no doubt a fatal position for true independence. Still we fear our Native friends do their superiors an injustice if they think that the latter will carry their municipal differences into the railway departments and punish their fellow members with official displeasure. The question is certainly worth experiment. Did our countrymen ever try? We are rather prone too hastily to attribute to Europeans what we would do under similar circumstances. We should remember that, as a race, Europeans are independent and naturally disposed to admire in others their own characteristics. Of course, tact and temper are requisite. It would not do for official subordinates when they happen for the nonce to sit on equal terms with their official superiors, to be rude or insolent. But if they can lay before the board their honest views with

moderation of language and behaviour, their independent opposition is not likely to prove injurious either to their cause or to themselves, except with the most base. On the contrary, they are more likely to gain in every respect.

There was at Jamalpore one man of intelligence and independence, Babu Lal Behari Gupta, and he succeeded in doing good to his fellow-townsmen. If he suffered in position in the end, that was possibly for his own indiscretion. His unique situation in the whole place might have demoralised him at last, gradually warping his normal good sense. His independence as a townsman, at any rate, never hurt him. It was he who constructed the streets and lanes in Nowagaon, the native settlement at Jamalpore. These were never repaired since he left many years ago. So that they degenerated into a succession of most dangerous ruts. After the sufferings and cries of an age, they are now being done to shape with earth dug up from the side drains and with cinders—the refuse from the boilers of the railway. Of course, the leaven of cinder soon disappears under tread in the subjacent and adjacent abundance of earth, converting the streets into a *kacha* nuisance.

If the circumstances are such as to make it impossible for the Baboos to be independent on the Municipality, why should Baboos be elected! Surely, there are some others at a large place like that besides railway *employés*, such as intelligent tradesmen or landlords. We learn that a Ratepayers' Association has been founded, headed by a local Behari zemindar. That shows the existence of some germs of life. The Association should be warmly supported towards solving the problem. The keranis are a contemptible effete order, out of which no good is to be expected. The best men are ruined by the drudgery and discipline of that service. Those who escape are the rarest birds. If there is no possibility of Natives doing their duty in the municipality, the constitution ought to be entirely altered, and, if necessary, a new Act called for.

Meanwhile, we hope this notice of ours will attract the notice of the Europeans on the municipality, and they will grant what relief is practicable. The correspondent also complains of the partiality of a tax on vats levied only on the Natives. This seems a strange thing, but as we do not know what it is all about, we will not dwell upon it. But, surely, it is a crying scandal that the Native ratepayers should be doomed to grope through dusty *kacha* lanes and wade through muddy paths, in sight of the finest cleanest streets.

Supposing there is no independent Native element there, the difficulty complained of at Jamalpore is not peculiar to it. Masters and *employés* sit on the same board at other places. The phenomenon of Natives sharing municipal duties with their European employers, is common to all industrial and commercial centres which are not also civil stations or old native towns. The question raised, therefore, is one worthy the attention of our politicians and of the Government which truly desires to foster Self-Government.

#### A MODERN NABOB FROM THE INDIAN EDUCATIONAL EL DORADO.

THE monopoly of Hansard in connection with the Parliamentary proceedings has ended. The contract was thrown open to public competition, and Messrs. Macrac, Curtice and Company, Limited, have obtained the privilege. Sir Roper Lethbridge is the Chairman of the Company.

This gentleman has a famous eye for the main chance. As

a University don, he obtained what might be supposed to be a congenial occupation at the British Museum. While engaged among the dusty muniments of that great repository of knowledge, he probably lighted upon the tomes of old Purchas and Hakluyt, and was seized with the passion for the Golden Fleece. He sailed for the Eastern *Eldorado* with a schoolmaster's commission in his pocket. He found that the Pagoda Tree had been shaken and plucked down to a stunted plant, and the reduced crops which, under favourable conditions of sunshine and rain, still occasionally appeared, were the monopoly of a few favoured men in high places or in other lines of occupation, such as those billeted upon Indian Princes or controlling the destinies of native noblemen. A schoolmaster in the swamps of Bengal had no chance, for making his fortune in a trice. No *loot* fell to his lot; there were no pickings to cheer the path of domine. But our knight of the ferule did not despair. Let a Scotch in the midst of a desert and he will coin money there—and convert the place into a smiling garden into the bargain. Mr. Lethbridge had the Scotch secret. He coined rupees in abundance out of his capacity for work and his intelligence and the brains of other people, over and above the respectable pay he drew and saved. He had no weak punctilios. In the noble pursuit of the main chance, he did not care to stand on his dignity. He damned the schoolbooks in vogue in the country and prepared the way for his own profit. He established himself on the ruins of others. He appeared as an indefatigable if not great bookmaker himself. His position and connections in the Education department and the University gave him a great advantage, and he made the best use of his opportunities for creating a sort of monopoly. He neglected no nook or corner of the schoolbook supply trade. It was no literature but trade that he cared for.

Let us not be told that there is no room for literature or high ability in elementary works. Of late years, the highest minds are being engaged in the production of literature for the juvenile world and the masses. Men like Huxley and Roscoe and Balfour do not disdain to put their hands to the preparation of school-books, and both in Great Britain and the Continent the greatest masters of science are duly engaged in popularising science for the benefit of the world at large. It would have been better if Mr. Lethbridge had brought more conscience to his work. It was no fault of his that he had no high claims to public attention. But he might have taken the necessary pains to give sterling wares. In that case, of course, he could scarcely wax enormously fat in no time.

As he grew rich, his ambition rose. Having secured the first object of the British—to make money—he looked about for fresh fields and pastures new for distinction. He could not hope for the sceptre of royalty or even the marshal's baton, but he had outgrown the ferule at all events. He had early dabbled in the press, and from a contributor had finished as editor of the moribund *Calcutta Review*. As such, he lent himself to the support of men and cliques in power. He was rewarded with the sinecure of Press Commissioner. Finally, on his retirement, he was knighted.

Returned home a goodly Nabob, the indefatigable man had no rest. He employed Parliamentary agents, wooed the free and independent of different localities and got elected in the General Election in the Tory interest. He got an opportunity for notoriety during the Ilbert Bill agitation. His avarice had not been satiated, and he again sailed to the East to scrape what he could. He had made so much as schoolmaster. What wonders should he not do as genuine member of Parliament? But times had changed, perhaps. He at any rate had been found out. He had proved no tower of strength to the Europeans and had earned only the curses of the natives. The Zemindars sorely needed a champion, and they were then lavish of their money. We believe they made some arrangement with him. With that exception, the trip was a total failure in every respect. He had hoped to get some native Princes' briefs, but therein he was disappointed. The Rajas and Nawabs have their own agents.

And now this insatiable man is still at it. We suppose he will be making money until the inevitable summons to leave everything on earth and depart on the mysterious journey to none knows whither. He has now formed a company and taken over the business of authorized parliamentary reporting, hitherto associated with the familiar and historic name of Hansard.

## THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

## IV.

THE SPEECHES AND THE SPEAKERS (*continued*).

In my last, I had necessarily to stop short before I had fairly done with the preface. To-day, I sit down to resume the thread of my "story" where I left it. To facilitate easy reference, I think I should, at the very outset, name the more notable of the speakers. Well, then, these were the speakers that made their mark as representatives of, and thinkers for, the Indian peoples.

## BENGAL.

- (1.) Mr. Kalicharan Banerjee.
- (2.) Mr. Manomohun Ghosh.
- (3.) Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjee, (*Bengalee*.)
- (4.) Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee.
- (5.) Mr. R. D. Mehta.
- (6.) Mr. Bipin Chandra Pal, (*Assam*.)

## BOMBAY.

- (1.) The Hon'ble K. T. Telang, C.I.E.
- (2.) The Hon'ble P. Mehta.
- (3.) Mr. Chandravarkar, (*Hindu Prakash*.)
- (4.) Mr. Watcha, (*Indian Spectator*.)
- (5.) Mr. Namjoshi, (*Poona*.)

## MADRAS.

- (1.) Mr. Eardley Norton.
- (2.) Mr. John Adam.
- (3.) Mr. Ananda Charlu.
- (4.) Mr. Salem S. Ramaswami Mudelliar.
- (5.) Mr. G. Subramaniya Iyer, (*Hindu*.)
- (6.) Mr. Girija Shankar Kashiram Durvedy, (*Rajyabarta Sudharmishta*.)

## N. W. P.

- (1.) Mr. J. E. Howard.
- (2.) Pandit Bishumbher Nath.
- (3.) The Hon'ble Pandit Ayodhya Nath.
- (4.) Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, (*Hindustan*.)
- (5.) Mr. F. T. Atkins, (*Morning Post*.)
- (6.) Captain Hearsey.
- (7.) Mr. Nasiruddin Ahmed, (*Benares*.)

## Oude.

- (1.) Revd. Ram Chandra Bose.
- (2.) Munshi Sajjad Hossein, (*Oude Punch*.)
- (3.) Pandit Bishen Narayan Dar, (*Advocate*.)
- (4.) Moulvi Hidayat Rasul.

## BEHAR.

- (1.) Mr. Pringle Kennedy, (*Tirhoot Courier*.)
- (2.) Mr. Sharluddin.

## PUNJAB.

- (1.) Lala Lajpat Rae.

In the above, I have tried, with the help of the light within me, to arrange the speakers of each province according to the merit of their speeches. And if the arrangement does not exactly tally with that observed in Mr. L. Chunilal Parekh's forthcoming work "Twenty-three eminent men of India," it is because my standard of judgment has been different. There are speakers and speakers: 'there's "many a flower born to blush unseen and waste its sweetness on the desert air", of whom we know nothing and the world will know nothing. But they have, in their very silence and seclusion, worked wonders. Fuss and noise, go and gumption, is a distinctively imported article in India. And because it has a taking effect on our rulers, we must have recourse to it. I am not one of those who are every now and then seen to sigh for the "good old days"—the Golden Age of the poets. I do most sincerely believe in the infinity of human progress. I do also believe that the Iron Age is not before us; we have left it behind. But with Cowper and Goldsmith, I most certainly deplore that, in our craze for reform and progress, we are giving up our national characteristics, and thus making a sad bargain. Our go-

ahead reformers know no middle course; their codes, be they political, moral or social, have no place for modesty and moderation. Having begun a thing once, they know not where to stop. But abler pens than mine have dwelt upon this national weakness of ours; and by none more ably than yourself in, if I mistake not, your excellent work on the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh. Well, our education and enlightenment find expression in our aping everything English—in our dress, and in the clandestine use of knives and forks. Madras, I was glad to observe, has not as yet caught this contagion, nor shews any sign of doing so. This is happy. I am of opinion with Babu Kali Charan Banerjee (you will say, perhaps, he is not the best man to quote on this point) that if we cannot rise as Indians, it is better that we should not rise at all. Let the brilliant and unique record of the "glorious Ind" and "gorgeous East," on which poets have sung and philosophers cogitated, sink for ever into the Oblivion of Lethe. But I hope when the charm of novelty will be gone and when, with growing experience and ripeness which age alone brings with it, we become more real and practical than we now are, a reaction will set in before which the fripperies of European civilisation—all that is useless and ornamental in it—will be swept away, and Mother India shall once more stand in her pristine glory—chastened and purified, proudly rearing up her head above the civilised nations of the world. The downfall and degradation of our race will then appear merely as the war of the elements—to be followed by the bright and glorious sunshine. But I am playing the Jacques, always melancholy and always moralising. To business now.

Mr. K. T. Telang.—In the forefront of the Native Indian speakers, must be placed this devoted son of Western India. A quiet and unassuming gentleman, sober, earnest and practical, you will search for his equal in India as a model speaker and search in vain. We all remember the just remarks of the *Times of India* on his speech when he presided at a meeting held in Bombay to welcome back Mr. Lal Mohun Ghosh. Your Bombay contemporary even gave him the palm of superiority over the Bengali orator Ghosh. And it can hardly be denied that if as a platform speaker he is not equal to Mr. Ghosh, as a speaker at the council table he far excels Mr. Ghosh. He won the esteem and regard of all; and it must have been a pleasing burden to him to carry the cart-loads of praises showered on him by all. No question of any importance came up for discussion but was contributed to by Mr. Telang. He had charge of the very first Resolution on the reform of the Legislative Councils, and I need hardly say that it could not have been entrusted to abler hands. It was he who poured oil over the troubled waters in the second Resolution on the Public Service Commission. It was he again who came to the rescue of the reputation of the Congress as a business assembly in the VI Resolution relating to the Arms Act. Who else but he could pacify the irritation of a large number of delegates who wanted a permanent settlement of the land revenue, and allay the apprehension of certain zemindars, by proposing that the discussion of the question be postponed to another year? In the meantime, the several standing Congress Committees were required to collect materials on the subject for the next year. And it goes without saying that he heartily seconded Mr. Adam's Resolution (IX) on education. Free and natural in his speech, requiring no gestures and gesticulations to help him, he was full of wise saws and modern instances. Standing stock-still, like a mute figure of marble, he poured forth a torrent of eloquence. To form an idea of his speeches, one has to go far back into classical literature and seek the help of Homer. You have but to recall to mind the description of the sage-like Ulysses' speech in the camp of the "spouting"

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Achilles, when Ulysses formed a trio with two others and went on a mission from Agamemnon, to enable you to judge him rightly. His speeches were also appropriately interspersed with apposite humour and apt illustrations.

Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjee—the deified hero of the school boys and the champion of the “dumb down-trodden millions of India,” the Father of Agitation in India—is, none can question, a very powerful speaker. To form a right conception of his style of oratory, you have in the first place to forget all that I have said above about Mr. Telang. His impassioned eloquence and fiery, furious declamation would be fully appreciated at electioneering platforms in England, but has hardly anything common with Mr. Telang. Those who cannot afford to go over to England to listen to demagogues, may safely spare themselves the time, the trouble and the money incidental to a long journey, and hear Mr. S. N. Banerjee. He largely brings into requisition the gestures and movements, the straining of the lungs, the swinging of the body, and the raising up and lowering down of hands (but I am not sure if also of feet), characteristic of Greek oratory. If you seek for maximum of sound with minimum of sense, go to Mr. Surendra Nath. He who loves to hear a speaker who never sticks to the point, who cannot proceed one step further without calling in to his aid “the dumb and down-trodden millions of India” and “the New India of changed circumstances,” who is a helpless creature, in short, of sentimental platitudes, why, where will he find a better man than Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjee? His voice is at once the strength and the weakness of the gentleman. If you ask him to speak, he will thunder forth; if you ask him to debate, he will declaim; if you ask him when does he feel most in his element, he is sure to answer—in agitating. If you tell him the Congress speeches should not be agitating speeches and the Congress is not the place for them, he will tell you in reply—but the Congress itself is the result of agitation. In spite of all this, however, it must be conceded that he does possess and wield a wonderful power: I wish that it might be for good and not for evil. None should smell any animus in the foregoing observations. If they are at all caustic, Mr. Banerjee has to thank himself for it. I have felt called upon in the interests of truth and of the Congress to say so plainly. With every new year, the responsibilities of the Congress are growing. He should not overlook this fact. In the very first Resolution, he was appointed to second Mr. Telang; and you will concede the alliance of the giant and the dwarf in the fable was not more anomalous than was the union of Mr. Telang and Mr. Banerjee, unless on the assumption that it was a stroke of policy to couple these two like rabbits! Mr. Banerjee's declaiming faculty is also to be held responsible for the passing of the Arms Act Resolution. I understand he was not at first willing to undertake the responsibility involved in the step, but was spurred on to the step by Mr. Bonnerjee. Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee's argument, in defence of the Resolution, as he whispered it into the ears of Mr. Caine, was that having passed the Resolution once before it would not do to drop it now. So the best course devised was to stereotype the evil! And Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjee, as the man who did not care much for bad reputation on this score and who alone had the capacity of winning over the delegates to his side, was selected for this purpose. If we accept this statement as a fact, we are bound to absolve Mr. Banerjee from much of the odium thrown upon him.

But then how will he explain away the Resolution VIII of 1887, which was passed chiefly at his instance? I remember how Mr. Chandravarkar's sensible speech was met with a fiery, eloquent speech by Mr. Banerjee. Be that as it may, none can deny that the opinion of the country on this subject is maturing, and I venture to predict that next year when all the sober speakers will put their heads together, Mr. Surendra Nath will be defeated on this question. Even after the perusal of the *Patriot's* article on the subject and Mr. Hume's elaborate letter to the *Statesman*, I have not been convinced that the step taken in 1887 and repeated last year, is not unwise and impolitic, although I can never say it is unjust. It will give a handle to our enemies who are never slow to cry that sedition is abroad. For the present, I think we should be content if we can get the Arms Act to work as liberally as it is now being worked in the Central Provinces under Mr. Mackenzie. Can we

not get the Municipalities to give out licenses to proper persons? In any case, Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjee must be prepared for the worst next year. He must be ready to change his plan and policy, or he shall suffer a discomfiture.

Mr. Kali Charan Banerjee.—It would be enough I think to say with regard to this first-rate speaker, that he fully kept up his reputation, if, indeed, he did not enhance it. To the breadth and liberality of his sympathies, and the depth of his learning, he unites the fervour born only of strong religious convictions. His chaste diction adds to the beauty of his eloquent and thoughtful words as they flow out of his mouth. He does not speak with the intent of winning applause, yet none who has the capacity of appreciating a really good speech can withhold from him his rightful meed of praise. His speech is not one monotonous “bel-lowing,” but he knows very well indeed what is cadence. At times, he rises to flights of perfect eloquence of which even the late lamented Keshub Chandra Sen need not have been ashamed.

Mr. Pherozeshah Mehta—has a voice scarcely less loud than Surendra Nath's, but certainly much sweeter. He can also speak to the point and, by his trenchant remarks and admirable illustrations, elicit cheers. When rising to propose the President for the Fourth National Congress, alluding to Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji as the President of the Second Congress at Calcutta, he, with a peculiar grace and emphasis, thundered forth “that black man,” the whole audience felt electrified. Again, speaking on the Arms Act Resolution, he propounded the emasculation theory, introducing a story of James II. which was very much appreciated. His speeches were, however, much more practical than Mr. Surendra Nath's speeches, but much less than those of Mr. Telang's.

The Hon'ble Pandit Ayodhya Nath.—But for this patriot, bold to indiscretion, the Congress would never have been the success it was at Allahabad. His adhesion to the cause gained back many wavering spirits, strengthened the faith of many and induced many more to join. His pyrotechnic eloquence is sure to animate hearers and elicit good humour'd laughter, as it has many a time done even from the High Court Judges and the honourable Councillors of the Lieutenant-Governor's Council. He is a man full of hobbies and idiosyncrasies. One of the most notable characteristics of this most remarkable man is, wherever he may be, in whatever station he may be placed, he must lead or he need not be there—he seems born to lead. A profound Arabic scholar as he is, and a terror to the local officials, he has probably no equal as a Urdu speaker. The very qualities which contribute to the embellishment of his Urdu speeches form the defects of his English orations. But I cannot think he cannot remove this defect, if only he wills it. He jumps and bounds and dances and frisks and gesticulates with remarkable effect when he speaks. If only he cares, he can draw forth from his store-house of knowledge wonderful and unheard of treasures. He is, let me close this to-day by saying, really the “combustible patriot” of Allahabad—an epithet applied to him by Mr. Malabari, I believe.

B.

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## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*, October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following :—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river :—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detained our author's eye :—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting :—[Extract.]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

.....this interesting book. We are justified in so terming it, not on account of any romantic adventures that the author has to relate, nor of any very new discoveries in geography or natural history. There is something particular as regards ethnology; and a great deal of human nature in the book, shown to the reader with a simplicity and candour which bear testimony to its truth. Called from the busy haunts of men in the city to dwell for a time in Independent Tipperah as a judicious adviser to its chief, Doctor Mookerjee relates his adventures during the several journeys to and fro in that capacity, without revealing the secrets of the State, like a good diplomatist. He has adhered strictly to the advice which he offers to his brethren of the Native press, and has written what he saw and knows, without revealing all, considering what he might properly say and what withhold.....The above seems to be a curious passage to be found in a book of travels, and appears to have no connection with the subject. But it arises from a casual reference to a slaughter house, and a writer who "thundered weekly against the outrage of locating shambles in the immediate vicinity of a Hindoo temple"—where, in fact, no temple could be said to exist. Hence, the doctor advises his fellow-scribes not to be Pharisees, righteous overmuch, but to look and be sure of their facts. In the same spirit, he has written his book. He gives an account of his travels, which seem often to have been voyages, upon the widespread rivers of Eastern Bengal which in the rains become almost inland seas. On these he philosophises on the nature of the country and the people, making careful observation of his facts; and though he sometimes fancies he knows better than his boatmen, and more than suspects that they are getting the better of him, he submits with a grace that would have done credit to Socrates, and accepts the apparently inevitable in the interests of peace. The doctor is a close observer of nature, animate and inanimate, with an eye to the picturesque as well as to the sublime and beautiful. And although there is a vein of cynicism running through many of his observations, it is tempered by such evident good nature, that even a stranger would conceive him to be a laughter-loving rather than a stern philosopher. This is evi-

dent in his description of his boatmen and others, while he denounces the lawlessness which has made the poor fishermen so cautious even of honest intentions, because they have so long been the helpless victims of marauders stronger than themselves. Their only defence is flight or deceit, and the latter is then justification as a mode of self-protection. We are shown not only the weakness of the people, but the shortcomings of the administration that leave these things possible.....The author is impartial in his censures.....There is much in the book to which space forbids us to refer. That it is not a prosy one may be gathered from the fact that, for its 300 pages, there are nearly as many index references. Many of the subjects are necessarily but lightly treated, but all sensibly and fairly. And Dr. Mookerjee is such a master of the English language that in the whole book we have scarcely found a phrase that might not have been written by an Englishman "to the manner born." There is nothing in it at which any one could reasonably take offence; and there is much from which both Englishmen and natives may learn greatly-needed lessons.—*The Indian Daily News*, Nov. 22, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious; he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight; "she had such large languishing eyes." But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him.....*Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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It has driven out from the system

**Acute Rheumatism and Rheumatic Gout,**

After years of semi-helplessness and suffering; while in ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS, LUMBAGO, SCIATICA, FACEACHE, SPRAINS, it is the surest and safest remedy for these complaints in their severest and most chronic form.

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Is almost too remarkable for CREDENCE.

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Fry this wonderful Medicine and let the result speak for itself.

The Oriental Balm is used by the best Physicians in the world in their practice. It has been pronounced a blessing in thousands of homes. By its intrinsic virtue, it has achieved a wide-spread popularity which no similar preparation has ever before attained.

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"Limited."

**ASSAM AND CACHAR LINE**  
NOTICE.

This Company's Steamer "SCINDE" will leave Calcutta for Assam on Friday the 1st inst., and on Tuesday the 5th inst., the Steamer "INDORE" will leave Calcutta for Cachar.

All cargo for shipment by either of the above vessels should be sent to the Company's Godowns at Juggannauth Ghat the day previous to the vessels leaving Calcutta.

**DHUBRI & DEBROOGHUR MAIL SERVICE.**

The Steamers of this Service leave Dhubri daily immediately on arrival of the mails from Calcutta, and are connected with the E. B. S. Railway for booking of traffic through to river stations.

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A special bi-weekly service of Steamers is maintained between Goalundo and Debrooghur, the steamers leaving Goalundo on Sunday, and Fridays, and Debrooghur on Mondays and Fridays.

All particulars as to rates of freight and passage by all the above Services to be had on application to

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OF PURE HOMŒOPATHY ONLY,  
WHICH  
INTRODUCED TO THE EAST THE  
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and maintains to this day  
THE DIGNITY AND INTEGRITY OF  
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SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

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in which every phial of medicine that goes out of their Establishment is packed.

These cases while they ensure the bottles against breakage will also be found very convenient and useful.

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supercedes Carbolic and other Disinfectants, being much more efficacious, non-poisonous, non-corrosive, stainless in use, and cheaper. Prevents contagion by destroying its cause. Instantly removes bad smells. It is an almost unfailing cure for Eczema and other Skin Diseases; and is the best known Insecticide. Can be had in the various forms of Liquid, Powder, Soap and Ointment.

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prevents infection by destroying its cause, killing the very germs of contagious diseases. It removes instantly all noxious smells, not by temporarily disguising them (as is often the case), but by chemical combination, substituting instantaneously for a poisonous a pure and healthy atmosphere, and thoroughly eradicating the evil.

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A Packet of Tea for 3 pice!

**Important News for India,**  
WHERE FEVERS AND CHOLERA  
REIGN SUPREME.

A RECENT TRAVELLER ON THE Chinese Coast found that District remarkably FREE FROM TYPHOID FEVER and CHOLERA. He soon discovered the cause. The people there do not drink cold water from tanks or wells, often extremely impure, but keep a pan of water constantly boiling, into which from time to time they drop a little Tea, and when thirsty THEY DRINK HOT TEA! If the weak and adulterated Teas of China can do this, what may not the pure and strong Teas of India be expected to effect?

Also in tins ½lb to 10lbs of various qualities to suit all tastes.

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London,

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Stood 1st in the FINAL EXAMINATION,  
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AND  
Review of Politics, Literature, and Society

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# Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1889.

No. 361

## CONTEMPORARY LYRICS.

### THE BALM OF SPEECH.

(By a Clergyman's wife.)

THE hum of insects, as they throng  
The summer sunbeam's glorious way ;  
The soaring sky-lark's early song ;  
The nightingale's mellifluous lay ;—

The murmur of the peaceful wave ;  
The valley-breezes gently sighing ;  
The wind's wild voice in mountain cave ;  
And Echo from her cell replying ;—

The soft Æolian lyre, whose notes  
Upon the lonely musér rise ;  
The church-bells' hallowed tone, that floats  
Like music from the distant skies ;—

Could never make my spirit feel  
So rapt above this lower sphere,  
As when affection's accents steal,  
All musical, upon mine ear.

- The harmonies of mortal art,  
And e'en of nature's varied strain,  
Ne'er touch, as when another's heart  
Reveals in words our own again.

Oh ! may the melody of speech  
Sing to me, while on earth I rove ;  
And may the last faint tones that reach  
My dying ear be those of love !

### FLOWERS.

YE are the Scriptures of the Earth,  
Sweet flowers, fair and frail ;  
A sermon speaks in every bud  
That wooes the summer gale.

Ye lift your heads at early morn,  
To greet the sunny ray,  
And cast your fragrance forth to praise  
The Lord of night and day.

Sown in the damp and cheerless earth,  
Ye slumber for a while,  
Then waken unto glorious life,  
And bid creation smile.

Thus when within the darksome tomb  
Our mortal frame shall lie,  
The soul, freed from the bonds of sin  
Shall join the choir on high.

## A PLEA FOR BEAUTIFUL THINGS.

IT is not well for deathless souls to cling  
Only to that whose end must be to die !  
Th' immortal spirit, borne on Faith's broad wing,  
Should soar, and seek its first, best love on high.

Yet must we therefore teach our hearts to deem  
The will of earth's Creator best obeyed  
By those who speak of beauty as a dream,  
And scorn all earthly things—because they fade ?

Not so ! not so ! for beauty, even on earth,  
By love and pow'r divine alone was given ;  
It is the seal of a celestial birth,  
The glorious signet of the King of heaven.

"Love not the world !"—the precept is divine ;  
"Love not the world !" its pomps, its idle toys,  
For these with but deceitful lustre shine,  
And cheat the heart with their unreal joys.

But oh ! prize all that still is truly bright,  
The love of what is lovely is its due ;  
'T is the soul's prophecy of realms of light,  
Where all things beautiful are pure and true !

False is the cold philosophy which paints  
This God-created world as but a tomb ;  
Though fallen man upon his journey faints,  
Still hath his path some of its early bloom.

Were it not worse than vain to close our eyes  
Unto the azure sky and golden light,  
Because the tempest-cloud doth sometimes rise,  
And glorious day must darken into night ?

Think ye 't was meant that man should find no spell  
Of joy and beauty in the song-bird's lay ?  
Oh ! were the bright flow'rs only made to tell  
A warning tale of bloom—that must decay ?

Not such the lessons the Great Teacher drew  
From flow'rs, the living jewels of the sod ;  
For men he taught, with wisdom deep and true,  
To read in them the mercy of our God.

The wondrous bow, which seems the heavens to span  
What is more transient ? yet by God 't is made --  
Sign of a changeless covenant with man ;  
And shall we still scorn all things that do fade ?

Wiser and better with a thankful mind  
To bless our God for ev'ry glory giv'n,  
And with a gentle heart to seek and find  
In things on earth a type of things in heav'n.

X.

J. M.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE *Times of India* hears "on what we are inclined to think credible information, that in the report of the Commissioners Mr. Arthur Crawford is acquitted of all the charges of bribery, and found guilty of wrong conduct only on some of the charges about improper borrowing."

MR. John M. Dougall, F.C.S., has reported to the Under-Secretary of State for India that "our white wheats, when separated from all admixture, are of a very fine quality, equal to the finest in the world, and if they could be so shipped would command the highest price." The *Bombay Times* remarks—"Buyers of Indian wheats are under the impression that they cannot obtain them otherwise than in their present 'foul condition' nor will they until the Corn Association alter their forms of contract, and insert some limitation of dirt and dust." From a tabulated analysis of impurities in Indian, European, American and Australian wheats appended to the report, the American comes out the purest, the admixture being the least.

WE are authoritatively informed that the Viceroy has offered a Silver Medal to the Government School of Art, for competition among the students. The Medal will probably be given to the student who, at the end of the year, has made the greatest progress in any of the classes under instruction.

The Marquis of Landsdowne has also signified his intention (should His Excellency's engagements permit) to visit the School in a few weeks.

AT the elections, Dowager Lady Sandhurst and Miss Cobden have been returned to the London County Council. The question has arisen—are ladies eligible as County Councillors? And if County Councillors, why not Members of Parliament?

A PAUPER of Meriden, Conn, named Mary Griffin, is said to have fasted fifty five days, before nature failed her and she died. Oh how tenacious is life! How slow an executioner is Hunger!

If some of the wealthy *dilettanti*, who expended so much to test Dr. Tanner's capacity to live without food, had given some of it towards this real case of starvation, Mary Griffin might be living still.

THE French Bishops have, it is said, received instructions from Rome not to sanction cremation. Bishop Dupanloup has left an essay in which he shows that interment is not all evil. The Bishop argues the subject not only on theological but also secular grounds. He is even scientific—nothing like science in these days. And his science is eminently episcopal. According to him, the custom of burial promotes cultivation. But for it, the earth would lose all its fertility and power of reproduction. Is not cremation equally useful in that direction? The following throws some light on the question:—

"A certain professor, in Germany, with his class of students was examining various soils, and on one occasion they visited a piece of open ground which consisted of made, not virgin soil. Under the microscope in this soil were discovered the spores of glanders. A careful examination was made into the history of this ground, and it was found out that some twenty years before it had been used for the cremation of horses that had died of glanders. How necessary therefore is it that all organic *debris* should be entirely destroyed, and not hidden!"

There is little hope for the science of religion—as represented by bishops. But a plain question from a plain man before concluding: Would an adept—or, for that matter, a community general of the infinite host of Anointed Existence—reject glandered horseflesh, or, not rejecting, catch it, and give it to the whole tribe of scavengers of Nature's Health Officer and Sanitary Commissioner, to the destruction of that most valuable body of public servants of the animal kingdom?

THE Mitters are a famous house, not a whit inferior to the Mookerjees. Their aptitude for letters and law is remarkable. The country has not yet forgotten the brilliant Judge of that ilk of the High Court. Another able one still adorns the same Bench. There are lawyers of reputation in the bar too of the same clan. Nor is there any prospect in the immediate future of a break in the continuity. A grandson of the late Peary Chand Mitra has just passed a brilliant examination for admittance to the bar. Last term, Babu Jotish Chunder Mitter obtained a scholarship of 100 guineas in International Law and a prize

of £15 in Roman Law. At the examination of December last, he felled 18 competitors and won the great prize in Roman Law—a studentship of 100 guineas.

ABBE ARMOND DAVID—the Eastern traveller and *savant*—reports that "the mortal remains of the great conqueror, Genghis Khan, or Dengeis Bogoto, as he is called in Mongolia, are preserved at a place called Kia-y-sen, in the land of Ordos, a desolate region in a bend of the Yellow River in Mongolia. They are contained in a large silver coffin, which the Mongols will not show to strangers without some good reason."

IN its issue of Monday the 11th, the *Englishman*, speaking of the filling up of a tank, denounces the operation by town sweepings, and calls for "some authoritative Government decision settling once and for all that tanks shall not be filled in the way adopted by the Corporation." It was once ascertained that it would take several years to close the tanks in the present Calcutta with town sweepings. Filling them with earth is not only costly, but dilatory and impracticable. For, after all, where is all the earth to be found? It therefore behoves all concerned to devise some plan by which these noxious sinks may be converted into useful reservoirs. It was once stated in some quarter that electricity might be subordinated to this purpose. Till that agent comes to our rescue, some other means must be found. Cannot the Sanitary Compounds help us? Jeyes's Perfect Purifier claims to be at once a true purifier and insecticide.

LORD LANSDOWNE has agreed to be the patron of the Calcutta Public Library. *Cui bono?* The Library never lacked viceregal patronage, yet it is going from bad to worse every year.

A JEWELLED sword, gold mounted and set with upwards of 600 diamonds, rubies and emeralds—a present from the late Runjeet Sing, the Lion of the Punjab, to his Commander-in-Chief the late General Van Cutlaedt, C. B.—was knocked down at Messrs. Debenham, Storr & Sons' Auction Rooms, in Covent Garden, for only 91 gs.

THE Wesleyan Missionary Society's annual Report for 1887, contains the following glowing account of mission work in Nagore:—

"In Nagore, the Gospel has been regularly preached in the town and surrounding villages throughout the year. There has been very little opposition and the Mahomedans once so hostile, now listen with respectful attention and take the Catechist's part in disputes with the Hindus. Twelve villages, varying in distance from one to ten miles have been visited during the year. In some of those the truth is favourably received, but caste restrains from an open profession. The Catechist spends his evenings in house to house visitations, and during the year, besides a large number of Hindu houses, he has visited those of 242 Mahomedans, in 48 of which he has been permitted to read and expound the word of God. There has been one adult baptism from heathenism, that of a woman of the shepherd caste, who, since her baptism, has maintained a good confession without wavering in spite of much persecution. Her father, an old man of 80 is, we believe, a sincere enquirer, and there is also a young man, a Brahmin by caste, who has promised to forsake all and follow Christ early next year."

"ZENANA WORK. During the year, 52 houses have been regularly visited, and 9 people have been taught to read, 6 of whom constantly read the Bible. 116 women have been under regular instruction, of whom 77 are Hindus, 37 Mahomedans, and 2 Roman Catholics. The work has been very encouraging and has produced visible fruit. In December last, one heathen woman received the rite of baptism and there is another anxious to follow her example, but is hindered by her friends. The large number of Mahomedan women, so long inaccessible is a hopeful feature of our work. They have to be visited in the evening between 7 and 9 P. M."

On this, a correspondent of the *Hindu* remarks:—

"The above report evidently contains several inaccuracies and is cleverly got up by the Catechist, simply to win the good graces of the Missionaries. The fact is that as he is a little bit of a physician, he used to go to Mahomedan houses and treat those who are ill. To protest against this report, a large meeting of the Mahomedans numbering about 800, was convened in which the Catechist himself confessed his errors; it was resolved that no Mahomedan should receive medicine from him, or should take him into his house, and that no one of their community should read the Bible, and that if any body were to violate the resolution passed, he would be excommunicated. The Hindus of the place established a school in which the Mahomedans heartily joined them. The conduct of some young educated Brahmins who have gone over to the Mission as teachers is a subject of much comment by Hindus and Mahomedans."

The newly started Native Middle School has on its rolls 105 students, of whom 30 are Mahomedans.

THE Raipur-Bilaspur section of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway is now open for traffic.

MESSRS. Glover & Co. have completed within time the railway line from Jhansi to Gwalior. It was inspected on the 4th. If the Government is satisfied, it will be opened to the public on the 1st March.

THE Lieutenant-Governor returned from Cooch Behar on Tuesday.

SIR AUCKLAND COLVIN arrived here on Tuesday morning and left for his capital by evening train the next day.

ON Thursday, the Secretaries of the Government of India entertained Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace at a farewell dinner in the United Service Club. Sir David Miller Barbour proposed the health of the guest.

MR. Justice O'Kinealy goes on leave at the end of this month. Mr. Justice Wilson goes home a few weeks later.

SIR Alfred Croft has been re-appointed a member of the Bengal Legislative Council.

MR. W. R. Larminie having obtained furlough, Mr. C. F. Worsley, Officiating Commissioner of the Orissa Division and Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals, Cuttack, and not Mr. E. V. Westmacott, acts as Commissioner of the Dacca Division; Mr. J. A. Hopkins, Magistrate and Collector, Nuddea, officiates as Commissioner and Superintendent in the Orissa Division and the Tributary Mehals.

MR. D. B. Horn, Executive Engineer, Buxar Division, will temporarily be a member of the Public Works Accounts Committee.

THE Hon'ble J. W. Quinton, C.S.I., has been renominated and Munshi Muhammad Ali Khan of Jahangirabad, in the Bulandshahar District, has been taken in, as Additional Members of the Supreme Legislative Council.

SECTIONS 223 to 228 of the Code of Civil Procedure have been extended to the Sonthal Pergunnahs.

TO-DAY'S *Gazette of India* confirms Surgeon-Major W. H. Gregg, M.B., as Sanitary Commissioner, Bengal; Mr. F. Henvey as Agent to the Governor-General in Central India; Colonel S. B. Miles as Resident in Meywar; and Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. Prideaux as Resident at Jeyapore.

NRESINGHA CHURN ADDY has honourably earned the thanks of the Lieutenant-Governor in the *Gazette*, for his liberality of Rs. 15,000 towards the cost of a feeder road from the Hatipal station of the Tarkessur Railway to Bunderhatty, in the Burdwan Division, "which will be of great benefit to all residents of the surrounding neighbourhood."

LIEUTENANT Kreyer—who had been under arrest since the Bulkley court martial and on whom a court martial was ordered—has been released and the court martial cancelled. Why?

PERSONS not in the service of the Government who reside in the Khondmals and in the Mahal of Angul in Orissa, have been entirely exempted from the Income tax.

THERE will be a revision of the settlement of the villages Batauni, Rangamatia and Khelabari in the Government Khas Mehal Damin-i-Koh, in the district of the Sonthal Pergunnahs.

THE latest hour for posting at the General Post Office for the accelerated Mail Train on Wednesdays commencing from the 20th, is 7-30 P.M.

THE law declaring the English standard yard as the legal standard measure of length in British India is published in to-day's *Gazette of India* as Act II of 1889. It applies to the whole of British India, but does not come into operation until the Governor-General fixes the day on that behalf. Such notification awaits the arrival from England of the imperial standard. The present measure being ancillary to the

one now maturing in the Council against fraudulent marks on merchandise, it has not been deemed advisable to apply this standard to measures of land.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

BIG with the fate of great dignitaries in Church and State, of statesmen and rulers, of parties and nations, is the latest news of the week. France is passing through a parliamentary crisis which threatens the very existence of the Republic if not the nation. The late success of the firebrand Boulanger at the elections, has demonstrated the futility of Gambetta's *scrutin de liste*. The Ministry, therefore, resolved upon the revision of the constitution as the only means of preserving republican Government, and introduced a bill for reverting to the *scrutin d'arrondissement*. But the opposition of the new Chamber has proved too much for them, the Orleanists having formed a coalition with the Boulangists. By a majority of 89, the Deputies voted the adjournment—meaning the shelving of the Bill. M. Floquet and his colleagues have, in consequence, resigned. Boulanger is merry over this result, of course, claiming the defeat of the Ministry as his work. And what is more, he predicts the dissolution of the Chamber to follow soon.

THERE is another of the periodical Russian scares in the field. News comes all the way from Russia, through London, by telegraph, that the Great Northern Bear is much exercised by the Amceer's visit to his frontiers, in pursuit of the enemies in his kingdom and of his family and in his pay. As he is attended by a suitable military escort, and is doubtless taking measures for the efficient guarding of his boundaries, from the intrusion of Ishak Khan, now a fugitive in Russian territory, the Russians—or some of the busybodies among them—think this a good opportunity for picking up a quarrel. According to them, there ought to be amassing of Russian troops on the Afghan frontier. It is all nonsense, and we have every hope the Government of the Czar will do no such thing.

POOR Dhuleep Singh has been played out. He is now reduced to feigning madness in real earnest. He has issued at Paris a manifesto to the Princes and people of India which has never left France, and probably never will, in which he speaks of his supporters in Europe and America, ready to form an army for the overthrow of the British in India, provided only the little sum of four millions sterling, for munitions of war, is raised by India, the army apparently being an honorary service to be recouped from the plunder of the British Indian treasures, in the event of success. This is a queer method of clearing the way for the Prodigal's return to his guardians.

THE greatest "sensation" at Home in England is the production by the *Times*, before the Parnell Commission, of the Parnell letters, which are the subject of the inquiry, and of other documents in corroboration of their genuineness. These letters could not, of course, have been obtained by the enemy without treachery within. The *Times's* solicitor swore to Pigott, the editor of the *Shamrock*, as the traitor who furnished them for £3,000. The detective, who was instrumental in procuring them, also received an equal sum. Not before they were certified to by an expert, were they published or, we suppose, paid for. The solicitor believed the writing in the body of the letters was Mr. Campbell's.

THE Bishop of Lincoln is being tried for the heresy denominated Ritualism. The trial was opened at the Archbishop's Palace of Lambeth on Tuesday, the 12th instant. As might be expected, the Bishop contested the competence of the court to try him. The arguments will be resumed on the 12th of next month. This is but the beginning of the wearisome tediousness which is inflicted on the public in connection with these foolish ecclesiastical squabbles, and which, on the occasion of the Gorham trial, provoked Mr. John Lang in the *Moffussulite* to a famous outburst of profanity, which would have delighted the soul of Lord Thurlow. These points of doctrine appear to us so insignificant and puerile, that we wish the Bishop's preliminary objection might be as successful as was the late Archdeacon Dennison's protest. Is Christianity, after all, a matter of millinery and upholstery—of personal apparel or of the situation of a table? And yet, with

all these prejudices rampant among the most enlightened Europeans, how little do they respect the similar, perhaps more rational, scruples of other nations! What ultra-radicals and out-and-out reformers they all are in India!

AFFAIRS on the East African Coast are drawing to a crisis. In the name of His Highness the Sultan of Zanzibar, the Admirals Commanding the British and German Squadrons, have, from noon of 2nd December 1888, declared a Blockade of the Continental Dominions of the Sultanate, against the importation of munitions of war, and the exportation of slaves only, on the continuous line of coast of Zanzibar, including the Island of Mafia and Lamu and the lesser islands adjoining the coast from 10° 28' south to 2° 10' south latitude.

All ships, to whatever nationality belonging, are liable to visit and search. They are warned to "bring to" and lower their sails immediately on a blank charge being fired. Failing that, a warning shot will be fired across their bows and the ships will be treated as hostile. Vessels engaged in ordinary trade are free to continue their voyage after being visited.

This is the result of the understanding lately come to, between the Cabinets of London and Berlin. Before such a joint demonstration, powers much greater than poor Zanzibar would bow the head in meek submission. If there should be any disposition to barbaric obstinacy or impracticable fanaticism in the man, it might possibly be smoothed down and subdued by the influence and wise counsels of Sir J. Kirk, who is so well known on the Coast and who will be soon there. The danger is that the Sultan himself may be wholly powerless before an explosion of Islamite fervour. In that case, there may be lamentable scenes on both sides of the Red Sea. All will come round in the end, however. That is a comfort.

IN 1882, the Government withdrew the Patwari-rate from the North-Western Provinces, thus relieving the Provinces of taxation to the amount of over 30 lacs of rupees. In view of the depressed condition of the Indian exchequer, the tax is to be revived and the same rate imposed on the Province of Oudh. Accordingly, the Hon'ble Mr. Quinon, at the last sitting of the Supreme Council yesterday, obtained leave and introduced a Bill for the purpose. The Patwari-rate proposed for the N. W. Provinces is 4 per cent on the revenue and 3 per cent for Oudh. It was on this business that, we suspect, Sir Auckland Colvin came on his flying visit to Calcutta, and not to coach the Finance Department, as some think, nor to pay a complimentary visit to his new Chief, as others believe.

IN conformity with its instructions to the Chief Magistrate, in reply to the protest of the Honorary Magistrates, the Government has revised the Rules for the guidance of Benches of Magistrates. The new Rules are:—

1. The Honorary Presidency Magistrates shall sit in the rotation arranged by the Chief Magistrate.

2. The Honorary Presidency Magistrates shall try only such cases as may be referred to them by the Chief Magistrate or by his orders.

3. The Honorary Presidency Magistrates shall ordinarily open their Courts at noon, and rise at 5 P. M., on the dates fixed by the Chief Magistrate. A special Bench may, however, be convened on any other day or any other hour by the Chief Magistrate.

4. A Bench shall ordinarily be composed of not less than three Magistrates, when they are all Honorary Magistrates; or of two when one of them is a Stipendiary; but the Chief Magistrate may, in his discretion, permit any two Honorary Presidency Magistrates to proceed with the hearing and disposal of cases.

5. The Chief Magistrate may, should he deem it desirable, appoint any Honorary Presidency Magistrate sitting singly to be a Court, and on business being sent to him by the Chief Magistrate, he shall dispose of the same, but not otherwise.

6. Should any Honorary Presidency Magistrate named for attendance on a Bench fail to be present on the appointed day, the Chief Magistrate may, in his discretion, either summon another Magistrate, or direct that the Bench should proceed without the absent member.

7. The Stipendiary Magistrates shall be *ex officio* members of Benches; the Chief Magistrate shall, if present, officiate as Chairman; in his absence, the Junior Stipendiary Magistrate shall, if sitting, officiate as Chairman. In the absence of both the Stipendiary Magistrates, the Chief Magistrate shall nominate the Chairman.

8. The Chairman shall conduct the proceedings of the Court, and exercise all the functions in that behalf usually exercised by a Stipendiary Magistrate when sitting singly. He will decide upon the admissibility of evidence, and maintain order in the Court; but it shall be open to any member of the Bench to put questions to the witnesses either direct or through the Chairman as the latter may deem advisable, and to suggest any matter for the Chairman's consideration.

9. Every member of a Bench shall have a voice in the finding and sentence. In a Bench consisting of three members, the opinion of the

majority shall prevail; when there are only two members, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

10. The Chairman shall himself ordinarily record the evidence and judgment in cases where a record of evidence and judgment is necessary; but such duty may, with his consent, be performed by any of his colleagues, or the evidence and judgment may be taken down by the Registrar of the Court at the dictation of the Chairman.

11. A Bench may hold one or more adjourned sittings, should it be necessary to do so for the disposal of business or of part-heard cases; but it shall be open to a Bench at the close of each sitting either to refer unheard cases back to the Chief Magistrate for disposal, or to postpone them to some other day as may be most convenient, but adjournments should be, as far as possible, *de die in diem*.

12. Any part-heard case adjourned by a Bench composed of three Magistrates may be proceeded with on the day fixed for the adjourned hearing before any two of the said Magistrates; provided always that the accused person or persons give his or their consent. All subsequent hearings of the case, where further adjournments are necessary, shall be before the same two Magistrates.

13. Any part-heard case may be sent back to the Chief Magistrate for disposal, should it appear unsuited for trial by a Bench.

These Rules thus restore the old familiar phrase "Honorary Presidency Magistrates" and withdraw the innovation "Unpaid" which so much wounded the feelings of the Great Unpaid. The Registrar is relegated to his own proper place, instead of being the visible directing spirit of the Benches. Except as Chairman of the Bench in the absence of the Chief Magistrate, the Junior Stipendiary Magistrate has no existence in these Rules. Cases from his Court must come to the Benches through the Chief Magistrate. Even in the absence of the Chief Magistrate, the Junior Stipendiary is not to exercise the authorities vested in the Chief Magistrate. This is an omission which must be rectified sooner or later. A graver mistake is that Benches are deprived of the power to appoint their own Chairmen.

LEGISLATIVE restrictions on the use of arms by the civil population work everywhere in the same way. In all more or less wild countries they leave the people at the mercy of beasts of prey and animals destructive to cultivation, as well as burglars and brigands and other human depredators. It is the same in Java as in India. In the latter country, even more than the former, the peculiarities of faith intensify the effects of legal disability. Between these causes, there has been going on a alarming multiplication in the natural breeding of the misanthropic families in the kingdom of Animated Nature, and doubtless also a proportionate advance in their boldness. As a consequence, for some years past, parts of Java are being depopulated by tigers. In 1882, the population of a whole village in the south-west of the Province of Bantam had to be removed and transferred to an island off the coast, to save them from these man-eaters. In 1887, out of a population of 600,000, 61 were killed by tigers, and it was proposed to remove the population of the most threatened part to a safer one. The people, as good Buddhists, shrink from the mortal sin of killing even beasts, unless previously attacked, when it is usually too late for taking either defensive or offensive measures. Besides, this particular district is, as the result of a previous rising, under the ban of an Arms Act. Last year, the reward for killing a Royal Java tiger was raised to 200 florins or £20.

HERE is news from the other side of India! *Native Opinion* says on the 10th instant—

"We are glad to note that the Cooch Behar Raj under the personal management of the Maharaja is becoming a model state."

A pretty model to be sure. But our Bombay contemporary is scarcely to blame, perhaps, seeing that it follows a contemporary nearer home. But it is greatly to be pitied for relying upon that broken reed of journalism—the *Patriot* of these latter days. It seems—

"According to the *Patriot* all the high and responsible posts are held by men of culture. It seems the Maharaja in his duties is assisted by a Council of elders—a machinery so necessary for the good government of a district. We hope other native states also move in the same direction."

We confess we are unable to add *Amen!* We do hope no "other native states" will "move in the same direction." It is bad enough to have one of our states sacrificed.

OUR contemporary really enjoys an enviable frame of mind. This Canada of the Press is in ecstasy at the emancipation of the serfs of his generous imagination, thus:—

"So there is every prospect of the Assam coolie becoming a freeman sooner or later."

Well, if the coolie is a slave in Assam, it is something if there is any prospect of his enfranchisement sooner or later. But, why should he



be a slave at all? Would it not be better to prevent his ever being a coolie? Our contemporary derives his prospect of the eventual release of the slave from the circumstance noted thus—

"A concession has been made in the case under which the time-expired *coolie* will be entitled to such lands as he may think of occupying free of rent for three years. This will be a powerful incentive to him to enter upon planting labour in tea plantations."

In other words, the freeman will consent to be a slave for a term for the prospect of becoming a freeman on such terms. But can such an arrangement be described as a slavery? We object to the use of this sensational language which not only confounds broad distinctions and prevents the calm consideration of a sober and important economic question, but also prejudices Capital and scares away Labour and altogether sets class against class—the Planters against the Coolies and *vice versa*, and causes unnecessary hostility between the native and the European communities. Above all, it indefinitely postpones the good day when natives of energy and capital will share in the very enterprises by which the Europeans are benefitting at the same time that they are developing the resources of the country and advancing its prosperity and improving the condition of the people. We commend this view of the matter to our politics-mad publicists and patriots. Look at the characteristic conclusion of our contemporary!

"The necessity of this concession as an inducement to labour evidently shows that the planting law is not an unmixed good in Assam."

For shame, *Native Opinion*! Was there ever a law in the world or anything anywhere, that was an unmixed good?

A COOK, whose name is not mentioned, earns, in London, as much as £2,000 a year

"In his own brougham he sets out towards evening for the house of some rich man who is going to give a dinner at which every dish must be above criticism. Here he alights, and goes to the kitchen, goes through the process of tasting all the soups, sauces, and made dishes, advising, when his palate suggests, a little more salt here, a pinch of herbs there, a dash of sugar in this *entrée*, a suspicion of onion in that *salutis*, &c. This done, he pockets his fee of five guineas and drives on to the next dinner-giving patron. His nightly list comprises many houses all through the London season."

What a beautiful illustration of the perfection of organization in European society, securing efficiency and preventing waste! It is far cheaper to pay a taster five guineas than spoil a costly eating and the pleasure of a whole party. But most of our people would, we are afraid, save the few pounds—even a few shillings—at the risk of ruining the whole entertainment. We speak generally, for the revising *chef* has not the same field among us, as among nations who, however civilised in other respects, have not yet acquired the art of eating. It is only the rude *cuisine* of London that will admit of the tinkering and manipulation of the broughamwala *Browatchee*. The true Indian cookery is above it and too delicate for it. It is done on a different principle. Your European dishes are often made, and always completed, at the eating table. Ours are always finished in the kitchen. The former are frequently mere mechanical combinations. The latter, as a rule, are chemical combinations done over the kitchen fire. Besides, among the Hindus, the law of ceremonial purity discourages the application of tests before serving, but, of course, it is to some extent done on the sly, in the interest of their reputation by those who cook. Mahomedan cooks regularly taste in the course of preparation. But the principle of their art leaves little room for ante-prandium interference after cooking.

Two of the Calcutta schools have been reported by the Inspector of Schools as having passed a fraud on the University. About a dozen students who failed in the test examination of their own schools, went over to these two institutions, paid down certain fees and were returned as regular students for the Entrance examination which commenced on Monday. It is not permitted by the rules of the University to students educated at one school to appear at the examination as from another. A student can only appear from the school at which he was during the last six or eight months. The students in question could only have been sent up by falsification of registers. According to these books, they appeared to have achieved the extraordinary feat of being at two places at the same time. One of the schools implicated glories in the honoured name of a great officer of the High Court, and is bolstered up by the energies of an astute Secretary. This too clever by half person, after the ominous visit of Mr. Inspector Radhika Prasanna Mookerjee and his rummaging of the school records,

hastened to put in a plea of inadvertence—in introducing new names into old registers, we suppose.

The two Institutions have been called upon to explain their conduct, but the boys have been allowed to appear at the examination pending the enquiry. How are these boys to be dealt with if they pass? If the fraud is brought home to the schools and the boys, the consequence is plain. It is scarcely fair to the boys, to send them to the examination with such a weight of anxiety on their heads. The matter ought to have been there and then decided, so far at least as the present examination was concerned.

A NEIGHBOURING contemporary has again been betrayed into school-mastering with the old *Gooroo Mohasoy*. It airs its knowledge by an attempt to correct our Indian geography. Let it enjoy its triumph. We are content to know that Whitefield is situated in the Neilgherries.

THE *Mirror* having lost all character and been thoroughly discredited all round, within as well as without the Congress, has found a ready organ in our sturdy contemporary of the *Amrita Bazar*. In the current number, the indefatigable Mr. Allan Hume publishes one of his anonymous manifestoes. It was probably sent as an editorial contribution—it is certainly rank with the *wedon* which was so offensive to the late Mr. Frederick Maurice—but the experienced editor had his own good reasons for not adopting it. There can, however, be no doubt about the "esteemed friend" who has indited this vindication of the Indian Political Agency in England. Written in the character of a veteran native politician, probably to suit, as it well does, our brother of the *Amrita Bazar*, it is the Old Man's Hope again all over. We regret that Mr. Hume should be so prone to this hide and seek game. We do not know whether there is any legitimate occasion for it. It can never pay in the long run. He is certainly not fit to carry it on. He is a man of ability but not of the ability to sustain different characters. He has talent but not genius, and it is genius that is required for the rôle he would enact. He can never attain to *vraisemblance* as a native patriot. He should stick to the reality. As a Scotchman retired from the Civil Service, who earnestly desires to do what good he can to the country, he would be at home. Speaking only from a literary point of view, without reference to the ethics of the matter, we consider his attempts to throw the public off the scent ill-judged, because vain and almost puerile. He not only lacks dramatic power, but is deficient in the almost mechanical art of disguising his hand. It is probably the palpable evidence of this want in the writing under notice that decided the editor in rejecting it as an editorial contribution.

The Indian Political Agency in England may certainly be a good thing, if well directed from India. It is certainly in proper hands in England, Mr. William Digby being the Agent. But the editor, we see, spoils his advocacy by attempting to prove too much. Thus we are told—

"The Agency has only been in existence a few months, and yet it has accomplished great things. It has been the means of bringing the Congress under the attention of the English people, and getting up dozens of public meetings where our late delegates discoursed upon Indian subjects before the English audience. It also brought several grievances of the Princes and the people of India before the House of Commons. Among the latter may be mentioned the Kirkwood case and Sir Lepel Griffin's treatment of the Begum of Bhopal. It need hardly be said that, Mr. Kirkwood or Sir Lepel Griffin would have never been compelled to resign the Civil Service, if they had not been made to cut such an unenviable figure in Parliament."

That is as magnificent a specimen of castle architecture in Spain as any to be found in the files of Congress literature! While we are all under the impression that the Agency's triumphs are in the future, here it is credited with having accomplished great things. What it has done in the way of bringing the Congress before the British public, might be effected from here. A greater agitation in favour of the Ilbert Bill was made without any special agency. The Princes have always taken care of their own interests, so far at least as bringing their grievances before Parliament is concerned. And has the Agency taken up the cause of Siddiq Hossein? But was there any other princely grievance brought before Parliament by the Agency? The concluding assertion is a fitting crown to the bravery of the whole. So Mr. Kirkwood would never have been compelled to resign but for

Parliamentary pressure, and Sir Lepel Griffin has left the Service under compulsion of the same august power! So far as the first is concerned, this is simply ungrateful to the Governments here. As for the second, it is unjust to our contemporary. Was it not the *Amrita Bazar* that had hounded the Knight of Central India out of office and the land?

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1889.

### EDUCATION IN BENGAL.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY'S latest Resolution on Sir Alfred Croft's Education Report for 1887-88, marks what may be considered a new stage in the history of education in Bengal. There is no more that *furor* for mass education—that hunting up of primary schools and swelling the figures of children under instruction

that stinting of education of every other kind for stimulating the education of what was called the lower classes but that were no more lower classes than those attending other descriptions of schools. All this enthusiasm has given place to a more quiescent—and shall we say normal?—mood. A reaction has evidently set in. The Government Resolution is pitched in a far different key from what we had been used to in past years. Here is how the subject is curtly disposed of:—

"Practically, primary education in Bengal has reached a stationary state, and such variations as occur from year to year in the numbers are due rather to alterations in the system of registration than to any real advance or retrogression. The Provincial Government has not in recent years been able to make any increase in the assignment under this head; and there is not, as in the case of English education, a spontaneous tendency to the spread of elementary instruction, irrespective of Government assistance, beyond the classes which it at present reaches."

A similar lull marks the progress of secondary education. The financial difficulties of Government have brought about almost a standstill in the progress of educational work. Applications for new grants-in-aid have been accumulating for the last three years on the hands of the Department, nor is any indication afforded in the Resolution that a more liberal treatment of the claims of this important branch—this backbone of the educational system—might be looked forward to at an early date. The Government Resolution is distinct on the point:—

"The Director notices that applications for new grants have been accumulating for the last two or three years, and observes that it is much to be wished that Government were in a position to afford more liberal aid. This is doubtless desirable, but the fulfilment of the wish is very improbable considering not only existing financial conditions, but also the more urgent claims of primary and technical education."

It is not to be supposed that Government will be able to maintain all old grants in aid indefinitely, and at the same time to make new allowances from year to year.

The following important paragraph on collegiate instruction is recorded in the Resolution:—

"It will be seen that the Government colleges, with reference to the number of their pupils, obtained more than their share of degrees of all kinds, and that the proportion in their favour was larger, as the examination progressed in difficulty. This is most marked in the M.A. course, and is there entirely due to the superior instruction given in the Presidency College, a most useful and necessary institution, which maintains by its example, as well as by direct support, the standard of education in the province. The Director's observations on this subject are in entire accordance with the views entertained by Government. He writes: 'The Presidency College, with its high fee of Rs. 12 a month, has nearly doubled its numbers of two years back, and indeed in July, 1888, four months after the close of the year, the number of its rolls exceeded 500, a greater strength than it has ever before known. The demands made by the various courses of the University upon a limited educational staff have much increased of late years; and if, in accordance with the present policy, the strength of the Presidency College professorate be maintained at such a level as to meet all requirements, the foregoing figures show that students will flock to its class-rooms in such numbers as to more than repay the additional cost involved. The Presidency College must maintain its position among the colleges of Bengal as that in which the best and most varied education is given, realising as far as possible the ideal of a 'teaching University.' That end must be secured even though, in order to attain it, we have to weaken the staff of some of the less important Government colleges in the province. Moreover, the rapid up-springing of

private colleges throughout Bengal affords a clear proof that collegiate education to a moderate standard no longer demands the sustaining arm of Government as the necessary condition of its existence; and the policy to which I have adverted will render the gradual transition from Government control to private management a natural and easy process of development."

This is an argument for the retention of the Presidency College, though one was hardly needed. Notwithstanding all the success of native enterprise or of the missionary agency in this respect, the *raison d'être* of the highest State College for the maintenance of the highest standard of English education, will always remain, and it gives us great pleasure to observe that the multiplicity of independent institutions and the expansion in the numerical strength of the native colleges, have not had the apprehended effect of denuding the rolls of the Presidency. On the contrary, the Presidency has of late had great accession to its numbers. This is a proof of appreciation of the Presidency College, creditable alike to the community and the College authorities. It is at any rate clear now, that the fate of the Law classes of the Presidency is not in store for the General Department.

### LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT AT SERAMPORE.

THE Serampore Municipality has been whitewashed. That *bête noire* of Dr. Lidderdale has won a certificate of behaviour and been restored to caste. Such is the mutability of sanitary opinions—so little confidence is to be placed in the reports of Sanitary Officers! This has always been so. Sometime ago, we pointed out two diametrically contrary sanitary opinions of the Uttarpara Municipality, recorded within a few days of each, by two of the highest officers of the Department. The two men evidently fell into the hands of the two factions, whose mutual animosity has made the name of Uttarpara a byword, and wrote their reports as they were "coached." In the case of Serampore, Dr. Lidderdale apparently took his cue from some people who did not relish the idea of Dr. Mitra's absentee Chairmanship. He fell in with this view, and whatever he saw or was made to see, tended to confirm it, till he flared up, and lost the balance of his judgment. Indeed, it is difficult to imagine any other explanation of a high official of mature age and experience so far forgetting himself and the law of Local Self-Government, as actually to report to Government against the election of a man who had such firm hold upon the confidence of the ratepayers, as to be elected Chairman for two successive terms. But Dr. Mitra has been vindicated. Dr. Lidderdale having taken leave, his successor, Dr. Gregg, made a series of careful inspections of the Serampore Municipality, and his report completely disproves the inflammatory impeachment of Dr. Lidderdale. Not that the sanitary condition of the municipality does not afford scope for adverse criticism here and there, but such defects as there are, are sufficiently explained by disproportionateness of funds to the extent of area, and other difficulties and obstacles. On the other hand, Dr. Gregg takes a favorable view of not a few improvements which have been effected under the present *régime*, and the evident tendency in every branch is towards progress. In fact, as regards the defects, no one is more regretfully conscious of their existence than the Commissioners with their Chairman themselves. But what can they do beyond the limits set to their power by the limitation of funds, and other causes? In fact, the worst thing about these inspecting officers is the superior airs they often give them-

selves. When they point out any defects, they seem to think they make a revelation of what, but for their superior special knowledge, would have otherwise never been brought to light. But is not the truth very different in sanitary as in other inspectors? We are free to acknowledge the importance of periodical inspections by special experts, but it is intolerable they should assume such an arrogant bearing in relation to those gentlemen whose work they are deputed to see and report upon from time to time. In the case of the Serampore municipality, could not the Chairman, Dr. Mitra himself, from his minute local knowledge, pen a far more damaging inspection memorandum than any produced by Dr. Lidderdale? Just reverse their positions, and let Dr. Mitra, under orders of Government, sit in judgment upon Dr. Lidderdale's working of the Sanitary Department. Could not Dr. Troylukhonath Mitra fairly turn the tables upon his adversary, and make him pass a bad half hour under his scathing examination? The truth is, no municipality is without defects; but of these defects, the Commissioners themselves are no whit less conscious than their official censors. For the rest, whatever may be the weak points of Local Self-Government, there can be no doubt as to the large amount of improvement which it has been the instrument of bringing about, during the short space it has been introduced.

We congratulate the Serampore municipality and its Chairman on the turn which their quarrel with the Sanitary Department has taken, and only wish other boards may be equally fortunate in their conflicts with officials. Dr. Lidderdale's letter has been wisely condemned to neglect by the Government of Bengal. It now remains for the municipal Commissioners, by energetically carrying out Dr. Gregg's more practicable suggestions, to belie their calumniators, in official or other camp.

#### THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

##### V.

##### THE SPEECHES AND THE SPEAKERS (*continued*).

Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee.—This modest and moderate speaker won universal esteem and affection by his deeds, rather than by his words. Rejoicing in the possession, in an eminent degree, of those social virtues and those unbought graces of life—which render Shakespeare's definition of 'man' significant—Mr. George Yule could not have found a wiser councillor and better Private Secretary than Mr. Bonnerjee. One night I overheard a group of very influential and highly educated Beharis and Hindustanis discussing among them as to who could be the fittest successor to "our universal leader, Mr. A. O. Hume," and deciding, with one voice, that none better than Mr. Bonnerjee. This amiable gentleman, ever agreeable and ever accessible, a bland smile always playing upon his lips, rendered himself very acceptable to all, by going about from tent to tent and enquiring about the comfort of individual delegates. He it was also who, the previous evening, exhorted, entreated, nay beseeched each delegate not to ill-treat in the least Raja Siva Prasad, or the poor Raja would have been simply nowhere. He was accompanied by Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee. Thus he saved the Congress from a dire calamity, whose ill-effects would have been instantaneous and marked. I have been credibly informed that the titular Raja Siva Prasad, on his part, was prepared for the worst, and had actually taken his final farewell leave of his family at Benares, before starting for Allahabad. He was so assured of being waylaid and attacked, that when going back from the Congress he actually directed his attendants to prime themselves with open arms and be ready for action! But I am digressing. Mr. Bonnerjee established his reputation as a remarkable speaker in the now notorious Burdwan case, by his forensic address in defence of that great champion of Indian rights, that knight of the pen—Mr. Robert Knight. That address will remain as one of the boldest

traditions of the metropolitan bar. Then we have the authority of Mr. Norton that he acquitted himself admirably in England. Being of a modest and retiring disposition of mind, he gave the slip to those who were anxious to give him an ovation on his return from England. The same unobtrusiveness of his habits manifested itself when he tried to avoid speaking; but he was prevailed upon, not however without much difficulty, to speak. His silver-ringing, echoful voice is envied by many. And when he speaks, I am disposed to liken him to—only that the comparison would be inappropriate—the sirens in the Mediterranean Sea, of whose charms we have read so much and so often in Homer.

Pandit Bishumbher Nath—is every inch of him an unsophisticated wight of the old school. A silent but steady worker, little does the outside world know of the many sterling virtues and high accomplishments that adorn this good man and true. He is one of many flowers born to blush unseen and waste their sweetness on the desert air. The contrast between his private conversations and his public addresses of classic beauty and dignity, is complete. Our wind-bags and chatter-boxes have so full a monopoly of idle talk, that these sober and sensible men have no chance for speaking. They are elbowed out, and the result is deplorable. One of the leading members of the local bar, he has contributed practically most to the success of the Congress here. He spared nothing, no amount of humiliation and shame—personally to collect the "sinews of war." His hold upon the regard and esteem of the people of Allahabad is almost fabulous. The natives have a faith in him that seems superstitious. At the same time, his fame has travelled far and wide to the interior of the United Provinces. He does not need the help of those arts which first illusionise the reason and then make the speaker felt. He makes a powerful appeal to the reason, and if he cannot in this way produce any effect upon his hearers, he does not care to produce it in any other way. Calm and collected, as he speaks he reminds one of the nine jewels in the Court of the King Vikramaditya. He is possessed, in a remarkable degree, of those qualities which went, in days of yore, to contribute to the success of a great and good minister, "guide, philosopher, and friend." And yet up to this time there has been not one syllable of recognition, either within or outside the Congress *Pandal*, from the Congress delegates or our "Admirable Crichtons" of the Native Press, for his invaluable services. Shall their consciences still go to enjoy an undisturbed sleep after this grave sin of omission having been pointed out to them? Pandit Bishumbher Nath is not one of those who go about seeking—a-begging—"bubble reputation." He is far above it, and strong-willed enough to afford to do very well without it. He takes his stand upon the enduring platform of Duty. But it is nonetheless your duty, and ought to be your pleasure, to give unto Caesar what is Caesar's. Long before Pandit Ayodhya Nath had been convinced of the usefulness of the Congress and thrown in his lot with it, Pandit Bishumbher Nath was the honoured leader and President of the local Standing Congress Committee of Allahabad. And it was only the other day—last year—that he vacated his chair in favor of Pandit Ayodhya Nath, fearing that Pandit Ayodhya Nath may not like to work in a subordinate capacity to him. Comparisons are always odious: so I shall avoid them; but he is in no way inferior to the Hon'ble Pandit, either in abilities or social position. It is therefore a solemn and an unfathomable mystery to me how it was that he was not even so much as honoured with a mention, as one of the chief organisers and important members of the Reception Committee; nor were Baboo Ramkali Chaudhari of Benares, Mr. Hamid Ali Khan and Baboo Bansi Lal Singh from Oude, for the invaluable services they rendered to the Congress.

Mr. Annunda Charlu.—

Now hear what every auditor expects

The unassuming simplicity of the Madrasi character is very well illustrated in the speech of the eminent pleader—who hails from Bellary. His solid reasoning, set forth by his apt examples and quaint humour, is sure before long to win your attention and command your admiration. His illustrations are so appropriate and have such a close bearing upon the points he wishes to bring out, and his humour is so well-seasoned, that one cannot help admiring his rare skill. He is probably the best speaker on the

Madras side, and the speeches are characteristic of the man.

Mr. Mano Mohun Ghose.—This "terror of the Mofussil Courts in Bengal" made his individuality at once felt by his powerful speech of a quarter of an hour. It was practical and sensible all round. And although he seemed to say—

I am no orator, as Brutus is :

But, as you know me all, a plain blunt man :

and although he had to follow such an illustrious roll of speakers comprising such names as Norton, Telang, &c., he did not suffer in the least from comparison. His power of debate is wonderfully developed. A man of remarkable intellectual parts, he had for sometime—not in these degenerate times, mark you!—been Editor of the *Indian Mirror*, before he joined, and achieved such success at, the bar. His speech was worthy of him. It may be set before the young as a model for imitation. It was business-like, and such as parliamentary speeches are. It is no ordinary compliment paid when it is added that the Congress accepted his advice, rejecting the advice of men like Messrs. Norton, Telang, Rameswami Mudeliar, Adam. The second resolution elicited the keenest discussion, and Mr. Ghosh, by his abilities no less than by his long experience, brought it to a successful and satisfactory termination. He swung as he spoke, and seemed to speak from the depth of his heart. He spoke very feelingly.

The Revd. Ram Chandra Bose.—This "Soldier of Christ" is a veteran speaker, a good thinker, and an able writer. He is a worthy disciple of the Revd. Lal Behari De, who may well be proud of his former student. And if it were possible for the Revd. Mr. Kennedy, the father of Mr. Pringle Kennedy, of Mozufferpore, and the father-in-law of Mr. C. Tupp, Accountant-General of Allahabad, to see how successfully his godson had followed in his footsteps, his heart would have swelled with joy. This pious gentleman, who has reached the shady side of fifty and more, has a very interesting history of his own. He began life as a school-master. Then his habits of drunkenness and debauchery compelled him to seek for fresh fields and pastures new. It is said that in the class-room at Sitapur, he would expatiate, in eloquent and glowing terms, on the beauties of his lady-love. But now what a complete and wonderful transformation! He is a perfect religious and literary recluse. He has long since given up his old ways, and is now a humble and devout penitent. Intellectual exercises are now his best pastime. Go to him whenever you will, you will find him either poring over a book or writing for the papers. He is unquestionably the first literary man of Lucknow, which is his head-quarters. He delivered, at the last Congress, one of the ablest and most philosophical speeches, on the technical education question. He spoke for not more than five minutes, and I doubt if anybody, within that limited time, could give utterance to as much sense and substance as Mr. Bose did. A series of interesting lectures in America won him the degree of A. M. He has an established reputation in that ultra-radical trans-Atlantic region. His voice, as that of a worn-out, fagged gentleman who has suffered every kind of physical privation and who gladly renounced the pleasures and luxuries of this world for the inevitable hereafter, is not likely to shew him to advantage; nor do his accent and emphasis always produce the most pleasing effect. But what o' that?

Munshi Sajjad Hossein.—In his powers of humorous satire and for setting an audience into a roar, this veteran jester has probably no equal. And what subject is more congenial to the purpose than the Police? The editor of one of the most extensively read and admired Urdu papers and the person who discomfited Sir Syed Ahmed at Lucknow—beating him at his own weapon—speechifying him into stupification—he was the right man in the right place. And no sooner did he ascend the platform—feeling himself as he did in his element—than he, by his witty remarks, began to convulse people with laughter. His allusions and illustrations were not only comic, but at times lapsed into the indecent; all the same, all he said was very much appreciated. As he spoke in Urdu—a language easily intelligible to the lower classes also of these provinces—he was listened to with gaping mouth and looked at with wondering vacant eyes by the peace-makers on congressional duty who seemed for a time disposed to be peace-breakers!

Mr. Saleem S. Ramaswami Mudeliar.—He is best known to the country as the Madras delegate to England in 1887,

and as a member of the Public Service Commission. He is a very effective speaker, and his speech was merely an eloquent vindication of his and his colleague Mr. Justice Mitter's character from the unjust—though insinuating—charge brought against them by the zealous Mr. Norton, your "cub of the Madras bar." And when I add to these two names, who are nothing if not independent, the name of Mr. Nulkar, of the Poona Sarvanjanik Sabha, who strangely enough had slipped so soon out of the memory of the people, and your astonishment, that such a charge was ever preferred against them, would be complete. But Mr. Mudeliar and his distinguished colleagues, did not require to be reminded of the poet's beautiful teaching :

How happy is he born and taught

That serveth not another's will ;

Whose aimour is his honest thought,

And simple truth his utmost skill !

They did everything in their power, he added, to safeguard the interests of their fellow-countrymen. He seemed to speak with certain effort.

Mr. Chandravarker—

Who would true valour see

Let him come hither !

A high caste Mahratta Brahman of great parts and sober calculations, he did not hesitate to go as the Bombay delegate to England in 1887. He has the characteristic excellences of a genuine Mahratta—nothing can make him yield his point. He takes good care to make his point unassailable beforehand. It requires heroic self-sacrifice to leave the dying uncle on his death-bed and join the Congress. He was doubtless assured, when he started for Allahabad, that nothing would go wrong with his uncle before his return; but when a few minutes before he was called upon to second the fourth resolution entrusted to Mr. Kali Charan Banerjee, a telegram was handed over to him, in his speech (which followed) in a choked voice and eyes suffused with tears, one could clearly read the lines of Drummond:

This life, which seems so fair

Is like a bubble blown up in the air.

To have a real insight into the genuine powers of his speech, which is simple and unadorned, one must turn to his speech on the second resolution, seconding Mr. Manomohun Ghosh. It was a very brief one, but there was the genuine article in it. He was then in his free natural state. But it was probably in the fourth resolution, when he felt most his domestic affliction, giving a shove so to speak to his feelings, that he spoke most effectively. It has ever been so. When our feelings are warmed up by some means, what we feel most we can express best.

Mr. E. Watcha.—This clever statistician and worthy disciple of Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, spoke on a subject specially his own. For months, he has written and thought upon the Abkari question, and had once by one exploded all the pet theories on this subject of the Civilians on the Bombay side. He and Mr. Malabari are the twin disciples of Mr. Naoroji, and their genius is for reform. For months and years, abuses have been heaped upon their devoted heads, but they seem to be stoically indifferent to, and unaffected by, them. A better writer than a speaker, he was brief and to the point. He had no affectation nor attempt at flourishes of rhetoric in his speech. It was eminently practical; and I am sure even if Mr. Budruddin Tyebji could be present—his brother's serious illness compelling him to remain behind—he would not be able to do it better in 5 minutes. He knows how to

Let brevity despatch the rapid thought ;

for he has the authority of Shakespeare that brevity is the soul of wit.

B.

*Holloway's Pills.*—Factory Operatives and Workers in Manufactories.—The remarkable remedies which have been discovered and perfected by Thomas Holloway, and which have for more than forty years been successfully used in every quarter of the globe, are especially useful in all the manifold ailments which afflict those who by reason of their occupations are confined for years, or all their lives, in crowded buildings and workshops. Holloway's Pills and Ointment are associated remedies, the former restoring the vital powers when diminished, and always acting as an efficient blood purifier, whilst the latter relieves local maladies, checks inflammation, and acts as a cleansing and healing agent in cases of bad legs, bad breasts, ulcers and unhealing sores of all kinds.

## THE BRUCE CHARITY.

1. The testatrices of this bequest, Miss Sarah Bruce and Miss Mary Ann Bruce, were the daughters of Mr. Alexander Bruce, who was for many years engaged as an indigo planter in India. After making a fortune in this country, he returned to England with his two daughters, at that time of a tender age, and took up his residence in London. In 1827 Mr. Bruce died, and left his two daughters all his fortune. They had only one near relation, a Colonel Bruce, who was their first cousin, and who is reported to have been a Waterloo veteran, and to have fought with Wellington throughout the Peninsular war.

2. The elder sister, Miss Sarah Bruce, actuated, it may be presumed, by a knowledge of the lamentable condition of the poorer classes of the domiciled Christian community in and about Calcutta, was desirous of leaving the bulk of her property for the purpose of founding an institution in Calcutta for the maintenance and education of Eurasian female children. She persuaded her sister to follow her example, and they finally executed wills by which they dedicated the greater portion of their joint fortunes to that object. The trusts created under these wills directed that the bequests should be applied "for or towards the foundation and endowment of any institution at Calcutta or at any place within 50 miles thereof for the education and maintenance of half-caste or Eurasian female children, whether legitimate or otherwise, and in particular orphans or those deserted by their parents, such children to be admitted only between the ages of 5 and 10 years, and to be maintained until they can be provided for in some respectable and useful station in life."

3. The elder sister died in 1878, and the younger in 1880. The sums received under Miss Sarah Bruce's will, after deducting legal expenses, amount to £28,766-11-6, and further securities valued at £22,000 will be added to the bequest on the death of two legatees mentioned in her will; the amount received under Miss Mary Ann Bruce's will is about £17,000. The ultimate value of the joint bequest may therefore be estimated at nearly ten lakhs of rupees.

4. It appears that as early as the year 1886, the Secretary of State for India had received communications from the Misses Bruce, intimating their intention of founding this Indian charity. In 1881, however, after the death of the testatrices, the Government of India, at the instance of the Secretary of State, requested the Government of Bengal to prepare a scheme for the administration of the legacy. On the recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, the subject was referred to the Committee appointed to consider the question of European and Eurasian education in India. The Director of Public Instruction, as President of the Committee, in his report on the subject pointed out that a serious difficulty presented itself at the outset in the meaning to be attached to the term 'institution.' Was it necessary to build and maintain a separate home and school; or would it be sufficient if the girls to be benefited by the trust were placed in one or more existing institutions having similar objects? A further and more serious difficulty presented itself in the absence of any reference to religious distinctions. The wills made poverty and necessity the sole grounds for admission to the benefits of the trust; but the Director proceeded to say, in reference to the claim of the Roman Catholic Church to control even the secular education of children of that communion, that "if religious distinctions are ignored, the necessary result will be to deprive the majority of the class for whom the trust was devised from any share in its benefits." "It is only by recognising religious distinctions that the benefits of the trust can be extended to all denominations of the Eurasian community."

5. This was also the view which commended itself to the Governments of India and Bengal. On the receipt of the Committee's report, however, the Government of Bengal, in consultation with the law officers of Government, finally resolved to have a scheme for the administration of the trust prepared under the direction of the High Court of Calcutta. A suit was accordingly instituted (the Advocate-General of Bengal *versus* the Secretary of State for India in Council) "for the construction of the wills of Miss Sarah Bruce and Miss Mary Ann Bruce, deceased, as to the charitable trusts therein mentioned, and to have a scheme framed for administering the said trusts, &c." By a decree of the Hon'ble High Court dated the 26th August 1886, a scheme for the administration of the Bruce Legacy Fund was adopted, and provision was made for the establishment and management of the Institution on an undenominational basis. The costs incurred in this suit, on both sides, amounted to a sum slightly above Rs. 6,000.

6. Under this decree it was declared that "an institution shall be established for the purpose of carrying out the trusts for the benefit of half-caste or Eurasian female children, contained in the wills of Miss Sarah Bruce and Miss Mary Ann Bruce, and of administering the funds provided for that purpose. The Institution shall be called the Bruce Institution," and "shall be under the management of twelve Governors . . . The Governors shall provide an office in Calcutta at which . . . the business of the Institution shall be carried on . . . The girls to receive the

benefits of the Institution shall be elected by the Governors . . . Each girl who has been elected shall be educated and maintained by the Governors at such suitable boarding school as they may from time to time select. In selecting from time to time the school at which the girls shall be educated and maintained, the Governors shall take into account . . . the religious denomination of the school and all other circumstances which they may deem material." By the interpretation thus given to the term 'institution,' the religious difficulty altogether disappeared.—*The Calcutta Gazette*, Feb. 6, 1889.

## Law.

HIGH COURT.—CRIMINAL REVISIONAL JURISDICTION,—  
FEBRUARY 12, 1889.

(Before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pigott and the Hon'ble Mr. Justice  
Reverley.)

RAJAH PARISNATH SINGH AND R. H. BODDAM vs.  
RAI DHUNPUT SINGH AND OTHERS.

Mr. Justice Pigott, in delivering the judgment of the Court, spoke as follows :—

"This is an appeal from the order made by the Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribagh on the 1st October, 1888, by which the defendant, Mr. R. H. Boddam, was restrained from carrying on the manufacture of hogs' lard, or any other trade offensive to the religious feelings of the Situmbari Society of the Jains, until the hearing of the case, or until the further orders of the Court." His lordship, after recapitulating the facts of the case, continued :— "In no portion of the plaint, and in no portion of the surprising affidavit upon which the order for the injunction was granted, are any acts of the defendant specified such as might be pronounced to be acts of the character of a nuisance. In no portion of the plaint is it stated or explained in what way the defendant's conduct in starting this manufactory wounds the religious feelings of this sect of the Jains, so that neither by a description of the general character of the sects, nor by a special allegation on the part of the Jains, showing that the defendant's conduct had been of an actionable character, is there the slightest statement to which the term 'showing cause of action' could be applied. We are far from desiring to have it implied that the acts of the defendant in carrying on the manufactory could, under the circumstances, be of such a character as to give rise to a cause of action merely because they wounded the religious feelings of the Jains. On the other hand, we by no means desire to suggest that conduct actually and improperly interfering with the public worship of a community of Her Majesty's subjects might not, under certain circumstances, give rise to 'cause of action.' It is enough to say that in the proceedings before us there is not a trace of such an assertion of wrong as in our opinion would justify the granting of the injunction. We must, however, take leave to say this that the power of granting injunctions has been perhaps a little lavishly bestowed on Mofussil Courts. It is a tremendous power, and one which Superior Courts at Home are most carefully guarded in exercising; and this is not the first occasion by any means in which the exercise of this power of granting injunction conferred on small Mofussil Courts has led to results by no means satisfactory. Here is a business which, for aught we know, has since the 1st October been suddenly and peremptorily stopped (and this is the 12th February), and without the slightest legal foundation laid before the Court. The second ground on which we make this order is this, that, even assuming that the statements made in the plaint were of such a character as to show that the plaintiff was entitled to the injunction, the injunction ought not to have been issued in the absence of the defendant without the very strongest reasons. There were no such grounds shown here. We are not at liberty to refer to what has been placed before us, and what will shortly be again before us, and we must avoid the irregularity of referring in detail to the correspondence relating to the rule; but it is quite clear that for months before this injunction was applied for or granted, the parties connected with the Jain community were fully aware of what the defendants had been doing, or was about to do. We must express our regret that the officer who granted this injunction had not before him the legal considerations which ought to have guided him in determining when the application to dissolve the injunction was made. We should be sorry to say anything whatever in disparagement of that officer: he plainly did not understand the character of the jurisdiction he was exercising, and he is not to be blamed for that. A jurisdiction originally belonging only to a Superior Court possessed of legal knowledge and experience is now imposed on a Mofussil Court, which shares with its victims the cruelty of inflicting such powers. But we must take exception to the course adopted by the Deputy Commissioner when he was applied to, on the ground that, under section 494 of the Code of Civil Procedure, he should have given notice to the other party before issuing the order. We have only to point out the extreme stringency of section 494, which provides that notice shall always be issued to the opposite party save



in most exceptional cases. We make no order on the question of damages, which the appellants might very reasonably claim, as we understand that they are not anxious to press this point, as the utmost amount they could receive, Rs. 1,000, would represent a very trifling proportion to the expenses they have already incurred. We therefore allow the appeal, with assessed costs, twenty gold-mohurs."

With regard to the rule asking for the transfer of the case from the Court of the Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribagh to some other Court, Mr. Bonnerjee informed the Court that he had suggested to his clients the advisability of having the case tried at the High Court; but that they were strongly opposed to this, urging the enormous expense they would incur and the inconvenience they would suffer if such a course were adopted. Failing this, Mr. Bon-

nerjee thought their lordships might see their way to directing the case to be tried by some other officer at Hazaribagh. This latter suggestion, however, the Court declined absolutely to entertain. Referring to Colonel Garbett's letters to Mr. Boddam, his lordship Mr Justice Pigott, thought it was apparent that in this matter his executive functions would interfere with the proper exercise of his judicial functions, if such had not already been the case, and he considered therefore it was desirable that the case should be transferred either to Burdwan or Calcutta. On the suggestion of the learned Advocate General, and with the concurrence of the learned counsel on either side, their lordships ordered the case to be transferred to the Court of the District and Sessions Judge of Alipore, with leave to him to either try it himself or direct the Additional or Subordinate Judge of the district to do so.

### A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta  
WILL BE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL,  
on Thursday, the 21st February 1889, at 3 P.M.

#### BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. The Chairman to lay before the Commissioners the draft Budget of income and expenditure for the year 1889-90, and to propose the appointment of a Budget Committee under Section 2, Schedule B, Act II. (B. C.) of 1888.

2. To consider the report of the Committee on the Central Road project together with a letter from the Government of Bengal, No. 261-M., dated 2nd February 1889.

[Chairman will move that as the discussion has been delayed by circumstances over which the Commissioners had no control till within a few weeks of the election of the new Corporation it will be more proper to postpone so large a question for the early consideration of the new Corporation.]

3. To consider the letter from the Government of India on the Administration Report of the Municipality for the year 1886-87, together with the Chairman's report on the bustee expenditure of that year.

4. To confirm the proceedings of the Town Council at Meetings held on the 26th January and 9th February 1889.

5. To confirm the following Resolutions of the Bustee and Sanitary Committee at the Meeting held on the 22nd January 1889:

(a) Item No. 2 confirming the distribution of grant on account of bustee improvements for 1888-89 as recommended.

(b) Sanctioning the acquisition of necessary land for improving the south-west approach of Taltollah Square.

(c) Accepting the offer of Kherodgopal Mitter, owner of No. 14 Ahireetollah Street, to take over the bustee road on the conditions stated by him.

(d) Accepting the offer of Messrs. Davis and Mullick on behalf of Baboo Upendra Nath Bhuttachejee's land for a bathing platform in Kipnathi's Lane.

(e) Sanctioning an estimate of Rs. 2,942 for a new masonry reservoir and boundary wall at the latrine at No. 84, Grey Street.

6. To confirm generally the proceedings of the Bustee and Sanitary Committee held on the 22nd January 1889.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

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2. In lieu of the forms at present filled up by the senders of value-payable articles, two revised forms will be substituted from the 1st April 1889—one for use with all value-payable articles other than value-payable unregistered book packets, and the other for use with value-payable unregistered book packets. Each form will contain the certificate to be signed by the sender, and space is provided in the form for use with value-payable unregistered packets for the postage stamps to be affixed in payment of commission.

3. In case a value-payable unregistered packet is refused by the addressee or returned as unclaimed to the sender, no refund of the commission prepaid will be granted.

P. SHERIDAN,

Deputy Director-General of the  
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CALCUTTA:

The 27th January 1888.

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Behar and Orissa.)

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CALCUTTA.

## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridood Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Pioneer's Gazette & Sporting News*, October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most evening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detain our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course. —[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting: [Extract]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

.....this interesting book. We are justified in so terming it, not on account of any romantic adventures that the author has to relate, nor of any very new discoveries in geography or natural history. There is something particular as regards ethnology; and a great deal of human nature in the book, shown to the reader with a simplicity and candour which bear testimony to its truth. Called from the busy haunts of men in the city to dwell for a time in Independent Tipperah as a judicious adviser to its chief, Doctor Mookerjee relates his adventures during the several journeys to and fro in that capacity, without revealing the secrets of the State, like a good diplomatist. He has adhered strictly to the advice which he offers to his brethren of the Native press, and has written what he saw and knows, without revealing all, considering what he might properly say and what withhold. ....The above seems to be a curious passage to be found in a book of travels, and appears to have no connection with the subject. But it arises from a casual reference to a slaughter house, and a writer who "thundered weekly against the outrage of locating shambles in the immediate vicinity of a Hindoo temple" where, in fact, no temple could be said to exist. Hence, the doctor advises his fellow scribes not to be Pharisees, righteous overmuch, but to look and be sure of their facts. In the same spirit, he has written his book. He gives an account of his travels, which seem often to have been voyages, upon the widespread rivers of Eastern Bengal which in the rains become almost inland seas. On these he philosophises on the nature of the country and the people, making careful observation of his facts; and though he sometimes fancies he knows better than his boatmen, and more than suspects that they are getting the better of him, he submits with a grace that would have done credit to Socrates, and accepts the apparently inevitable in the interests of peace. The doctor is a close observer of nature, animate and inanimate, with an eye to the picturesque as well as to the sublime and beautiful. And although there is a vein of cynicism running through many of his observations, it is tempered by such evident good nature, that even a stranger would conceive him to be a laughter-loving rather than a stern philosopher. This is evi-

dent in his description of his boatmen and others, while he denounces the lawlessness which has made the poor fishermen suspicious even of honest intentions, because they have so long been the helpless victims of marauders stronger than themselves. Their only defence is flight or deceit, and the latter is their justification as a mode of self-protection. We are shown not only the weakness of the people, but the shortcomings of the administration that leave these things possible. ....The author is impartial in his censures. ....

There is much in the book to which space forbids us to refer. That it is not a prosy one may be gathered from the fact that, for its 300 pages, there are nearly as many index references. Many of the subjects are necessarily but lightly treated, but all sensibly and fairly. And Dr. Mookerjee is such a master of the English language that in the whole book we have scarcely found a phrase that might not have been written by an Englishman "to the manner born." There is nothing in it at which any one could reasonably take offence; and there is much from which both Englishmen and natives may learn greatly needed lessons.—*The Indian Daily News*, Nov. 22, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious; he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree. "A naked Whiteman" hints his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes." But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. .... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec. 1887.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1889.

} No. 362

## CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

### FREEDOM AND RIGHT.

O SAY not, believe not, the gloom of the grave  
Forever has closed upon Freedom's glad light,  
For that sealed are the lips of the honest and brave,  
And the scooners of baseness are robbed of their right.  
Though the true to their oaths into exile are driven,  
Or, weary of wrong, with their own hands have given  
Their blood to their rulers, their spirits of Heaven—  
Yet immortal is Freedom, immortal is Right!  
Freedom and Right!

Let us not be by partial defeats disconcerted;  
They will make the grand triumph more signal and bright;  
Thus whetted, our zeal will be doubly exerted,  
And the cry be raised louder of Freedom and Right!  
For these two are one, and they mock all endeavour  
Of despots their holy alliance to sever,  
Where there's Right be ye sure there are freemen, and ever  
Where freemen are found, will God prosper the Right.  
Freedom and Right!

And let this thought, too, cheer us,—more proudly defiant  
The twins never bore them in fight after fight,  
Never breathed forth a spirit more joyous and buoyant,  
Making heroes of dastards in nature's despite.  
Round the wide earth they're marching; their message they've spoken,  
And nations leap up at the heart-thrilling token;  
For the seif and the slave they have battled, and broken  
The fetters that hung upon black limbs and white.  
Freedom and Right!

And battle they still, where the voice of earth's sorrow  
Tells of wrongs to avenge, of oppressors to smite;  
And conquerors this day, or conquered to-morrow,  
Fear ye not, in the end they will conquer outright.  
Oh! to see the bright wreath round their victor brows shining,  
All the leaves that are dear to the nations combining,  
Lrin's shamrock, the olive of Hellas entwining  
With the oak-leaf, proud emblem of Germany's might!  
Freedom and Right!

There are sore aching bosoms and dim eyes of weepers  
Will be gathered to rest ere that day see the light;  
But ye two will hallow the graves of the sleepers,  
O ye blest ones, we owe to them, Freedom and Right!  
Fill your glasses meanwhile:—To the hearts that were true, boys,  
To the cause that they loved when the storm fiercest blew, boys,  
Who had wrong for their portion, but won right for you, boys,  
Drink to them, to the Right, and to Freedom through Right!  
Freedom through Right!

## THE LITTLE STEP-SON.

### I.

I HAVE a little step-son, the loveliest thing alive,  
A noble, sturdy boy is he, and yet he's only five;  
His smooth cheek hath a blooming glow—his eyes are black as jet,  
And his lips are like two rose-buds, so tremulous and wet;  
His days pass off in sunshine, in laughter and in song,  
As careless as a summer rill that sings itself along;  
For like a pretty fairy tale that's all too quickly told,  
Is the young life of a little one that's only five years old.

### II.

He's dreaming on his happy couch before the day grows dark,  
He's up with morning's rosy ray, a singing with the lark;  
Where'er the flowers are freshest, where'er the grass is green,  
With light locks waving on the wind his fairy form is seen;  
Amid the whistling March winds, amid the April showers;  
He warbles with the singing birds, and prattles to the flowers,  
He cares not for the summer heat, he cares not for the cold  
My sturdy little step-son, that's only five years old.

### III.

How touching 't is to see him clasp his dimpled hands in prayer,  
And raise his little rosy face, with reverential air!  
How simple is his eloquence! how soft his accent fall,  
When pleading with the King of kings to love and bless us all,  
And when from prayer he bounds away in innocence and joy,  
The blessing of a smiling God goes with the infant boy  
A little lambkin of the flock, within the Saviour's fold  
Is he, my lovely step-son, that's only five years old.

### IV.

I have not told you of our home, that in the summer hours,  
Stands in its simple modesty, half hid among the flowers;  
I have not said a single word about our mines of wealth,  
Our treasures are—this little boy, contentment, peace and health.  
For even a lordly hall to us would be a voiceless place  
Without the gush of his glad voice, the gleams of his bright face  
And many a country pan, I ween, would give their gems and gold  
For a noble, happy boy like ours, some four or five years old.

*Holloway's Pills.*—Nervous irritability. No part of the human machine requires more constant supervision than the nervous system—for upon it our health—and even life—depends. These Pills strengthen the nerves, and are the safest general purifiers of the blood. Nausea, headache, giddiness, numbness, and mental apathy yield to them. They despatch in a summary manner those distressing dyspeptic symptoms, stomachic pains, fulness at the pit of the stomach, abdominal distension, and regulate alike capricious appetites and confined bowels—the commonly accompanying signs of defective or diminished nerve tone. Holloway's Pills are particularly recommended to persons of staid and sedentary habits, who gradually fall into a nervous and irritable state, unless some such restorative be occasionally taken.

*Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.*

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THERE will be an Investiture for the new admissions to the Orders of the Star of India and the Indian Empire, at Government House, on Friday, the 1st March, at 9 in the evening. Those not belonging to the Orders and wishing to be present, must apply to the Military Secretary to the Viceroy. All particulars will be found in an advertisement elsewhere.

THE Straits Settlements seem to be the most favoured nook of Bacchus. Penang certainly is the place for publicans and sinners. There the most roaring business is that of victuallers, licensed and unlicensed. If America is the land of colossal hotels, Penang, as befits its size or rather want of it, is the land of small hotels and snug taverns. There are as many as 24 first class hotels and ten second class, and no end of eating houses and sinks for the sale and consumption of liquor, mostly kept by Chinese. No wonder that drunkenness should prevail so much. As credit is freely given, there is extravagance and waste. Then there is as free a resort to the Small Cause Court. In fine, Penang is as precious a pest as any of the cities of the Plam.

We are glad to discern a silver lining in the prospect. The board of justices have decided not to renew so many licenses as before.

THERE has been a couple of failure of justice in the South. The Madras High Court—Mr. Justice Kernan—has sentenced Corporal Thomas Hardwick, of the S. Battery, 1st Brigade, Royal Artillery, stationed at Bellary, to 5 years' rigorous imprisonment. He was brought up for the murder of his wife Emma Hardwick. The evidence shewed that the deceased was given to drinking, that she was drunk on the 7th November when there was an altercation between the wife and the husband, and that the husband cut her with a razor on the back of the neck, and she died. The Jury found him guilty of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and strongly recommended him to mercy on account of the provocation he had received. The Judge thought there was a certain amount of deliberation. The *Amrita Bazar* properly points out the contrast between this tenderness to the genuine murderer and the harshness meted out to the native who slaughters in a fit of injured honour his unfaithful wife.

MARY Agnes Lee *alias* Schooner was tried at the same Sessions for bigamy, and was let off. She had married Cooke, a soldier in the 34th Regiment, in 1868 at Bellary. For two years they lived as man and wife and then separated. She afterwards took up with Schooner and lived with him for about 15 years, when he died in October 1887. She then married Lee, a session clerk of the Church of Scotland. Cooke deposed that she did not inform Lee of his marriage when she married him. Lee, however, contradicted Cooke saying that she did mention her former marriage before he married her. The Jury found her not guilty and the Judge discharged the prisoner.

LAST week, the Burdwan case came up before Mr. Justice Norris for settlement of issues. Mr. Woodroffe, for the Plaintiff Maharani, opposed the admission of the written statement on behalf of the minor Maharaja, as it was signed by only one of the Managers—Lala Bunbehari Kapur. Mr. Reily, the other manager, having refused to append his name to it. Mr. Hill for the defence on Monday applied for appointment of a guardian *ad litem* and submitted the name of the Lala as the fittest person. There was opposition. The Judge was of opinion that a guardian should be appointed, but he was not satisfied that the Lala was the proper person. He called for fresh names.

THE High Court has dismissed the appeal of the Serang commander of the *Mongola* steam-boat.

MOTI LAL CHANDRA, a student of the Ripon College, has been sentenced by the Joint-Magistrate of Sealdah to three months' rigorous imprisonment for cheating. At the Sealdah Railway station he met a *khalasi* who was bound for his home by the Goalunda mail train, and offered to buy him his ticket. Chandra received the full fare Rs. 2, for a ticket to Goalunda but purchased one for Barrackpore for 3 annas only, and pocketed the balance. He was, however, detected by the Railway Police and arrested and sent up for trial. The balance Re. 1-13 was found on his person. He pleaded not guilty—the unblushing imp! Fine Ripon College owes some explanation about its

precocious product. It is these Moti Lals who mature into the Rajendra Nath Dutts who as *soi-disant* authors, journalists, publishers, and vendors of Infallible Cures, suppliers of marvellous watches and other impossible jewellery, and mysterious Charms, and mythical blessings in general, are preying on the credulity of the public, to the permanent injury of legitimate literature and trade.

We see the Assistant-Secretary of the Ripon College has written to the *Indian Daily News*, in which the report of the case appeared, saying that "there is no such name on the rolls of the Ripon College."

THE Small Cause Court allowed a landlord decree for rent claimed *minus* the cost of certain repairs which the tenant made to keep the house wind and water tight. There being no provision in the lease binding the landlord to keep the house wind and water tight, the High Court—Messrs. Justices O'Kinealy and Banerjee—have held that the landlord was entitled to the full rent without any deduction for repairs. A lease usually contains the clause, but this landlord is an attorney of the High Court. That perhaps explains the omission.

BABOO Joy Chandra Gupta of Baidyabatty, in the district of Hooghly, has obtained the thanks in the Gazette of the Bengal Government, for an offer of a donation of Rs. 600, "for the encouragement of high English education in his native village"—"the privilege of studying for four years in the Metropolitan Institution on payment of half fees being granted to a selected student from Baidyabatty to enable him to read up to the B. A. standard of the Calcutta University."

THE subject for Brajamohan Dutt's Prize of Rs. 40 for the year 1888-89 is "Sita and Damayanti." It is "open to all educated women, being natives of Bengal, without regard to age," to be written in either Bengali or Sanskrit, and must be sent to the Central Text-Book Committee for adjudication within six months from the 15th February 1889. The other condition attached is that each essay must be accompanied by the written declaration of the husband, parent or guardian of the competitor saying that, to the best of his belief, she has received no assistance of any kind, direct or indirect, in writing the essay. So far as regards indirect help, that is a foolish and demoralising condition. It will only prove an embarrassment to the scrupulous but not stay others. "Indirect assistance of any kind" is a wide term.

THE next half-yearly examination of Compounders will begin on Tuesday, the 2nd April, at the Campbell Medical School. Applicants must register their names and submit their certificates, together with a fee of Rs. 3, at least one week before that date.

TWO candidates—Katie Clough and Louise Tibbets—have passed the examination for the admission of females to the certificate class of the Medical College.

MR. R. M. Waller, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Khoolna, having obtained 9 months' furlough, Mr. B. De', Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hooghly, acts for Mr. Waller.

A QUIET little ceremony was the presentation, the other day, by the Committee of the Barahanagar English School, of the following address to Dr. Waldie:—

"We, the undersigned, Office-bearers, and Members of the Victoria Barahanagar School Committee, on behalf of the Committee and of the local public generally, beg leave, on your retirement from the business of the Chemical Works, carried on by you for over thirty years in their town and its vicinity, and the consequent termination of your residence in their midst, to present you with this valedictory address, to express the feelings of respect and attachment in which you are held by our community, as well as the Committee's sincere gratitude to you for the benefits which you have in various ways rendered to the School under their management.

The cause of education in Barahanagar could not have a steadier or more sympathetic friend than it found in you. Schools of all kinds, Vernacular or English, whether intended for the education of the higher or the lower classes, for boys or girls, equally shared your interest and support. Of the Victoria Barahanagar School, of which only as being charged with its management we can speak with authority, you have been a friend indeed, helping it in its day of struggle, and remaining staunch to it all along. In 1877 you were elected a Patron, since which time the school has always received valuable assistance at your hands. We may as well here add, as we may do with perfect truth, that your long residence in the neighbourhood and constant association with the people in their public movements have made your name a household

word among them, and long will it be before your quiet, unflinching benevolence passes away from the grateful memory of Baranagar."

The address was read by Kumar Dowlat Chandra Roy. Dr. Waddie thanked the deputation for presenting him with such a testimony, in which, he thought, they had greatly overrated what small services he could render to the people of Baranagar. He was not quite a young man when he came out to this country, being then 35 years old, and the demands of his own business ever since hardly had left him much leisure to be of as much service to others as he might otherwise wish.

That was like Dr. Waddie. In fact, the whole ceremony was characteristic. If he wished it, or his Baranagar friends cared for fuss, an enthusiastic general demonstration might any day be got up in that quarter in his honor. Were it not for Baboo Atul Krishna Bose, the energetic Secretary of the Baranagar Hindu (now Victoria) School, we feel sure even this poor compliment of an address from one of the many local institutions and inhabitants whom he helped, would have been withheld from the good David Waddie. It is many long years since we saw or had any communication with him, but having once lived for a considerable period in the same suburban town and been then often thrown together on public business, we can never forget our impression of one of the best specimens of humanity.

SEVERE winter is reported from Transcaspiæ. The port of Uzun Ada is entirely frozen over; whole herds of cattle have perished in the steppes; the inhabitants have been compelled to cut down for fuel large quantities of the only scrub in the region serving to solidify the quicksands.

A *manjoe* has been sentenced to 14 days' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 20 by the Chief Magistrate, for carrying 25 passengers without a license in a green boat which would not be licensed for more than 12 passengers.

THE Exodus begins on the 6th of April when the offices close in Calcutta, but the Viceroy does not leave till the second week of that month.

THE Nepal Durbar has welcomed our new Viceroy with presents—of four elephants, a pair of pretty piebald ponies, with beautiful long tails, some gold coins, silver ingots and a number of Thibetan novelties. On Wednesday, Colonel Bhairao Bahadur in charge with the Nepal representative in Calcutta waited on, and was received by Lord Lansdowne, at Government House.

IF Burma is not to be raised to a Lieutenant-Government, the Chief Commissioner will have some substantial satisfaction in increased pay. He will draw the pay of a Member of Council from the commencement of the present year.

THE cost of the Crawford Commission has been officially declared to be 3½ lacs of rupees. And all gone for nothing!

DADAH has taken another wife, leaving the famous Rukhmibai absolutely free to choose a second husband.

FOR the accident to them at the Victoria Terminus, Sir Henry and Lady Morland sued the G. I. P. Railway for rupees one lac and ten thousand—as damages. The High Court—Mr. Justice Scott—has decreed the suit for Rs. 30,000.

THE Honorable Black Town Magistrate had been investigating for sometime the theft at the Jetties. Here is his final deliverance:—

"In this case the defendants Nos. 1, 2, and 3 were discharged on the 12th instant, and a charge was drawn against the other two defendants, and the case was adjourned to this day (Feb. 14) for judgment.

The case for the prosecution is that on the 10th January last the accused No. 4, Shib Chunder Dey, stole from the Jetty No. 1, belonging to the Port Commissioners, 34 boxes of tin consigned to his master Behary Lall Dey, and that defendant No. 1 (the shed officer), and defendants Nos. 2 and 3 (the gate officers) aided and abetted the offence. The case against the fifth defendant is that he received the stolen goods from the 4th defendant, Shib Chunder, with a guilty knowledge.

It appears that 500 boxes of tin, consigned to Behary Lall Dey through Messrs. Graham & Co., had arrived in Calcutta on board the steamer *Britannia*, and were landed at the shed No. 1 on the 8th and

9th January. Accused No. 4, Shib Chunder, was the landing sircar of the consignment. On the 8th January he took delivery of 46 boxes, viz: the cart tickets marked C, and on the 10th January of 380 boxes, viz: the cart tickets marked I, D, E, and F. There still remained in the shed 60 boxes to be delivered. Out of these, 34 boxes were removed by the accused, Shib Chunder, in the afternoon of the 10th January on two carts, for which no cart ticket is forthcoming, and these 34 boxes, instead of going to Behary Lall Dey, found their place in the godown of Gobindo, the defendant No. 5. Under the rules prescribed by the Port Commissioners the shed officer and the gate officers are liable to make good the deficiency. But they have been criminally prosecuted for aiding and abetting the offence of theft. The proof adduced against them consists of the evidence of the two carters, the two tallymen Swaine and Peters, and Omrito Lall Bose, the landing sircar of Messrs. Graham and Co., as also the hand note marked G, executed by these three defendants in favour of Behary Lall Dey. This evidence appeared to me so unsatisfactory and unreliable that I discharged the defendants Nos. 1, 2, and 3, under section 253 C. P. Code, without calling upon them to enter into their defence.

The carters say that the defendant Thomas was present when they were loading their carts, and he told them to be quick, but when the carts were leaving the shed they did not see him. One of the carters says that at the gate No. 3 they saw Day and Swaine, and they told the carters to stop, while the other carter says that they told them to drive on. These carters seem to be more intelligent than carters generally are, for they apparently seem to have taken the trouble of not only making the acquaintance of the European and Eurasian shed and gate officers, but also taking note of what those officers were doing all the time they were loading their carts.

As to the promissory note marked G, which is supported by Omrito's evidence, I am of opinion that the defendants Nos. 1, 2, and 3 were frightened by Omrito into signing it. A careful perusal of Omrito's evidence, and the study of the manoeuvre adopted by him, would show to any unprejudiced mind that he had very ably set up a plan to inveigle the three Eurasian defendants, taking part in the affair in the guise of a friend and adviser. I strongly suspect that it was through Omrito's connivance that Shib Chunder managed to remove the 34 cases from the Jetty, for he admits in his evidence that the previous deliveries on the 8th and 10th were made under his supervision, and it was he who counted the carts and boxes covered by the cart tickets C to F, and put down his initials. Again, he says that he told Thomas, long before the carters were found by the police, that he knew that the carts had passed out through the gate No. 3. He could not have known this, unless Shib Chunder had either told him that or had gone out with the carts under his eyes. But when he was informed by the owner of the missing boxes he tried to save Shib Chunder by shifting the blame on the defendants Nos. 1, 2 and 3, and putting them in fear of departmental punishment, and he managed to get from them a promissory note, in favour of Behary Lall Dey. Behary Lall Dey says in his evidence that he did not authorise Omrito to get the promissory note, as he looked to Graham & Co. to make good the loss. If the witness Francis D'Almeida is to be believed and I see no reason to disbelieve him, the man Omrito owed defendant Day a grudge, as the latter had reported to Captain Alison last year that Omrito and Shib Chunder in taking delivery at the Jetty had produced a cart ticket, and on being counted, there were larger number of tin plates than they should have been on the cart.

Mr. Booth the Deputy Superintendent of the Jetties, says in his evidence: "The defendants distinctly said they were frightened or induced by Omrito to sign the promissory note."

But while adding that the execution of the promissory note by the defendants does not stamp their conduct with criminality, I feel bound to say that the defendants have shown a lamentable want of moral courage in yielding to the suggestion of Omrito, and signing the hand note. They evidently thought that unless they privately settled with the owners, and if the matter was reported to their official superiors, they would come to meet like their fellow workers, Chunder and Nundy, who were some time ago degraded for criminal neglect. Still they should have shown a better moral courage than they did on this occasion. The evidence of the witness Swaine and Peters, the tallymen, is sufficiently trustworthy that I do not wish to waste time over it. They did not inform their superior, Mr. Munro, of what they knew against Thomas until the trial of this case, had been proceeded with, and the defendants were condemned on bail.

The case against the defendant No. 4, Shib Chunder, is quite conclusive, so is the case against the fifth defendant. The latter, through his counsel, pleads good faith, but his breaking the wood boxes bearing the trade mark late in the evening, and taking away the tin plates, the next morning, a few, and running the sum of Rs. 150 on their pledge, show that he was not a bona fide receiver of the stolen goods.

I convict Shib Chunder under section 311, and Gobindo Chunder under section 311, and I sentence each of them to six months rigorous imprisonment. The property to be made over to the Port Commissioners.

Is this the first case of the kind? Or, is it the visible manifestation of the system practised at the Jetties? This can scarcely be the only time that the consignee Dey has misused goods at the Jetties? The Eurasian Shed and Gate officers suffer in purse though not in body. The Magistrate finds them all but guilty for legal conviction. We hope Mr. Munro will pursue the investigation and the Port Trust will yet bring the other offenders to justice and put a stop to the robbery. The note of hand proves a blind, for which perhaps it was designed. Behary has disowned all knowledge of it. He has his claim for the lost goods against Graham & Co. What then is to become of the note? Shib Chunder was more than a landing sircar to Behary and had more than once landed him safe at harbours.





SINCE the punishment of its editor, the *Pall Mall Gazette* has been making farther and farther departures from respectability. After the secession of Mr. Greenwood, it still remained an able well-written journal, conducted by educated men, for decent Liberal folk. It seems of late to hanker for the rôle of the "penny dreadful." If it goes on at this rate, it will be a formidable competition of the publications of George William Reynolds, the man of "Mysteries." It is already become absolutely radical in its language, as in the following, on the late Morier-Bismarck Correspondence:—

"Sir Robert Morier, by his manly, straightforward conduct, has conferred a public benefit upon the world which it is difficult to over-estimate. Europe has covered so long beneath the spell of the great German Chancellor that it seemed as if no one would ever be forthcoming to speak the word that would break the power of the magician by one straightforward courageous word of defiant protest. Sir Robert Morier has spoken that word, spoken it in manly fashion as an English gentleman should, and there is not a capital in Europe where men are not grateful for tearing the mask off this Reptile moonlighter of reputations."

And is Europe come to this? Has the rise of Prussia so demoralised the other powers and peoples? Has the extraordinary success of Bismarck so humbled and dumb-founded them, that they cannot muster courage for the exercise of their commonest natural rights? Never, even in the darkest hour of Europe, when the best part of the Continent was overrun by the legions of Napoleon and his vassals were on its thrones or his agents ruled at its courts, was there such a reign of terror as, on the showing of this great organ of Ultra Radicalism, exists, at this moment, in the civilised world. Then, as ever, before or since, England at any rate was the asylum of refugees from the Continent, who under British protection poured out their soul in complaints against their own princes and states, without let or hindrance. They sometimes abused the freedom allowed them, and not unfrequently led their protector into hot water with other powers, sometimes with her very allies. But their freedom was continued. Once the great Napoleon himself, as an ally, sought the protection of British law against his French libeller in England, but he was allowed to try for it on equal terms with his literary foe. How different now when one of the chief English papers proclaims it as a feat of rare courage in an Englishman holding the high office of Ambassador to Russia that he dares to vindicate his character against the aspersions cast on it by the powerful Vizier of Germany. One would think that any mild Hindoo of education would have done exactly what Sir Robert Morier is so extravagantly praised for doing, without expecting to derive so much fame from such a simple operation.

AMONG the latest arrivals in Calcutta is Nawab Mahomed Ali Khan the newly appointed Additional Member of the Imperial Legislative Council. The Calcutta public do not seem to know who he is; and as we happen to know something about him and his family, we consider it right to let the public know it.

He is descended from one of the noblest families of Delhi, which enjoyed a high consideration under the Emperors. His father, Nawab Mustafa Khan, was a large landholder, who was held in much esteem, not only for his noble origin and wealth, but also for many good personal qualities.

As one of several sons, our new Councillor inherited from his father a fine *Zemindari* in Jahangirabad, in the Bolnshuhur District; and his abilities and high character, as one of the foremost Mahomedan noblemen in the North-West, must have attracted the notice of the Authorities, so as to induce them to recommend him for this high distinction.

As the eldest son of a Nawab, and a descendant of a long line of Nawabs, he is addressed as a "Nawab" by all who know. We are unable to understand why he has been designated a "Munshi." His younger brother, Mahomed Isbak Khan is, we believe, a Statutory Civilian in the North Western Provinces.

While genuine Nawabs are thus made into "Munshis," every beggar of a Munshi, as soon as he obtains some superior post in the Hyderabad State and with it a title of Dowlah or Moolk or Jung, is considered entitled to the affix of "Nawab"; and English journalists, both in India and England, seem to feel a positive delight in decorating these men with the title of "Nawab," without caring to ascertain whether the title of "Nawab" has been, in due form, conferred upon them by His Highness the Nizam, and whether such title has been conferred by His Excellency the Viceroy, who alone is the Fountain of Honour in British India.

NAWAB Shojanoolmoolk Asafood-dowlah Syud Mahomed Zainool-Abideen Khan Bahadoor, Feroze Jung, of the Nizamut Family and

Head of the Akroba-i-Nizamut of Moorshedabad, had a private interview with His Excellency the Viceroy on the 22nd instant in the afternoon. His Excellency was pleased to give him a cordial reception.

NAWAB SAIDOODDEEN AHMUD KHAN—son of the late Nawab Zainooddeen Ahmud Khan Bahadur of Delhi, and uncle of the Chief of the Nawabate of Loharu now on a visit to Calcutta, was last week admitted to a private interview with the Viceroy.

LAST night, the Pleaders of the High Court gave a subscription entertainment to the new Native Judge, at the house of one of them—Baboo Sreenath Das, in our neighbourhood. Frugal and farinaceous, with a tendency perhaps to fatty degeneration, it was limited to themselves and the Native Judges.

THE Government has sanctioned a survey for a railway from Moghal Sarai through a point near Purulia towards Tarakeswar or Howrah. The project will be known as the Moghal Sarai-Howrah Survey, and will be under the control of the Director-General of Railways.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL L. Conway Gordon, C. I. E., R. E., having gone on special leave, Major M. C. Brackenbury, R. E., Under-Secretary to the Government of India in the Public Works Department, Railway Branch, and Deputy Director-General of Railways, officiates as Deputy Secretary to the Government of India in the Public Works Department, Railway Branch.

MR. H. F. J. T. Maguire, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, officiates temporarily as a Political Agent of the 3rd class and as Assistant Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department.

MR. Justice Wilson goes home on six months' furlough on the 6th March.

THE Calcutta Corporation is being prosecuted for creating a nuisance. It will be committed to the sessions for filling a tank with town refuse. Mr. Marsden is recording evidence for the purpose. The Chairman of the Corporation, at its last meeting, in support of the proposition for a committee of enquiry, pointed out that the case will be tried on its own merits both in the Police Court and the Sessions, and that it cannot therefore be of material assistance to the Commissioners on the general question. If it is to be so, why should there be a commitment and useless waste of money. Mr. Marsden might well have stuck to his own and given his order accordingly. The High Court is wise not to pronounce any opinion on a matter not immediately before it. If the mode of filling up the particular tank is objectionable, the same process with the same materials in another case, may not be equally injurious. Is it expected that the High Court will lay down a rule for tank filling with earth or other materials, and discard town sweepings altogether?

THERE was a meeting of the Calcutta Corporation on Thursday. The list of business being heavy and important, the Commissioners assembled strong and early, the hour of commencement being three in the afternoon. They were not long detained, however, the Commissioners beginning to disperse an hour after, by 4 o'clock. By that time it was plain that the astute Chairman had taken the wind out of their sails. The Budget was referred to a Committee, the Chairman announcing that the executives had recommended no increase to the existing house rate. A Committee was appointed to arrange for the raising of a new loan of 5 lacs for the new waterworks. The Central Road question was put off for early consideration of the new Corporation. At one time it was so important that it could not be postponed for a week or so, now the Chairman finds it convenient, in hopes of better financial prospects in the future, to defer the final resolution on the subject. The Commissioners next adopted the proposition of the Chairman in the Town Council disallowing any verandahs over the entire width of the footpath in streets less than 40 feet wide. Dr. MacLeod was opposed to any verandah at all. But there were many such-verandah-owning Commissioners and others who had supported them in the ugly and insanitary improvements of their houses and they outvoted Dr. MacLeod's very rational amendment. It is satisfactory, however, to find that the Chairman has grown wiser and begun to discourage such additions. We do hope the native Commissioners will yet learn the impropriety of such structures. Dr. Sircar had given notice of a motion—that "in

future no tanks be allowed to be filled in with town refuse, garbage, street sweepings or with any material containing animal or vegetable matter." Finding no sympathy from his medical colleagues, he did not press his motion, but at suggestion from the Chair, he moved for a Committee "to enquire on the effect on the public health by the filling of tanks with refuse and sweepings, and that in the meantime no tanks be so filled up." Baboos Norendranath Sen and Amritonath Mitter proposed the postponement of the question till after the prosecution against the municipality was over, but the majority were for some show of work at any rate and appointed a Committee on the whole question. Many had come prepared to denounce the present system and to offer their own remedies. The prevailing idea seems to be that the condemned tanks should be filled up with earth. They do not care what the cost may be. They only wish to avoid the nuisance of filling. They must be content with their own theory and not try to enforce it on practical men of business. A feeling is also observable that tanks ought to be maintained and the foul water substituted by unfiltered water from the pipes. This is more rational than the first. But then the tanks must be periodically dewatered and refilled. We trust the Committee appointed will try to find out some means by which germs in water could be destroyed and the liquid otherwise rendered fit for use.

THE Russian General Louis Melikoff, one of the great soldiers of his country, lately died at Nice. His career is an instance of the ethnic impartiality of Russian statesmanship. He was one of the Armenians who have risen to offices of high trust, dignity, and emoluments. Born in 1824 he commanded, as Colonel, a regiment of cavalry in the war with Turkey, in 1854. His share in the capture of Kars promoted him to the rank of General and the office of Commandant of that town. In the last war with Turkey, his intimate knowledge of Caucasia and the theatre of war in that quarter, was of the greatest usefulness to Russia, and he enhanced his reputation by his courage and his skill in handling his troops.

THE mortal remains of Count Louis Melikoff are to be transported from Nice to Tiflis, for burial in the Armenian monastery of Vonk, the pantheon of the Armenian nation, which already gives shelter to the tombs of Generals Tergoukassow, Lazarew, Schelkovnikow and other men of note of Armenian origin.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1889.

### THE HYDERABAD VISITORS.

AT 10 A. M., on Thursday the 21st, Nawab Sir Asman Jah, the Prime Minister of Hyderabad, arrived at Calcutta, accompanied by Moulvi Mushtak Hosain, Syud Ali Belgrami and Faridoonji Jamshedji. Mr. Howell, the Resident, arrived here yesterday (Friday) morning by the mail train, accompanied by his Military Secretary Captain Gilchrist, and Moulvi Mehendi Ali Khan, who was detained at Allahabad by sickness, has come in by mail this morning.

These Mahomedan names we find a source of great confusion in even the best informed quarters. The "derangement of epitaphs" at the hands of even native publicists is most ludicrous. This is specially the case in regard to the *personnel* of the great Musulman kingdom in the Deccan. But there is some excuse for outsiders in the multiplication of names and honorific designations of the same individuals. Unless some check is imposed on the absurd facility for acquiring titles in Hyderabad, it will always be difficult to make sure who's who? there: The confusion will continue.

Now that a strong party of the Government of the Deccan is at the capital, it will be useful to the public if we attempt to determine the identity of our distinguished visitors and note their antecedents.

Sir Asman Jah, the Prime Minister, is the same as

Nawab Busheerood Dowla, a quiet, well-meaning young noble of the great Shumsool Omra family, cousin and rival to the venerable Ameer-i-Kabir. On the flight of young Nawab Salar Jung—the unfortunate choice of Lord Ripon—Nawab Busheerood Dowla was recalled from England (where he had gone as the Nizam's Representative at Her Majesty's Jubilee) to take up the office left vacant, which he did at a most difficult juncture. He was scarcely treated with courtesy when, between the Residency and its adherents in power, Mr. Faridoonji Jamshedji was appointed Private Secretary to the minister while the latter was away. It was this gentleman who by telegram contradicted our true account of Colonel Marshall's outrage on a Palace sentry for doing his duty according to order—a contradiction of which the *Pioneer*, which ought to have known better, in reviewing our book of Travels in Bengal, made so much against us as a native journalist. We published the contradiction as it came to us from an authoritative source, but we had so much reason to trust our informant that we could not retract and did not withdraw our former statement. And when afterwards we were in a position to do so and maintained the truth of our original account, the *Pioneer*, in its "leading" fashion, had nothing to say. Of course, it did not do us the justice to withdraw its charge against us of furnishing imaginary news to the discredit of European officials. It simply took shelter under the leading resource of masterly inactivity and eloquent silence.

We had heard such favourable accounts of this Parsee gentleman, that we were sorry that the unfortunate contradiction came through his hands. He no doubt carried out orders, but respectable men should not submit to every kind of order. That affair of the then supreme Colonel with the sepoy, is a dark spot in the late history of Hyderabad. The minister himself behaved most lamentably, to speak mildly. He has shown weakness also in compromising with Huq at last, and it is understood that he is now here finally to patch up matters for him and his. But the information here becomes obscure—there is no penetrating the depths of Hyderabad intrigue.

Syud Ali Belgrami, we believe, now officiates as Home Secretary. He belongs to a good family of Upper India, well-known in Bengal, where his father and uncle were long ornaments of the Subordinate Executive Service, and rose to seats on the Bengal Council. He is the brother of Syud Hossein Belgrami Imaduddaula, probably the most accomplished Mahomedan living, who has well kept himself free from the entanglements of Hyderabad politics.

Moulvi Mehendi Ali Khan who bears the high title of Mohsin-ool-Moolk is the Revenue Secretary and Finance Minister. He is said to be the ablest man in the state, but is also considered the most dangerous, on account of his ambition. He has scotched his rival Huq, not killed him. Meanwhile, he has to subdue a new rival in the lucky Moulvi Mahdi Hassan, otherwise called Nawab Futteh Nawaz Jung, who holds the nominal office of Chief Justice, but is always busy with sorts of miscellaneous court jobs, from high game to the lowest. He is another of Sir Syud Ahmed's creatures.

So much for introducing these worthies. More, hereafter.

This visit is a great trial to the Government of India. It will require all the wits at the command of the Viceroy and his associates, to deal satisfactorily with these famous strangers.

### THE BANQUET TO THE BLACK MAN.

THE Premier's unbecoming sneer at our veteran Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, has not been allowed to be forgotten. Lord Salisbury has been paid back in his own coin. He had made a vulgar partizan appeal to the British prejudice against colour. And now his opponents are making the utmost political capital of the Marquis's slip, by showing how very liberal are the Liberals, how firmly they believe in the sentiment that a man's a man for a' that, how they regard a native of India, no matter what his complexion, as only a man and brother, and, last not least, how the Conservatives are no better than they should be. Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji is receiving a pretty good lionising from his Radical friends, in compensation for the humiliation sought to be inflicted on him by the head of the Conservative Party. In India, his friends would probably have been content with granting him a free allowance of newspaper salve to his wound. As yet, we do not see any signs of even an address of sympathy from his countrymen here to their Representative. In England, life is more lifelike and politics a business, and our own compatriots sojourning there do not fail to catch the prevailing spirit. His friends in that country, European and Asiatic, have given Mr. Naoroji a public dinner at the National Liberal Club. It was at first announced as a demonstration from the Club itself, but this was subsequently contradicted, and the movement continued as one emanating from a number of members. This would show a difference on the subject in the Liberal camp itself. As Mr. Naoroji is an out and out Gladstonian and Home Ruler, the more moderate Unionists might well fight shy of him. But the National Liberal Club is thoroughly ultra-radical. This was apparent from the first, and it was only from expediency, with the object of drawing in Unionist subscriptions, that the Gladstonians in the Council refrained from assuming for the institution an avowed Gladstonian character. The mask has now been thrown off. The *entente cordiale* has been broken. And the Club is now professedly what it always really was—Gladstonian and Parnellite. If it is maintained, it will be maintained by those who exercise influence in it and make the most of it. With so many institutions of the kind, corporate and proprietary, whether another great Club like this will be adequately supported is more than we can guess. This Naoroji dinner may be one of the circumstances which culminated in the split, but as the Gladstonians were strong in the Club Council when the dinner was started, it seems that the protest against it as a Club affair came from a section of the Gladstonians themselves. This may be regarded as a very small matter, but now that India has been dragged into the meshes of Party in England, these little things become of moment to us. If India had not been made to appear on the hustings there on the Liberal side, the Conservatives would never have cared to sneer at their Indian fellow-subjects as blacks. It would never have occurred to Lord Salisbury to point his sarcasm at Brother Dadabhai. Nor, if the Premier had not committed himself in that poor way, would the political opponents of the ministry have thought of this compliment to the "poor Indian." Under the circumstances, it is necessary for us to gauge the strength of the Liberal sentiment in favour of Mr. Naoroji and his cause, and of India generally. It is important to ascertain how far the Gladstonians, at any rate, are united in sentiment on this occasion and on this head.

The Dinner was a quiet respectable affair, appropriately and very worthily presided over by our former Viceroy the Marquis of Ripon, and attended by some of our English, chiefly Old Indian, friends. For ourself, we must confess to a feeling of disappointment. We certainly cannot join with those of our countrymen who are advertising it as a great triumph, or at least as an event fraught with great hopes for our country. For that matter, it was a poor enough business. Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji himself, who has not yet abandoned his forlorn hope of entering Parliament even before the Millennium, may be excused for trying to make electioneering capital out of the compliment, but the truth is too glaring to allow us to shelter ourselves under any illusion. The dinner was evidently not regarded by the Liberal Party—even the extreme section—as an electioneering move in its interest. It was not regarded as a Party business at all. The chiefs of the Party were nowhere—not even the rank and file attended. Lord Ripon we take for an Old Indian—Mr. Bradlaugh as a—New: they are both committed to it. For the rest, there were Old Indians like Sir David Wedderburn and Sir W. W. Hunter—both committed too to radical reform of Indian Government, and one or two Orientalists like Professor Rhys Davids, retired from the Ceylon Civil Service, and one or two others, besides the Hindus, Mahomedans and Parsees present in England. The Irish Home Rulers were conspicuous by their absence. The purely English element was miscellaneous, not distinctively Liberal. The gathering was made up of various minute cults. It would seem as if there was an effort to create a harmony out of so many discords. The Buddhist Rhys Davids, the Positivist Harrison, and the atheist Hoalyoke and Bradlaugh under the presidency of the fervent Roman Catholic Ripon, with Seva Ram the Sivite and Ching the Confucian, with Zoroastrians and Islamites, Vishnuites and Brahmos, certainly constitute as rum a lot as could ever be ordered together anywhere in Europe.

### THE CONTRETEMPS IN CASHMERE.

OUR readers will remember the accusation, brought in certain Anglo-Indian newspapers of Upper India, against the native Governor of Cashmere under the Maharaja. This functionary was charged with having, at the State dinner given by the Maharaja's Government at Her Majesty the Empress's Jubilee to the Europeans, at which the Governor, who is a Cashmeri Pandit returned from England, presided, exalted his own immediate master the Maharaja, at the expense of his sovereign and his master's liege the Empress, and made an indecent attack on her character. It was a painful story, but almost incredible, seeing that the Governor of Cashmere was the son of old Pundit Munphool, long a trusted servant of our Government, having gone on a political espionage into Central Asia to report Russian progress, and being rewarded by Sir John Lawrence's administration with the charge of Bikanir, and that the Governor himself is a gentleman who, after his Indian course, had gone and finished his education in England and returned as a barrister. That such a man, with such antecedents and so educated, should behave himself in public—nay, at a great State occasion—like a drunken cad, was not indeed absolutely impossible, but certainly highly improbable. There was no poohpoohing the affair, however. The apparition came in such a questionable shape that speak we must to it. Our duty to our sovereign required it. Such

an allegation could not be passed over in silence, or disposed of with summary derision. No sooner it reached us, than we immediately expressed our abhorrence of the conduct imputed to this scapegrace of the Extra-Assistant Commissioner and pressed upon the Maharaja to make instant inquiry. Others were differently advised. Pursuing the stereotyped policy of the Native Press, they abused the *Pioneer* and the *Civil and Military Gazette*, for lending themselves to a calumny against an educated native gentleman in a high position. In fine, they disbelieved the whole story, dwelt on its inherent improbability, &c. The Maharaja of Cashmere we were glad to find above his advisers in the Native Press. With a proper sense of his responsibility, he immediately suspended his Governor Pandit Sooraj Bull, and demanded explanation. The Pandit now applied to those who were present at the dinner in question, and got many of them to favour him more or less. But all were not so good. With such certificates as he could obtain, he sent in his answer, denying the accusation. After considering the papers, the Durbar was unable to exonerate the Pandit. After all allowances made and all due weight given to the certificates, the Maharaja and his advisers could not altogether get over the strong impression of an ugly basis of truth of the charge. It was plain enough that on an occasion on which the Maharaja's representative was bound to be particularly loyal to the Empress and the Paramount Power, he had been, at any rate, dubious and offensive. Accordingly, the Maharaja dismissed him and appointed Sirdar Roop Singh in his place.

Much as the result is to be regretted on account of the Pandit, the Maharaja has done wisely. His responsibility was great, and he would not have discharged it adequately by a less decisive order. In no other way, could he have thoroughly removed the suspicion of imperfect appreciation of the enormity of the offence with which his greatest satrap and representative was charged. Any lurking suspicion of the kind would have been fatal to his reputation and prospects, nay, disastrous to his throne. The matter is not so insignificant as many might deem it. We may seem to be making a mountain of a molehill, but we are not. The European way of looking at it, to which the English-speaking section of our people too unfortunately seem disposed, is not the right way. For such truculent insolence as was attributed to Pandit Sooraj Bull, the Government of India might, with the support of opinion of all Asia, depose any subordinate Indian prince. Even as it is, with a Dalhousie at the head of our Government, the Maharaja would have run a serious risk. The British ascendancy in this country rests on prestige—that is, opinion—as well as genuine force, and it cannot permit itself to be insulted by its neighbours and dependents.

We hope our rising generation will ponder on the lesson of this incident. Our countrymen would be wise to turn the personal loss of one to the general good. We badly need to cultivate self-restraint and moderation in all things. A foreign education is fast robbing us of our courteous deportment and deferential etiquette, without teaching us the fine grace of European manners. Without being brave, we are becoming rowdy. There is nothing like a residence in Europe for a schooling in self-reliance and self-respect and in breadth of view, for the native of India. But there is danger also of the youthful traveller importing to this land the worst vices of Europe. It is not everybody that can penetrate

to the *salons* of the *faubourgs*, but it is the easiest thing to pick up the peculiarities of the *parlé*. We hope the Srinagar *contretemps* will be an effectual warning to our ambitious young gentlemen that the tittle tattle of London music halls and boozing kens will not pay in India.

## THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

### VI.

#### THE SPEECHES AND THE SPEAKERS (*continued*).

[Such a long and critical history of the late session of the Congress as "B" contributes, with its notice of personalities, some at least of the self-conscious order, is usually the signal for war. Our writer has, by his fairness, up to this escaped angry comment. On the contrary, his labours seem to be generally appreciated. Men like Pandit Malaviya, who know all about the Congress and the Congressists, have testified to the accuracy as well as ability of these letters. The writer himself has been rather exercised by an omission in our presentation of his lucubrations. We cannot make the *amende* better than by publishing a portion of his private despatch.

"Somehow or other you, I mean the printer's d—l, have left out the name of Babu Ganga Prasad Varma, of Lucknow, from the list of Congress workers of these Provinces. Without him, the catalogue cannot be complete. What he has done for the Congress, none others have done. He has sacrificed his time and talents for it, and for it also he has been a great sufferer in money. It is altogether an inexcusable mistake; and the omission is so prominent that I have already received many remonstrating letters on the subject. One of these goes the length of accusing me of want of common decency, but hopes it was not due to malice aforethought."—EDITOR, *R. & R.*]

Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya—One can read sincerity writ in the face of this young journalist and earnest patriot. He has done more to infuse the new-born spirit into the people of the N.W.P. than perhaps all other men put together. Long before people even dreamt of the adhesion of Pandit Ayadhya Nath, he was hammering away at it! By his itinerant speeches, he aroused people from their lethargy and awakened them to their true position and a proper sense of their duties. I have heard many Bengali gentlemen, in whom the faculty of criticism was very well developed indeed, speaking in highly eulogistic term of his Calcutta speech, and I think I am not breaking confidence when I say that, notwithstanding the adverse introductory remark, Mr. Hume regarded his Madras speech, which became something like an impassioned harangue towards the end, as one of the ablest of the session. But we can read the inner man to the best account in the delivery of this pigmy-sized "rising orator." The eloquent delivery bears ample testimony to the fact that "to his heart his tongue is true." Himself by no means born with a silver spoon in his mouth, the resolution on the Income Tax—the "poor man's resolution" as it was very aptly termed—could not have been entrusted to better advocacy. He seemed to speak with a bitter experience of the pinch of poverty; or whence else could such warm language flow? But it is the tender graces of almost feminine gestures and the sweet warbling melody of his voice, that charm the hearers. It was these, I dare say, that made Mr. Caine, M. P., enquire of me as to who this "admirable speaker" was—was he a pleader?

Pandit Bishen Narayan Dar.—

There is a history in all men's lives,  
Figuring the nature of the times diseased;  
The which observed, a man may prophecy,  
• With a near aim, of the main chance of things  
As yet not come to life; which in their seeds,  
And weak beginnings lie intresured.

or, as Wordsworth puts it:

The child is the father of the man.

is very true in the case of this first Cashmere Barrister; and this I say notwithstanding that his last speech was not a brilliant success. He early showed signs of his future greatness, which is still, however, in its embryonic stage. A genuine thinker and a clever writer, God granting him life, India will know him yet, and look up to him. His very pleasures and pastimes are literary. And age will

doubtless remove and experience polish whatever of insobriety or ruggedness in thought or style, may still be left in him. Calm and phlegmatic, he is more of a Judge than an advocate. But he is nothing if he is not thoughtful and argumentative. From a literary and philosophical point of view, his speech at the last Congress, based as it seemed to be on Mr. Froude's latest work on Canada, was one of the ablest. The analogy drawn between Canada and India was close, and the lessons deduced were very valuable indeed. And if I mistake not, it was his frequent allusion to history that induced Raja Siva Prasad to make the foolish vaunt that he had read 360 historical manuscripts in the Library of Sir Charles Elliot! But because his speech was not haranguing, therefore, forsooth, he was not allowed to proceed even to complete his train of argument. In his case, the President was too exacting, as in the case of B. Surendra Nath he was far too liberal.

Babu Bipin Chandra Pal.—This young man of dashing ambition and infinite 'go', is better known as a promising journalist, for sometime connected with the *Tribune*. He had taken the precaution to pave his way to the delegates' confidence, by himself opening the campaign with a skirmish in the shape of an address at the *Kajastha Pathshala* hall on the "Duties and Responsibilities of the Delegates," Mr. Kali Charan Banerjee presiding. Mr. Pal gave to the Congress a harrowing picture of the miserable condition of the Assam coolies—he himself hailing from Sylhet. His eloquent appeal had its desired effect. The delegates were moved. The tender heart of good Madras seemed to be most affected. I wish every delegate was as keenly alive to the responsibility he owes to his constituency, as Mr. Pal no doubt was. With characteristic boldness and promptitude, he would rise up to press the views of his constituency upon the delegates; and such was his solicitude that his pet subject—the condition of the Assam Coolies—be taken up for discussion, that he tried to dovetail it into Resolution X. It was so cleverly done as to elicit a backhanded compliment from the President, upon the intellectual ingenuity of the framer. You may judge for yourself from the Resolution X, as he would have it, the amended portions (he of course said nothing of his new additions!) being underscored:

"That having regard to the poverty of the people, the importance of encouraging indigenous manufactures, and the migration of populations from the congested parts of the country, and to the difficulty of practically introducing any general systems of technical education and emigration suited to the requirements of the country with the present imperfect information, Government be moved to delay no longer the appointment of a mixed commission to enquire into the present industrial condition of the country, and to consider the question of emigration especially in relation to the working of the existing Acts bearing on the subject."

He got that sturdy champion of the Congress—the patriotic Bombay Mahomedan Mill-owner—Mr. Ali Mahomed Bhimji—to second him. Not without careful scrutiny, could Mr. Banerjee say that it won't do. His voice was loud and his action seemed violent, otherwise his speech betokened careful research and consideration. Altogether, his speech was very good—natural, free, bold and highly animated.

Mr. Sharfuddin.—This Mahomedan barrister has done for Behar what Mr. Hamid Ali Khan has done for Cutch. He is wedded to the cause like his brother barrister of Lucknow. His delivery is bold and graceful, and his "handshake" personality adds to the beauty of whatever he says. He is uncompromising and unsparing in his exposure of Sir Syed's cabals.

Lala Lajpat Rai.—To hear this very young man of short stature is to be agreeably surprised. Who could a few minutes before believe that he was capable of so much? But,

Of expectation fade, and most oft then  
Where most it promises; and oft it lies,  
Where hope is coldest, and despair most sits.

His intelligent, intellectual expression is a true index to his real worth. With remarkable effect, did he quote Sir Syed's former heretic (judged from his present attitude) professions from a very valuable pamphlet—Open letters to Sir Syed Ahmed—whose authorship some people would father upon him. He gave fair promise of a first-rate speaker. He should cultivate the art.

Mr. Girija Shankar Kashiram Durvedy—A young journal-

ist and a rising speaker who hails from Madras. I ought to be excused if I am a little too partial to the unsophisticated, unadulterated Madrasis. They are no hypocrites. A practical race of patriots, in whatever they say or do their national genius displays itself. Who having heard Mr. Durvedy expatiating, in eloquent terms, upon the miseries of the curtailment of such a daily necessity as salt, could doubt that the speaker was not speaking from the bottom of his soul? As he proceeded, his voice became hoarse and choked through feeling. While his face lost colour, assuming a pale cast, his eyes became blood shot red. If you are not still moved, you are not to be envied—that's all I can say. To the ordinary listener, the words, by reason of coming from the inmost recesses of the heart, had a treble effect.

Mr. G. Subramaniya Jyer.—It is enough to say that he is the Editor of the *Hindu*—that very ably conducted and leading paper of Madras—indeed, it is a guarantee—that whatever he said was sober, sensible and practical. In a few words, in support of Resolution IX., moved by his fellow-Southerner Mr. Adam, he fully demonstrated the supreme importance of education. He showed the perverse folly of withdrawing grants from educational institutions, and leaving them in a helpless and hopeless condition. For the dissemination of a more extended knowledge of the Congress, he has done much in the Madras presidency. He is very quiet, and seemed to prefer undisturbed quiet. He is one of the noble band of silent workers to whom none but the all-knowing God can do full justice. And I am sure he will be richly rewarded for his labours by Him whose keen eye nothing can escape. He would fain be buried in obscurity. But is that possible?

Mr. R. D. Mehta,—who has become famous on account of wreaking his vengeance in the only effectual way possible, upon the over-ambitious though accomplished Mr. S. J. Padsha, is blessed with a large share of animal spirits. People broke out into roars of laughter on his alluding thus in terms of bitter sarcasm, to the benevolent intention of the Government of India on the system of Abkari and Excise in India, as it obtained at present:

"The intention of the Government was said to be benevolent. Benevolent, indeed; not only benevolent, but fruitful—revenueful—(loud laughter)—very benevolent as far as the Government treasury was concerned but as far as the health of the people was concerned, ruinous. (cheers)."

He would not use the language of equivocation. Mr. Watcha agreed at the time to pass the Resolution as amended; but somehow or other his paper the *India Spectator* now observes that it would have preferred to see the original Resolution pass. Mr. Mehta has a remarkably intelligent and prepossessing appearance. A little incident that occurred would serve to show what a jolly good soul he is. He took up the draft of a certain Resolution lying before Mr. Hume, and having read replaced it. Now Mr. Hume wanted it; but it was missing, lying somewhere in a jungle of papers. Mr. Hume was annoyed, as one is wont to be when he has outworked another, and somebody disturbs him. What do you think, Mr. Mehta did he apologized for the mishap with profuse excuses, or corrected? No, nothing of the kind. He at once exclaimed "Mr. Hume by a good-burn and poke. Now, give me a minute, don't be angry, don't be angry. Don't give your little ones (including himself of course among the number) five, if you be angry with them; how can I give I and make a fair copy for you?" Mr. Hume's anger, once at its height, died up into a broad smile. He looked at his hat.

Mr. Nafis-ul-Chauk—His address was one of the best Lapsissach and beauty speeches. He found relief for the exuberance of his feelings by actually shedding tears. The Mahomedans are a most sentimental people, and this was his excuse for the exhibition of his weakness, as Europeans regard it. The Mahomedans, he said, ruled over this land, with the aid of the Hindus, for 700 years. Since the reign of Aurangzeb, that over-oppressor of the Hindus, their feelings have been estranged from each other. He was a delegate from Benares, but he must confess before his election he was among those unfortunates, the Anti-Congress men, but he swore to the assembled Delegates as he had sworn to his Mahomedan townsmen and others that he had nothing to do with that body now, but was entirely devoted, heart and soul, to the Congress. The resolution giving assurance that the Mahomedan interests would be fully safeguarded, was necessary to dissipate the fear that

had taken possession of the minds of some of his co-religionists. It was generated by the ill-winds that rose from Aligarh and Benares, and blew over the country. But the Resolution which he heartily supported ought to allay any such misgiving. He sat amidst deafening cheers.

Moulvi Hidayat Rasul--s was a very humorous speech; but it is to be feared more witty than wise. Had it not been in Urdu, I am afraid he would never have been allowed to proceed. The Congress is a business-assembly. We ought to be all seriousness while in it; that is no place for light laughter or for sallies of wit. There is a season for everything. Shakepeare is the author of both Hamlet and the Comedy of Errors! His delivery, however, was very good, and his speech telling, and was very much appreciated.

Mr. Nanjiohil. This sturdy, simple, honest patriot claims the land of Sivaji as his own. Whenever tough battles had to be fought, or intricate questions to be solved, Mr. Nanjoshi was in request. This time, however, he did not speak much beyond supporting the resolution proposing Poona as the next seat of the Congress. But he took his full share of work in the subject-committee. And if I have at all alluded to him as a speaker, it is because I am anxious that his stupendous personality should not be wrapped up, if not lost, in obscurity. Your reporters for the press did not so much as name him, evidently putting him down as a nobody nonentity. But I most emphatically protest against this method of summary disposal of one of India's best men.

I am very anxious to finish the portion relating to the speeches and speakers soon: the more so because I fear being anticipated either by Mr. Atkins or Mr. Hume. Both are busy producing their respective publications on this head. I shall, at an early date, take up the European speakers. I reserved their speeches to be separately discussed: firstly, because I wanted to compare indigenous talents between themselves, and, secondly, because I want to deduce therefrom important lessons, to be laid to heart.

B.

## MONGHYR.

Jumalpur, 17th February, 1889.

The reduction of the clerical staff in the Locomotive Department ends with an unfavourable result. Some thirty clerks of the Accountant's Office have lately been served with notice, and more than five-and-twenty of the Loco. Workshops and Store Department have already been sent adrift. Of these many are found to have grown old in the service of the Company, and we are extremely sorry for these unfortunate creatures who at such an advanced age have very little prospect of getting themselves elsewhere employed. The man empowered with the slaughter of these poor clerks could have taken their case into his kind consideration for the long period they had been in the Railway. It would not be out of place here to state that Mr. Mitchel, Foreman, Blacksmith Shop, has given several proofs of the interest he takes in his clerks. Such a good and kind hearted master commands no doubt the affection and service of his subordinates.

We hope the Head of the Department will not bring discredit upon him for the mismanagement of works, which have hitherto been carried on systematically. The railway authorities will never have any cause to regret if gratuity be granted to those whose service extends over one-fourth of a century.

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2. In lieu of the forms at present filled up by the senders of value-payable articles, two revised forms will be substituted from the 1st April 1889—one for use with all value-payable articles other than value-payable unregistered book packets, and the other for use with value payable unregistered book packets. Each form will contain the certificate to be signed by the sender, and space is provided in the form for use with value-payable unregistered packets for the postage stamps to be affixed in payment of commission.

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## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridood Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*, October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, he might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract].—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

.....this interesting book. We are justified in so terming it, not on account of any romantic adventures that the author has to relate, nor of any very new discoveries in geography or natural history. There is something particular as regards ethnology; and a great deal of human nature in the book, shown to the reader with a simplicity and candour which bear testimony to its truth. Called from the busy haunts of men in the city to dwell for a time in Independent Tipperah as a judicious adviser to its chief, Doctor Mookerjee relates his adventures during the several journeys to and fro in that capacity, without revealing the secrets of the State, like a good diplomatist. He has adhered strictly to the advice which he offers to his brethren of the Native press, and has written what he saw and knows, without revealing all, considering what he might properly say and what withhold.....The above seems to be a curious passage to be found in a book of travels, and appears to have no connection with the subject. But it arises from a casual reference to a slaughter house, and a writer who "thundered weekly against the outrage of locating shambles in the immediate vicinity of a Hindoo temple"—where, in fact, no temple could be said to exist. Hence, the doctor advises his fellow-scribes not to be Pharisees, righteous overmuch, but to look and be sure of their facts. In the same spirit, he has written his book. He gives an account of his travels, which seem often to have been voyages, upon the widespread rivers of Eastern Bengal which in the rains become almost inland seas. On these he philosophises on the nature of the country and the people, making careful observation of his facts; and though he sometimes fancies he knows better than his boatmen, and more than suspects that they are getting the better of him, he submits with a grace that would have done credit to Socrates, and accepts the apparently inevitable in the interests of peace. The doctor is a close observer of nature, animate and inanimate, with an eye to the picturesque as well as to the sublime and beautiful. And although there is a vein of cynicism running through many of his observations, it is tempered by such evident good nature, that even a stranger would conceive him to be a laughter-loving rather than a stern philosopher. This is evi-

dent in his description of his boatmen and others, while he denounces the lawlessness which has made the poor fishermen suspicious even of honest intentions, because they have so long been the helpless victims of marauders stronger than themselves. Their only defence is flight or deceit, and the latter is their justification as a mode of self-protection. We are shown not only the weakness of the people, but the shortcomings of the administration that leave these things possible.....The author is impartial in his censures.....There is much in the book to which space forbids us to refer. That it is not a prosy one may be gathered from the fact that, for its 300 pages, there are nearly as many index references. Many of the subjects are necessarily but lightly treated, but all sensibly and fairly. And Dr. Mookerjee is such a master of the English language that in the whole book we have scarcely found a phrase that might not have been written by an Englishman "to the manner born." There is nothing in it at which any one could reasonably take offence; and there is much from which both Englishmen and natives may learn greatly-needed lessons.—*The Indian Daily News*, Nov. 22, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him.....*Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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The Author accompanied the last Expedition under General Sir Harry Prendergast, in November 1885, and remained in Upper Burma after the conquest until June 1887.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1889.

} No. 363

## CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

### THE WHISPERWIND.

*(Translated from the German of Freiligrath.)*

THE Whisperwind is known to all  
From north to south both great and small.  
The banks of Rhine at morning seek,  
You'll feel its freshness on your cheek.  
Upstream it blows from four till ten,  
From dewy mead and forest glen.

Aye, piping, whistling, loud and shrill,  
Its course is upward, upward still ;  
Like one that scorns an easy life,  
And rushes gaily into strife,  
It will not with the current go,  
But ever in its teeth doth blow.

Where cabins stand you'll hear it sound,  
Where cabins stand and mills go round ;  
From strawroofed cots away it scours,  
And dashing at your princely towers,  
It shakes them with its sturdy brawl,  
Rheinstein, Johannisberg, and all.

A saucy wind ! 't will budge no inch  
Out of its course, nor cares a pinch  
Of snuff for etiquette or forms :  
Around the battlements it storms,  
Knocking their gathered mists about,  
Till clear at last the sky shines out.

Aye, clear and cloudless grows the day ;  
So let it blow as blow it may !  
Itself, and one more of its kin,  
O then indeed will day begin !  
Loud crow the cocks ; the woods are stirred ;  
Another whisper hath been heard !

And upward, upward, bold and strong,  
This other whisper speeds along :  
From lowly spots it wings its flight  
Aloft to every proudest height,  
And forth from cot and workshop scours  
To whistle round a monarch's towers.

Dim hang the mists those towers upon ;  
But patience, they will soon begone !  
For all so big they look and frown,  
The Whisper will not be put down,  
But charging at them, blast on blast,  
Scatters their sullen heaps at last.

So may it be ! amen, amen !  
Blow on good wind—O were it ten !  
O were it ten, and clear the sky !  
'T will now methinks be six well nigh.--  
The Whisperwind ! 'T is known to all  
From north to south both great and small.

### A GREY DAY AT NAPLES, 1888.

THE lazy waters of the tideless sea,  
That murmur homage to Parthenope,  
Enveloped in November's cloak of brown,  
Hide their bright azure, as the motley town  
Imports from Northern climes the low-toned dress  
Which masks awhile her laughing loveliness.  
Southward the eye to-day can scarce divine  
The clear-cut range of Capri's mountain line,  
Dreaming that Autumn's spirit even thus  
Fell on the dark soul of Tiberius,  
And mourned with him the lights that disappear  
Out of the records of the dying year.

Yet still, when Colour fails, the grace of Form  
Clasps the fair coast in her embraces warm,  
Even as to classic shapes inspired of Death  
The sculptor's chisel lends a second breath,  
And in the courts of Naples bids again  
The ghosts of Cæsars stand like living men.  
So,—when the sad but gracious veil of grey  
Falls softly silent o'er the melting day,—  
Go teach thy thoughts in unison to turn  
To statued record and sepulchral urn,  
And feel that dullest hour can only shroud  
Eternal Beauty with a passing cloud.

Even as I write, against my window-pane  
Plash early heralds of the dewy rain,  
And to the sun-tired spirit sound confessed  
A kind of gentle parable of Rest.  
A-weary of the long internal strife,  
Which surges still beneath the crust of Life,  
And threatens all men in securest hour  
With some dread flash of the Destroyer's power,  
Till in a moment be to ruin hurled  
Their bay-hold upon their treasured world,—  
The mind will crave, ere sultry evening close,  
From waste of fretful labour, dread Repose.

So, o'er the treacherous beauty of a soil  
Quick with the live volcano's long turmoil,  
In sullen murmur hinting slow desire,  
And wrapping Nature in a lust of fire,  
Or threatening to upheave in sudden birth  
On ruins of herself unstable Earth,  
Careless of all the suffering of the few,  
So the great whole be to its mission true ;—

*Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.*

Still over and anon the Southern day  
Pales out in quiet folds of tender grey,  
As if, where first their angry watch they kept,  
The very Titans in the prison slept.

With them tired heart, sleep, then, a little too,  
When restful cloud obscures the vaulted blue !  
If changeless sunshine flooded shore and sea,  
Where would the Spirit of the Shadow be ?

HERMAN MERIVALE.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE *Indian Mirror*, which had affected to patronize the Lieutenant-Governor, has abandoned the uncongenial rôle, and given him over. Sir Stuart Bayley may now be allowed to reenter caste. He is certainly to be congratulated on his release from an awkward connection not of his seeking.

MR. JUSTICE NORRIS has shown independence worthy of the High Court. Very properly he would not allow Lala Bun Behary Kapur to be guardian *ad litem* for his son, the minor Maharaja of Burdwan, in the suit by the Dowager Maharani Narayan Kumaree to set aside his adoption by the deceased Maharani Banodeye Devi and to have her declared entitled to the Burdwan estates. His Lordship called for other names. Three names were submitted—Mr. Reynolds, of the Board of Revenue, Mr. Smith, Commissioner of the Presidency Division, and Mr. Oldham, Collector of Burdwan. Mr. Justice Norris has accepted and allowed Mr. Oldham to represent the minor. This gentleman is on the wing, having already taken his passage for England, but that does not matter. He is only required to sign the Written Statement.—Mr. Reily, the Joint Manager, has shown not only honesty but praiseworthy independence in declining to sign the Written Statement.

THE Lala has taken to exhibiting the minor in Calcutta.

MR. PUGH has given in his award on the Burdwan jewels. Most of those claimed by the Dowager Maharani go to her. His share—Rs. 19,000 for nineteen days' attendance—is to be borne by the parties in the proportion of claim disallowed. Each party had, however, to pay the arbitrator's fees in moiety before the submission of the award. The Maharani expects to get back from the Board of Revenue a large portion of the sum advanced by her.

LALU CHAND and others have sued the Agra Bank for Rs. 15,000, the amount of a cheque presented by them for encashment. It is yet a mystery who received the amount, but the drawers claim it from the Bank. The case is being heard by Mr. Justice Norris.

THE Sukkur Bridge will be opened by the Governor of Bombay on the 27th.

AFTER assisting by their royal presence the opening of the Sukkur Bridge, their Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught move on to Ulwar for some tiger-shooting. The Grand Duke of Oldenburgh accompanies them.

THEY have come upon a find of gold mohurs and sicca rupees of the Aurungzebe period at Bhugaon, Berar, in the Amraoti taluq.

ON the 27th February last, the Chief Commissioner of Burma opened the Tounghoo and Mandalay Railway. In his reply to the Mandalay Municipality, Sir Charles Crosthwaite pointed out that Government has been unusually generous to its youngest child, in that it has given it a railway connecting it with the outer world in the space of only two years. Mr. Buyers, the Manager and Engineer, came in for his share of praise for the able and expeditious completion of the line. There was a breakfast provided for both the Europeans and the Burman officials.

As an evidence of improved commercial relations with China, a large quantity of white goat skins, it is said, has gone from Thibet to Peking this winter, with other Thibetan products.

RUBY smuggling is on the increase in Upper Burma.

MR. Horace Bell estimates the cost of the Rajputana Desert Railway at Rs. 413 lacs, a bridge over the Indus being set down for 18 lacs. The earnings are calculated to yield no more than 3 per cent. Even if the actual cost does not exceed the estimate and the earnings are correctly guessed, will the project tempt private enterprise?

THE Bangalore Municipality, it seems, allows an orderly to each Commissioner. In December last, a resolution was passed confirming the arrangement and was in due course sent up to the British Resident for sanction. Sir Oliver St. John has returned the resolution for reconsideration, remarking that the indulgence is not enjoyed in other Municipalities.

THE following question appears in "Notes and Queries" :—

"A. B. goes from London to Naples, leaving his wife resident in the former city. But he, unfortunately, falls in love with a young lady at Naples; and being a wicked man with no fear of God and little fear of the law before his eyes, he determines to deceive her by a bigamous and invalid marriage. He is, accordingly, married, to all appearance legally, on board an English man-of-war in the bay, in the presence of the Captain, at eleven o'clock in the morning of February 10—the time being unquestionably ascertained. But the wife left in London died on that same February 10 at half past ten in the morning, the time being certified beyond all question. Well! the case is clear and simple. A. B. had been a widower for half an hour when he married, and could, of course, legally do so. But, stay! When it was 10-30 in London it was 11-23 in Naples. Had a telegram been despatched instantly after the wife's death it would have reached Naples a few minutes later than 11-23, and would have found A. B. a married man of over twenty minutes standing! His first wife died, in fact, twenty-three minutes subsequent to the Naples marriage, though that was authentically declared to have taken place at 11 A. M., and the wife's death was with equal certainty shown to have occurred at 10-30. Was the marriage legal and valid, or bigamous and null?"

THE Bishop Metropolitan of Calcutta, during his recent visit to England, tried for an Act of Parliament creating bishoprics for the N.-W. Provinces and Chota Nagpore. Both Lord Salisbury and Lord Cross informed him that it could not be. He has now asked the Secretary of State to permit of a See being founded in that part of Oudh which would not be affected by the existing Act of Parliament. As regards Chota Nagpore, he proposes visiting the clergy there and getting them to elect a bishop to whom they should take an oath of obedience. This is avoiding if not overriding the law to be sure. These fat ecclesiastics should have more respect for the constitution that protects their position, pay and pensions.

THE British Consulates at Pondicherry and Karikal are to be abolished—to the saving of Rs. 16,000 a year. The consuls are chiefly inspectors of emigrants to the French West Indian Islands. The coolie emigration to the French Colonies having been stopped, the consuls have now hardly anything to do but draw their allowances. The entire Consular Service is maintained as a preserve for patronage.

THERE have been serious riots among the unemployed at Rome.

IN the suit of Sir Henry and Lady Morland against the G. I. P. Railway, Mr. Justice Scott

"based his decision on the claim for damages solely on the law of negligence as applied to the facts and evidence in the case. Three rules, he said, were applicable to the case :—I. Every man (or company) owes a duty to persons who are invited by him to come upon his premises as customers or otherwise in the course of business to exercise reasonable care to prevent damage to them from unusual dangers of which the occupier of the premises has or ought to have knowledge; II. In suits for injuries caused by negligence the plaintiff cannot recover if he has so far contributed to the misfortune by his own negligence and want of care and caution that, but for such negligence and want of care and caution the accident would not have happened; and III. A master is civilly responsible for all acts done by his servant in the course of his employment. His Lordship considered there was no doubt that the public were invited to use the whole of the road as a means of leaving and coming up to the arrival platform, and the Company having invited the public to use the outer way placed upon it obstructions without sufficiently lighting them or otherwise giving notice of them to those who used the road. His Lordship therefore

found against the Company on the point of negligence. On the second point, of contributory negligence his Lordship said the sole question was whether the coachman, using ordinary care, ought to have avoided the third heap. He knew nothing of its existence. He was driving along a road dedicated to the public, and presumably free from obstructions, the stones, if visible, were only dimly visible, and their colour is the same as that of the road, and his Lordship said he should impose on drivers the duty of extraordinary instead of ordinary care if he held the coachman negligent if he did not see the heap in time. Under the circumstances his Lordship said he could not hold that the disaster would not have happened if the plaintiffs' servant had exercised common and ordinary care. He did exercise due care. The defence of contributory negligence, therefore, fails. The real cause of the accident was that the defendants had placed the stones in a way likely to be dangerous without sufficiently lighting them or otherwise giving notice of them to persons lawfully using the road. As regards the question of damages, his Lordship considered that the claim of pecuniary loss for the possible continuance of employment after the expiry of the present term of office was too conjectural and speculative and remote; he therefore excluded it from consideration, and he also considered the sum claimed for breaking up the household to be excessive. His Lordship further considered one year's change of climate at the expense of the Company ample to allow, and that all the legitimate heads of damage, including the injuries, the harm and suffering, the duration of the injuries, the expense, the pecuniary loss, the first plaintiff's temporary loss of domestic comfort, and the separate claim of Lady Morland would be sufficiently covered by the sum of Rs. 30,000, which his Lordship awarded to the plaintiffs with the costs of both the suits."

THE Municipal Office was closed yesterday till one in the afternoon for the *Shivaratri* of the previous night. It was the day for the publication of the revised electoral list, and many persons went to find themselves disappointed.

THE Government of India has addressed the Secretary of State on the Outstill System.

ACCORDING to the *Nilgiri Observer*, there was an extraordinary shower of meteors in the Nilgiris, on the night of Wednesday the 20th February. "The meteors were very bright and numerous and seemed to radiate from a common centre in the north-western part of the sky between the constellations of Perseus and Andromeda. Sometimes four or five would be flying in parallel lines, again two would cross, again on the right and left solitary stars would shoot along in darkness."

ON the 12th ultimo, Mr. Howell, the Resident of Hyderabad, gave a grand dinner to His Highness the Nizam, and in proposing the health of His Highness, took the opportunity of expressing his very high appreciation of the admirable manner in which the Hyderabad state had received their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught the previous month. In the course of his speech, he lavished his praise on His Highness the Nizam, the Minister Sir Asman Jah, the Director of Public Instruction Nawab Imadood Dowlah, the Political and Financial Secretary Nawab Mohsinool Moolk, the great huntsman Nawab Vikarool Omra, and the excellent rider, excellent shot and excellent polo player Major the Nawab Afsur Jung. But he had not a word whatever for Nawab Sir Khurshed Jah, the Premier nobleman in Hyderabad, the man next in rank to the Nizam, the eldest son and successor of that splendid statesman the late Shumsool Omra Ameer-i-Kabeer—the man who is pronounced by the majority of the population of the Deccan, as the ablest Hyderabadee of high character and high rank and as the man of all others whose personal interests are most intimately involved in the well being of the state.

THE Hon'ble Syud Ameer Hossein, C. I. E., the Northern Division Magistrate, has obtained 3 months' leave from the 1st April. The native town will rejoice to hear that the experienced, upright and independent Moulvie Abdul Jubber, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24 Pergunnahs, officiates for the Hon'ble Syud.

BABOO GOPAL HARI MULLICK, Assistant Superintendent of Police, 24-Pergunnahs, is Gazetted to act as District Superintendent of Police, Rajshahye, during the absence on furlough of Mr. B. Rattray.

THE first half yearly Departmental Examination of 1889, of Assistants and Deputy Magistrates in the Regulation and Non-Regulation Districts, and of officers in the Police, Medical and Forest Departments, will begin on Monday, the 6th May.

THE *Eastern Herald* of Mhow is inconsolable at the Holkar's princely donation of one lac of Rupees to the Imperial Institute, in London, and fires off full five columns of rignarole against its neighbour the Maharaja, for his audacity in making such a diversion of his wealth, without consulting editors and patriots.

Our contemporary has been so upset that it offers this by way of its best joke worthy of a place in its leading article:—

"Indore is known to be a Hindu territory, and we are surprised to learn that the Goddess of Wealth—the ever fickle and changing *Luchmi* is receiving the fate of men. Her banishment is not yet complete but it is a mere commencement of that undesirable event. The only defence is that men who are banished are relegated to certain places selected for their future abode such as Rumpura and other places which have lately come to be known as Holkar's practical Andamans whereas the Indore *Luchmi* is gradually looking for her shelter beyond the Seas in another continent."

Verily, that is the literature of lunacy, or Mhow is the land of Gotham! Unless there had been a real act of sacrilege or closing of any temple, it would be difficult to assign a meaning to the above. As a figure of speech, the goddess of wealth is not confined to Hindu territory. Besides, on the writer's own showing, there would be nothing extraordinary in the ever fickle and changing *Luchmi* proceeding to fresh fields and pastures new.

HIS Highness the Maharaja of Jeypore arrived here on the 20th ultimo at 9 A.M. and has been quartered at No. 13 Park Street. The Jeypore Agent, our old friend, Colonel W. F. Prideaux, had preceded him. It was evidently through his influence that his old Lieutenant, the Head Assistant of the office of Superintendent of Oudh Political Pensions, was commissioned to make all arrangements for His Highness's reception and residence in Calcutta. The Jeypore Prime Minister finds it to his interest to be very friendly to the *quondam protégé* of the Political Agent.

THE Hyderabad Government has appointed Messrs. Henry S. King & Co., of London, and their branch firm King, King & Co., at Bombay, as its Agents and Bankers for the two places respectively. The head of the London House, Mr. Henry S. King is M. P. for Hull, and might be of yeoman's service whenever the interests of the state came on for discussion in the House. Members are not formally remunerated in Great Britain, but it is a great advantage in business to be an M. P.

MR. E. L. Winter, Officiating Magistrate of Saharanpur, complained to the High Court, N.-W. P. of the following Notice of suit which explains itself:—

"MUSSOORIE, Oct. 30.

E. L. WINTER, Esq., B. C. S., Saharanpur.

Notice of suit in accordance with Section 127, C. P. C.

SIR,—I regret it should be my duty to give you notice of a suit on behalf of Mr. DeCruze, a driver in the N.-W. Railway, residing at the rest house, Saharanpur. It appears that on the 17th day of December 1887 you issued a summons to Mr. DeCruze to appear before you, the officiating Joint Magistrate of Saharanpur, on the 23rd December 1887. Mr. DeCruze, in obedience to your summons, appeared on the 23rd December 1887 and waited from eleven o'clock till four o'clock for you to come to court. It also appears that on the 23rd December 1887, you were out on duty or on pleasure, or both, at Susawa. On the 24th day of December 1887 you issued a warrant worded as follows:—

"Warrant of Arrest (Section 75, Schedule I, form II.)

"To the Head-Quarter Inspector, District Police, Saharanpur.

"Whereas Mr. DeCruze, Engine Driver of N.-W. Railway, Saharanpur, stands charged with the offence of beating of coachman of Mrs. Greetham, you are directed to arrest the said Mr. DeCruze and to produce him before me. Herein fail not and to produce the accused on his arrest at once at the officiating Magistrate's house. Dated this 24th day of December 1887. E. L. Winter, offg. Magistrate."

Pardon the casual observation that, were you not a being neither born nor created but proceeding from a competitive examination the English of this warrant would be open to criticism. It appears that on the 24th of December, in pursuance of your amusements, you returned to Saharanpur. In consequence of your warrant Mr. DeCruze was arrested and forcibly taken to your private residence, from which moment the cause of action commenced. At your house Mr. DeCruze pointed out to you that he had obeyed your summons which mentioned no place but Saharanpur. You replied that he should have gone on by the midday train to Susawa. It does not seem to have appeared to you possible that Mr. DeCruze or anyone else could possibly be ignorant of the movements of so important a personage as the officiating Joint Magistrate of Saharanpur. You then ordered the police officer to take him away and release him only on his finding two good securities of one hundred rupees each. You had no jurisdiction to issue a warrant. You had no jurisdiction to order Mr. DeCruze to be taken to your house. You had no jurisdiction to order Mr. DeCruze to be detained in custody till he furnished bail. You

had no jurisdiction to require him to stay on bail. You did not act in good faith either in issuing a warrant or in ordering Mr. DeCruze to be taken to your house, or in ordering his further detention after he told you of the summons issued by you, and that he had attended your court at Saharapur, or on your requiring bail from him or ordering his detention on bail. Moreover, the powers that are given to gentlemen of your profession to try cases in camp are given with the view that the public convenience may be served, instead of which you apparently seem to be under the impression that the principal object is to furnish you with travelling allowances and to enable you to go shooting or fishing according to your pleasure, and that unfortunate litigants are to follow you from one end of the district to the other, suiting themselves entirely to your personal convenience. You have no authority to make anyone follow you in camp except in good faith with due care and attention in the exercise of your jurisdiction. In any country that claims a civilised government, but parts of India and perhaps Turkey, a magistrate guilty of conduct like yours would be criminally prosecuted by the Government; but no doubt if I had recommended to Mr. DeCruze to prosecute you in the criminal courts the case would have been tried by some member of your Service, whose judicial discretion might be guided by his executive conscience and who would assuredly have acquitted you, and from such acquittal there would have been no appeal; where is in a civil suit the dismissal of the plaint in the lower court will not deprive Mr. DeCruze of all remedy. I have therefore advised Mr. DeCruze to sue you for damages. Mr. DeCruze has instructed me to inform you that he will file a suit against you for twelve hundred rupees damages occasioned to him by your afore-said and unlawful arrest and imprisonment. I have, &c., &c.—(Sd.) H. Vansittart, Counsel for Mr. DeCruze. 30th October 1888."

The High Court, (the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Straight), in the exercise of their disciplinary powers, called on Mr. H. Vansittart to answer the complaint. He appeared and questioned the proceedings against him as irregular, and protected himself by the Counsel's plea of "instructions." Ultimately, however, he expressed regret to the Court for what he had done, and the Court subsequently discharged the rule with a warning to Mr. Vansittart for better conduct in the future.

THE Bombay Government has refused to furnish Mr. Crawford with a copy or the purport of the Report of the Commission on him, or to make any communication on the subject for the Secretary of State has ruled that a report by a Commission appointed under Act No. XXXVII of 1850 is a confidential document.

Two Cabulis, travelling from Calcutta, were arrested on suspicion at Delhi, on the 20th February. They had with them a girl of 11, who said she was of Cuttack and was the wife of both, her mother having sold her to them. They had, besides large sums of money, a set of a lady's and gentleman's clothing. Are they Cabulis in truth, or Shiah Poshes? What religion are they of, we wonder. Islam does not recognise polyandry.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE country's deliverance is at hand, and the *Indian Mirror* may prepare his *poofas* of thanksgiving to his gods and his banquets to his Mahatmas. Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace makes over charge to Colonel Ardagh on the 13th, and goes to Baghdad, thence to Bushire, and on to Teheran and Shiraz and Isfahan.

But there is no rest for the perturbed spirit, we are afraid. There will still be Secretaries, Public and Private, and Europeans in plenty about. The millennium which will see the Congress set up on the ruins of the British administration, is not yet in view.

MR. J. KELLEHER, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Hooghly, goes on furlough for 18 months from the 15th March. Mr. F. H. McLaughlin, District and Sessions Judge, Jessore, comes over to Hooghly in the same capacity, while Baboo Brojendra Coomar Seal, from Bankura, acts as District and Sessions Judge of Jessore. The Bengal Government is evidently getting over its shyness in regard to the last named. At any rate, we are glad to see Judge Seal moved out of his hole in the rude Rath and brought to the front. We hope to see him yet on the High Court. It is a pity that when a Sub-Judge was called to officiate for a time on that Bench, the right sort of officer was not chosen. Baboo Seal, for instance, would not have given cause for the prejudice against the Subordinate Judicial Service which is now in the way of its best men.

The *Civil and Military Gazette* understands that several Judges of the Lahore Chief Court will shortly be going home. Messrs. Burney

and Roe on leave, and Mr. Tremlett "for good." Mr. Burney may not return. It also says that Mr. McEwen, the Officiating Recorder of Rangoon, has been offered one of the acting appointments, and that Mr. Baden Powell will be confirmed as a Judge, while the names of Mr. Benton, Mr. Roberts and Mr. Stogdon, of the Punjab Commission, are mentioned in connection with the other vacancies. Is there no chance for a native successor, after the late Pundit Ramnarain? Is there none eligible in the Province? There are more than one in the Court itself. Is Governor Lyall, too, afflicted with Baboophobia?

After the extraordinary way in which, in Mr. Moylan's case, he brought discredit on the bench, it was time Mr. McEwen was sent to the right about, but it would be an injustice to the Punjab if he was kicked up from the Easternmost frontier Province to the highest bench of the Westernmost.

THE Lieutenant-Governor has ruled that where the Port Trust and the District Board exercise a coincident jurisdiction in the matter of regulating ferry boats, the more stringent provisions of the rules under the port acts should be enforced and the boats be surveyed and licensed accordingly. As a consequence, the neighbouring ferryboats will be better watched and brought under stricter control.

The occasion which elicited it, justifies the order. In August last, at Budge-Budge, a ferry boat capsized and lives were lost. It had been licensed, under the ferries act by the District Board, to carry 30 passengers with a crew of two—a manji and a dandie. The port rules would not have allowed more than 10 passengers to a crew of four. The port rules may seem hard on ferry-boat owners, but they are simply humane. It is necessary that the ferry-boats should be of better make and better kept, and they should not be overcrowded. The District Boards should not be permitted to derive a revenue at the expense of the safety of passengers. The ferry-boats on the Hooghly are a disgrace to the British in India and to civilization.

A BENCH of Honorary Magistrates convicted a man for cheating under Sec. 420 of the Indian Penal Code, and sentenced him to one month's rigorous imprisonment. His offence was that he "had purchased three tins of *ghee*, and ordered them to be sent to his house, where he said he would pay for them. The tins were duly sent, but payment was deferred from the morning to the afternoon, and then to the night, but when the man called at night, he found the purchaser not at home." The High Court—Messrs. Justices Mitter and Trevelyan—have set aside the conviction. They are of opinion that "the bare fact of a person taking delivery of goods, promising to pay cash, and ultimately failing to keep his promise, would not amount to cheating. It must be established in the first place that the buyer's promise to pay cash was made falsely, that is, that the buyer knew he had not the means to pay cash. In the next place, it would have to be shown that the seller was deceived, that is to say, that he would not have delivered the goods if he disbelieved the representations of the buyer."

This is a section on which most Magistrates stumble. The offence is one difficult of proof, but in their moral certainty of the crime committed they ignore the legal necessities for conviction. They assume many things wanting in the chain of evidence and jump to conclusions. In sentencing the prisoner, they are quite happy at the thought of having done society a service. Their confidence receives its first shock, and anxiety is aroused when the case is taken to a higher tribunal, but even then they cling to the hope that the High Court will not disturb the finding of three Magistrates, forgetting that zeroes by multiplication do not amount to much of a tangible quantity.

Nought are they all, and all but nought!

THE Dewan of Burwan, in the Bhopawar Agency, must be a sort of Bismarck in miniature. He is so powerful that his own master the Maharana cannot oust him. He is said to be misgoverning the little chiefship. First the people became disaffected, and then the Chief himself was disgusted. At last, the Rana could bear with him no longer. But, under the peculiar situation of our princes, the Chief could not abate the nuisance of his own instance. He had to make humble application to the Political Agency. This ejectment suit the poor Rana lost. The Political would not hear of anything against the Dewan. And now the Chief is advised by his friends to appeal to the Supreme Agency of the Governor-General at Indore.

The subject is no doubt worth the attention of Mr. Henvey and the Foreign Office. Misgovernment in Burwan, if there is misgovernment,



is not a trifling matter. The state is insignificant but then it is peopled mostly by Bheels and other wild tribes of the Satpura hills, who are capable of giving trouble, even to British interest.

The Dewan Chandi Persad had before been Superintendent of the Bundelkund state of Chattarpore, where he acquired an unenviable reputation. Major Robertson in his administration report severely condemned his management. His courts inspired no confidence. The people were given up to be victimised by contractors of the revenue. The settlement was an aggravation. The accounts were improperly kept, if they might be said to be kept at all. There was no supervision of public works. Add to this, a lamentable Vandalism was committed by robbing the carved treasures of the beautiful temples and ruins of Khyraus, to provide stones for the Vishwanath Sagar artificial lake. It were worth inquiring under what influence, with such a record against him, the Dewan was pitchforked into his present post.

HOWEVER contradictory may be the reports, official and non-official, on the administration in the Southernmost Principality of India, on the Malabar Coast, it is admitted on all hands that the means of communication there are very defective. Certainly, it is easier to go to Cabool than to penetrate to Trevandrum. We are glad to notice a disposition on the part of the Durbar to reduce the present barbarous isolation, so far as lies in its power. There is no immediate prospect of railway communication between Travancore and British India. The State, however, contemplates steam communication within its territory, by the Backwaters. Works are already in progress for widening and deepening the channels between the capital and Paravoor, for which a lac and seventeen thousand has been sanctioned. Meanwhile, tenders have been called for of the terms on which any individual or company is prepared to establish regular steam communication between Trevandrum and Paravoor. A note from the Chief Engineer gives the official idea of the undertaking. According to him, three small steamers would be required of the total value of Rs. 85,000, one to go, another to come, and the third to be kept ready against any accidents to the others, and for supplying their places when they go to dock one after the other, for the periodical repairs. The journey from terminus to terminus might be accomplished in 24 hours, allowing half an hour's stay at each of the three principal intermediate places, Quilon, Allepey, and Cochin, and no more than a minute or two for dropping and taking up passengers at minor stations. Each steamer is to have suitable accommodation for 10 1st class, 20 2nd class, and 100 3rd class passengers. The cost of maintaining each steamer will be Rs. 240 a month, as follows—crew (drivers and lascars) Rs. 90 per mensem and fuel Rs. 5 per diem. For two steamers, the monthly expense will be Rs. 480. The establishment of the reserve vessel will cost Rs. 50. The wear and tear of all three @ 100 will cost Rs. 300, besides an Inspector on Rs. 150 will be required. All this brings up the monthly expenses to Rs. 1,000. Add to this interest on Rs. 85,000 @ 5 per cent. or Rs. 354. Altogether, it is a matter of less than Rs. 1,500 a month, which may be recouped by a daily income of Rs. 50, and this the Chief Engineer thinks may be realised from the present traffic. In such a case, the traffic is bound to expand in a little time. The business is too small to attract the great companies, unless any of the river navigating firms have suitable steam launches idling on their hands. Certainly, here is an opening for enterprise to natives with a lac of Rupees. At any rate, a company may be started by some of our countrymen, whether natives (Hindu, Mussulman, Parsee, Christian, or Jew) or Eurasians. The company might be incorporated by law. If there is no limited liability Act in Travancore, one could be passed. We are sure the Maharaja's Government would afford every facility to such an enterprise and watch it with parental interest. Such an opportunity for beginning, on a small scale a great career, will not easily occur to our countrymen. Applications will be received by the Dewan up to the 6th August next. So there is ample time for thought and inquiry.

THERE seems something in the atmosphere of the New World favourable to breadth and boldness of view. We are continually startled by novel ideas and interesting discoveries from that Continent. There is no lack of great engineering in Great Britain or in Western Europe generally, and it was a French amateur that accomplished the world's Highway—the Suez Canal—and has been spending his dying breath on the next universal work of the kind—the Panama Canal. It was, however, reserved for America to bring within the range of prac-

tical engineering the moving of buildings, to the infinite convenience of the dwellers of crowded cities. A still more important discovery has been made in the same quarter which will revolutionise the art of building, namely, the use of paper for roofing. Paper or other vegetable fibre reduced to pulp and spread out into sheets, pressed and dried, done to any thickness or shape, is being used as a good substitute for wood or iron. Besides its convenience as to size, being reducible to any mould, this material has several other important advantages over those hitherto employed. It will not split, being flexible, without grain or joints. It will not communicate sound at all, being non-resonant. Dipped in certain chemicals and properly manipulated, it is impervious to water, unaffected by moisture, and independent of weather or climate. It may be made fire-proof, too. All this is capital, only we fear the old fogeys of our Hemispheres would like to await the full result of the practical experiment of abolishing iron and timber beams in favour of a *papier-mâché* substitute, before going in for the innovation themselves. Certainly, no native of India will trust his life or the lives of his dear ones to the keeping of the house of cards of go-a-head engineering.

ANOTHER discovery comes from the same enlightened Continent. It is about the physiological effects of the possession of lucre. This last has always been the scorn of philosophers, priests, and other unfortunate folks who have never enjoyed an abundance of it. "Dirty lucre" is the correct way of designating it. And, indeed, higher authority than that of any philosophers has taught us to regard Mammon as the god of Unrighteousness. Holy Writ also has placed the men of lucre out of the kingdom of Heaven. But we never suspected that it was such a virulent poison even in this life as we now learn it to be. The light comes from beyond the Atlantic. We find that lucre actually idiotises those who possess it to any great extent, or perhaps those whom it possesses. There are the Vanderbilts, for instance, colossal *mehters*—repositories of dirt—absolutely at a loss what to do with their overwhelming abundance. We do pity the sorrows of the poor rich men! One of these Vanderbilts has lately died, and he seems to have gone raving mad with his unholy burden. His lucre proved too much of a good thing. Here is his will:—

"I leave all I have to this young girl because her little turn-up nose made me laugh and amused me all the evening while I was at the theatre."

How different and sensible is the disposition of Signor Tagliabelli, the Italian millionaire, who has left £2,000 to the public street-sweepers, stipulating only that they should follow his body to the grave, shouldering their brooms.

ANOTHER new American invention is of a humble but very useful kind, namely, an ingenious apparatus by which the month, the date, the hour and minute, A. M. or P. M. as the case may be, as also the year, are simultaneously stamped on letters, telegraph forms, or other documents, merely by pressing down a stamp. The apparatus usually employed is constructed to go for thirty days without manual change of any of its parts, but it can be made to run automatically for longer periods. There are five type-wheels which revolve on a single axis, and print in one line each. The minute-wheel is actuated by electricity transmitted through the medium of a circuit loser attached to any clock, and is moved by a spring once a minute. The other movements all depend upon the minute-wheel. In sixty minutes the hour changes, in twenty-four hours the day, and so on

THE Nawab of Rampore Mushtak Ali Khan Bahadoor died on Monday, aged about 32 years. The all-knowing *Pioneer* blunders all round in noticing the event, and leads the other papers into the mistakes. We quote the *Pioneer*:—

"We regret to hear of the death on Monday last of Sir Katab Ali Khan, C.C.S.I., Nawab of Rampur. His Highness had been in a hopeless state for some time past, and indeed from the time of his installation has never been able to take any part in the public business of the State which has been carried on entirely by the Council of Regency. Though his rule has been so short, the Nawab was by no means a young man, having only succeeded to the title when he was well past fifty."

It was on the death of Nawab Kalbali Khan that Nawab Mushtak Ali Khan came to the musnad. This last was never knighted. He had not even the physical strength to undergo the ceremonial duties of the Nawab of Raupore. But perhaps we forget that he was pronounced completely cured and the attending European physician paid a lac of Rupees. That is now proved to be a blind, as it was designed to be. The Doctor retains the lac but the patient has died.

HERE is one of the ever-recurring anomalies of the precious British system! According to the mythology of English law, a corporation is a queer entity, almost intangible, at any rate dangerously slippery. But though it has neither a body to be kicked nor a soul to be damned, it may be hauled up in court. And now the Chief Magistrate of the town has accomplished the feat of sending it up to the sessions. It now remains for the High Court to give the finishing stroke by transporting it, bag and baggage, Chairman and Vice (there is no Virtue in the connection), rank and file and all, to the Andamans.

As previously arranged, Mr. Marsden, on Tuesday, committed the Calcutta Corporation. No charge was drawn up, nor were the other usual formalities in a sessions case gone through. Grown more wise after the event, and having allowed the case to go against it by default as it were, the Corporation applied to the Chief Magistrate, the next day, for review of his order—pointing out the omissions made and questioning the legality of the commitment of a Corporation like itself for a criminal offence under the Penal Code. The Magistrate proved a very Mede on the bench. Mr. Marsden would not disturb the order he had already made. If there were any omissions, there was the Clerk of the Crown to rectify them, or the High Court to make its own orders. We are afraid the case has been mismanaged on behalf of the Corporation. Whatever the merits of the case, we cannot admire the wisdom which allowed the un-cross-examined evidence as to the nuisance and danger created by the process of filling up of the tank, to go forth to the world, to the infinite anxiety of the citizens.

HAVING more leisure than work on their hands, the Judges of the High Court recently held a Full Bench of their full complement. It was a very trivial point the collective wisdom of the whole Court was called upon to discuss and decide. According to the report in the daily press, the question referred to was whether an *ex parte* decree could be held to be *res judicata* in any subsequent cause or not. The answer is plain, nor had the thirteen Judges a very complex problem to solve. The point was whether an *ex parte* simple decree for rent claimed could be *res judicata* in a case in which the rate of rent was disputed. There is a decision of the late Chief Justice Garth in which he is reported to have said that, under the circumstance, no second suit would lie, the *ex parte* decree being conclusive of the rate of rent as well. This could not be upheld, and the entire Court was summoned to over-rule this decision. This, no doubt, is a high compliment to a retired Chief Justice, but were not five Judges equally competent for the task? The ordinary strength of a Full Bench is five.

A GREATER outrage than any has been perpetrated in the Calcutta University. The reign of the lucky son-in-law commenced in jobbery keeps pace with the scandals accruing. Under the old rules, each Faculty returned a member to the Syndicate, the governing body of the academic corporation. He had practically the selection of examiners for his particular branch, the Syndicate always confirming his nomination. Now each of the important Faculties of Arts and Law returns two instead of one, but the practice about the choice of examiners remains unchanged. This lax custom of the academic happy family has just been taken advantage of by the senior of the Law representatives to select the examiners for the next D. L. examination, his son being the only candidate. The application was put off till the last moment, as if to have the whole matter settled by circulation of letters through the Registrar among the members concerned, without a discussion in committee. The other Law member, notwith-

standing an offer of examinership to himself, has, in consequence, resigned. These incessant scandals require the interference of the Chancellor himself for the reputation of the University.

THE sensation of the week has been the abandonment of the "Parnell Letters" by the *Times*. "Parnellism and Crime" has been turned back on the *Times*. They were procured by the *Times* at a cost of six thousand pounds. Pigott, formerly of the *Shamrock*, had furnished the *Times* with these letters. He denied before the Commission that he had forged the letters but deposed he had purchased them from a Fenian, named Murphy, in Paris. In proof of his good faith, he also swore that Messrs. Labouchere, Parnell and Lewis had threatened and cajoled to induce him to avow that he had forged the letters and that Mr. Labouchere had offered him a thousand pounds. After retiring from the box he seems to have got a higher price. Next day (22nd February), at any rate, he admitted that he believed the letters to be forgeries. On the 26th, Pigott was *non est*. A warrant was ordered by the Commission for his arrest. Later in the day, his solicitor, Mr. Shannon, informed the Court that he had received a letter from Pigott declaring that he only forged two of the "Parnell Letters" and that the rest were genuine and were obtained from Patrick Casey. To complete the fiasco, Pigott has crossed over to Paris. Sir Richard Webster, the Attorney General, on behalf of the *Times*, on the 27th February, withdrew the letters which he regretted had ever been published. The *Times* in its issue next morning endorsed the regret of its counsel. The latest news on the subject is that Sir Richard Webster retains the confidence of the Government, and that Mr. Parnell talks of prosecuting Pigott for perjury and forgery. The Irish leader is scarcely likely to execute his threat, even with the advantage of shutting his fellow-Irish patriot's mouth. We cannot understand why the Attorney General should suffer at all for doing his professional duty. The good faith of even his client is above question.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1889.

### LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

THE Local Self-Government Act, constituting District and Local Boards upon an elective basis, has now been in operation in 38 Districts of Bengal, and a report of its working, during the first 18 months ending 31st March 1888, has been submitted by the Government of Bengal to the India Government. The report shows that the Boards have been fairly successful in doing the work entrusted to them, and that the people evinced considerable interest in the elections.

The Bill originally contemplated the creation of three classes of authorities, *viz.*, District Boards as the controlling authority, Local Boards as the administrative body under them, and Union Committees in the villages as the agents of the Local Boards. Owing to changes which the Bill underwent before it was sanctioned by the Government of India, this had to be modified, and the Union Committees were abandoned. Sir Steuart Bayley regrets this, nor has he any hope of being able, under the law as it stands, to do anything more in regard to these Union Committees than to make a limited experiment here and there. The elections for the Local Boards resulted in the return of 51 per cent. zemindars, about 25 per cent. pleaders, and the remainder, belonging to other professions. In the opinion of local officers, the successful candidates, on the whole, were well

qualified by their intelligence, established local position, and business habits for election. The voters mustered strong, and although in some cases they might have attended under the impression that attendance was compulsory, the notice served on them being taken in the light of a summons, yet the report records, the people seem to have taken an intelligent interest in the choice of their representatives and to have appreciated the nature and value of the suffrage. The proportion of zemindars in the constitution of the District Boards is less than in the Local Boards, being about 30 per cent. that of pleaders nearly the same, the percentage being greater in Government servants and other professions. The members of District Boards showed satisfactory attendance and evinced keen interest in the questions which came before them for consideration.

The Local Boards generally availed themselves of the privilege of electing their Chairmen from among themselves, while, as regards the District Boards, the Magistrate of the district was in every case appointed by Government to be Chairman. It would have been impossible, adds the report, to have introduced the measure in its present form except under the guidance of the district officers.

Divisional Commissioners are more or less hesitating in their opinions as to the success and future promise of the system. The following embodies the cautious official attitude towards it:—

"The reports which have been received from local officers show that the introduction of the Act was accomplished successfully, and that the local bodies entered upon their duties with interest and intelligence. The Lieutenant-Governor, however, thinks that it would be unnecessary at present to pronounce any opinion on the success of the local self-government scheme, founded on the working of the District Boards, as sufficient time has not elapsed to admit of the scheme being thoroughly tried.

As regards the actual work accomplished, and the prospects which it offers for the future, this report must necessarily be meagre. The time that has elapsed has been too short either for much to be done or for a certain forecast to be made. It may be stated, however, that the tone of the Commissioners' reports is generally hopeful. The Presidency Commissioner says:—'On the whole, the Local Self-Government Act may be said to have worked well during the year.' The Commissioner of Dacca reports:—'It is almost too soon to criticise the work of the various Boards yet; but, as far as I am able to judge, there is every reason to hope that the experiment now being made will prove successful.' The Commissioner of Rajshahye says:—'The District and Local Boards worked fairly well during the period under review.' The Commissioner of Patna writes:—'The district officers say that the District Boards have worked well. The members of the Boards generally have shown sufficient interest in their work, and the attendance at meetings has on the whole been satisfactory.' The Commissioner of Bhagulpore, premising that the time has not yet arrived for forming an estimate of success or failure of the scheme of Local Self-Government, says that all must agree 'in desiring that the widest scope should be given to it.' The Commissioner of Chittagong says:—'Work has, on the whole, gone on very much as it did under the old Cess Committees.' Finally, the Commissioner of Burdwan reports:—'I think it would be premature to pronounce upon the general efficiency of District and Local Boards, and will only say now that they have still much to learn.' Sir Steuart Bayley's opinion is that when we have found in some instances considerable success, and in no instance failure; when we have to some extent awakened public interest and enlisted public spirit without impairing efficiency in administration; and when the great majority of district officers are working in cordial sympathy with the local bodies, it may fairly be said that the first experience of the measure gives good promise of its satisfactory establishment."

Certainly, it is too early to expect a more pronounced verdict. But for Sir Steuart Bayley's philosophical estimate, the country must feel more than ever grateful. The people are only just placed in positions of responsibility, and a period of training must intervene before the time for fair criticism can arrive. So far as indications may be found from the first report, they seem hopeful.

### THE NEW SANITARY REGIME.

THE new Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal, Dr. Gregg, has made a fair beginning. Without merely writing inflammatory inspection reports and insisting

on an ideal and impracticable standard of sanitation like his predecessor, he has already, during his short incumbency, seen a good deal, and brought his department *en rapport* with the municipalities of the country. His proceedings so far are also marked by moderation and practical good sense, and our municipalities may well look forward to a term of peace in which they will be saved hectoring requisitions to make bricks without straw.

Dr. Surgeon-Major Gregg has evidently thrown himself into his work with heart and soul. He has been reading up the past records of his office, and one of the points which has most forcibly impressed him in course of his studies, is the large proportion of deaths from malarial fever in Bengal. The proportion is found, from an examination of the statistics of the last five years, to be three-fourths of the entire death-rate in the province, or more than twice as much as the death-rate of all the other diseases put together. "These facts," says the Sanitary Commissioner, "are very startling, and when it is remembered that every death from fever probably represents 20 or more attacks, it will be seen what a very large proportion of the population must have suffered." He then proceeds to examine the nature of this malaria and its causes, and quotes a mass of sanitary authorities from ancient to the most recent times. The conclusion he comes to is that malarial fever is associated with the effluvia from marshes and low-lying and badly drained situations. He expressly adopts the theory of the late Raja Digambar Mitter, C. S. I., that "the type of fever met with in the epidemic districts is solely due to a something in the soil, and the condition most favourable to the development of that something is excessive or abnormal humidity of the subsoil. The cause which operates most powerfully to produce that condition is impeded drainage: it is the inordinate humidity of the subsoil of towns and villages, and not of the *paddyfields* and *jullas*, which contributes to the outbreak of the fever with epidemic intensity." Much light has been thrown on the subject by the researches of modern authorities. Professor Tommassi Crudeli in Rome and Professor Klebs in Prague, "have found a germ in cases of malarial or intermittent fever, which they assert is to be met with in the soil and air of malarial districts, and can be demonstrated in the blood of affected patients. Dr. Vandyke Carter of Bombay says that malarial infection can be acquired through both air and water."

After a discussion of the nature and causes of the malarial fever, Dr. Gregg proceeds to show how it is to be prevented by improvement of drainage. He cites a number of cases, from old and recent times, tending to establish the intimate connection between improved drainage and improved health. The most marked illustrations of this fact are furnished by the progress of reclamation and drainage works in parts of England, namely, Lincoln, Norfolk, Suffolk, Kent, Essex, Somerset, Cambridgeshire, Huntingdon, Nottingham and Yorkshire. In conclusion, he clenches the argument with pointing to the striking results which have ensued in Calcutta from its improved system.

Dr. Gregg concludes his circular with an earnest appeal to the municipalities of Bengal:—

"It is of course not to be expected that mofussil municipalities with their limited resources and many urgent needs can accomplish as much in the direction of drainage as the Calcutta Corporation and other wealthy municipalities have done in as short a time, but with steady perseverance there is no reason why, in the course of a few years, the surface and sub-soil water which now saturates the areas of mofussil towns

and villages may not be drawn off, and damp habitations there are never known. If surface and sub-soil drainage accomplished anything else, it would be worth all the money expended on it as marking a step in the history of Indian sanitation. But there can be no doubt whatever that improved health and better physique would follow introduction. Where now are to be seen wretched beings of emaciated and ghastly countenance, looking twice their real age, with attenuated frames, shrunken limbs, muscles thin and powerless, tongues of a leaden whiteness (certain index of deadly marsh fever), pulses feeble and irregular, spleens and livers enormously enlarged, and pitiable languid gait, would be found men well knit, with their muscles developed, and their vital organs sound—altogether powerful, vigorous, healthy and happy.

In many towns great difficulties, other than monetary, will no doubt be met with before the desired result can be attained, but these should not be allowed to overbalance the advantages to be derived from a thorough and systematic drainage system. Great difficulties were at first experienced in England, but they gradually disappeared as improvement advanced. Not many years ago drainage improvements were as little known in many parts of England as they are at present in India, and much controversy and opposition preceded their introduction; yet populous and now flourishing districts have been drained in the face of great difficulties. There is no reason why similar results should not be obtained in India; and in inviting the earnest attention of Municipal Commissioners to the matter, I would urge them to do all in their power, and devote as much of the municipal income as they possibly can towards improving the drainage of their municipalities,—the only means by which the present enormous death-rate and suffering from fever can be diminished, if not altogether prevented."

We hope our municipalities will give a cordial response to the appeal. Instead of year after year frittering away their funds upon what they call their surface drainage and other things of ephemeral importance, let them take up the reclamation of lowlying lands in right earnest, and act upon the principle of combination, where two or more municipalities have a common drainage which, in most cases, now is silted up, or otherwise blocked. From the earnest spirit in which the Sanitary Commissioner has dealt with the subject, much is to be hoped. Having addressed the municipalities as a whole, he will no doubt take up each case piecemeal. The Municipal Commissioners greatly need his counsel and guidance. Probably, they are not wanting in the will to improve their drainage, but cannot agree among themselves as to the methods. Above all, the insufficiency of funds is a great obstacle in not a few cases. For such improvements of a permanent value, however, the help of Government, in the way of loans, might well be looked for, and the influence and recommendation of the Sanitary Commissioner in that behalf might prove of incalculable service.

#### LORD DUFFERIN VINDICATED BY AN HONEST CONGRESSIST.

THE influence of one good and true soul was never so well illustrated as in the progress of a healthy opinion in the frontier Province of Sind. From that far off coast of the Arabian Sea, comes one of the very best representatives of the native, or for that matter Indian Press. And it is all due to one man, Mr. Gupta—one of the hated Baboo race. He is a real pioneer of civilization. In his hands the *Sind Times* rose to be a power. It was a calamity to the country when he was driven from it by an unworthy proprietary. But Mr. Gupta was equal to the occasion. He had already made himself felt, and his friends rallied round him. Soon he was able to startle the enemy by rising out of the ashes of his funeral pyre of a journalist as the *Phoenix* and singing as lustily as ever. We have been watching with great pleasure the course of this very able, fearless, and fair minded journal. It has evidently struck root. We consider the success of such papers of good omen to the country. Though bold, patriotic and progressive, it is a thoroughly respectable publication, above the frivolous cantankerousness and violence of typical patriotic journalism. Our praise is all the more disinterested because the *Phoenix* is perhaps not overjust to our own motives when we differ from it, as in these times of Congress paroxysm we happen not unfrequently to do. As a rule, it is characterised by earnest thoughtfulness and a regard for truth.

Here is a striking example.

As a rule, the treatment accorded by Congress orators and writers to Lord Dufferin's historic speech at the St. Andrew's dinner has been most discreditable to them and their cause. There have been noble

exceptions, no doubt, and the *Phoenix* is one of the noblest. In the eyes of the exasperated patriots, the late Viceroy's sin culminates in the following words uttered by him:—

"The ideal authoritatively suggested, as I understand, is the creation of a representative body or bodies, in which the official element shall be a minority, who shall have what is called the power of the purse, and who, through this instrumentality, shall be able to bring the British Executives into subjection to their will. The organisation of battalions of native militia and volunteers for the internal and external defences of the country is the next arrangement, and the first practical result to be obtained would be the reduction of the British Army to one-half its present numbers."

For these months these orators and journalists have been breaking their heads against that heinous passage, in the vain attempt to show that if Lord Dufferin did not perpetrate a fib, he was utterly without authority for his statement. Here, at length, is a paper devoted to the Congress, edited by an ardent patriot who harbours the highest—but not visionary—aspirations for his countrymen, which vindicates the much-abused statesman who has done more for giving us a share in the government of the country than many a noisy friend who flatters us to the top of our bent.

The critics of Lord Dufferin, with the simplicity of sucking babes, indignantly ask, Where in the Resolutions of the Congress is there any warrant for the late Viceroy's assertions? In a masterly article, the *Phoenix* exposes the absurdity of this demand to confine those who would judge of the aims and tendencies of the Congress within the four corners of the cut and dried Resolutions passed by it, and then takes them at their own word:—

"Now is this authoritative ideal borne out by facts? It is very difficult to judge, for the public have been asked by Mr. Yule, as president, and Mr. Hume, as an individual, not to stir out of the oracular precincts of the Congress Resolutions. Even the speeches, within the very four walls of the Congress Hall in support of the Resolutions, are not to be taken as interpretations of their meaning and drift. Then the Resolutions must be either too vague or too abstruse to allow any explanation or interpretation. However, the standpoint taken up by Mr. Yule and Mr. Hume as regards the explanation of the Resolutions is utterly untenable. According to them every one can form a different idea about the Congress according to one's own light, and every one can call every other's false on the authority of the inexplicable Resolutions. Is this not absurd? There must be an explicit authoritative explanation of the Resolutions to fall back to in cases of difference. The speeches of the mover, seconder, and the supporter of a resolution in any meeting are generally taken as explanatory of the meaning and drift of it. So we will proceed from this rational standpoint to judge whether the statement of Lord Dufferin is borne out by facts.

The first point in the statement is the 'creation of a representative body or bodies in which the official element shall be in a minority.' In the Resolution itself there is only mention about the admission of a considerable proportion of elected members. A Resolution was also passed in the second Congress containing the following tentative suggestion: 'Not less than half the members of such enlarged Councils to be elected. Not more than one-fourth to be officials having seats *ex officio* in such Councils, and not more than one-fourth to be members, official or non-official, nominated by Government.' This tentative scheme was however dropped in the third Congress. Now let the readers judge for themselves whether the expression 'considerable proportion of elected members' taken side by side with 'not more than one-fourth to be officials' warranted Lord Dufferin to declare that the aim of the Congress was to throw the official element into minority. In our opinion it did warrant. It may be urged that when the tentative scheme of the second Congress had been dropped, Lord Dufferin had no warrant whatever to come to such a conclusion. If this argument be accepted then it will belie the recent utterances of Mr. Naoroji before the British public and even the inaugural speech of Mr. Yule within the four walls of the Castle of the last Congress. At the Liverpool Banquet Mr. Naoroji said that the Congress wanted 'to have one-half elected, one quarter officials, and one quarter nominated by the Government.' Mr. George Yule also said in his presidential address 'the utmost that we want is that half of the Councils be elected.' In the Resolution itself nothing definitely is mentioned but the expression 'considerable proportion.' Then does it not look that Mr. Naoroji and Mr. Yule have drawn upon their own imagination in defining the exact proportion? Then how much more was Lord Dufferin prudent than they as not to have committed himself to any definitude? He simply stated that the aim of the Congress was to throw the official element of the Councils into minority. Then it is clear that this assumption of official minority is not erroneous."

Again:—

"The next point is the power of the purse. Though nothing of the kind is mentioned in the Resolutions, there is ample testimony of it in the speeches of the delegates to lead the outside public that the Congress indirectly aims at that power. Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, and not an insignificant puny delegate, in supporting the third Resolution of the first Congress said, 'our first reform should be to have the power to tax ourselves. With that and another reform which I shall move hereafter, India will advance in material and moral prosperity, and bless and benefit England.' What are the outside public to conclude from such a declaration on the part of one who is looked upon as one of the leading authorities of the Congress? And this is not a solitary instance, the Congress speeches bristle with such numerous statements. We now ask, is not the attempt to have the power to tax ourselves a step sure and certain 'to have what is called the power of the purse?'"

## Law.

## A HINDU WILL.

Judgment of the Lords of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council on the Appeal of Sreemutty Kristoromoney Dossee v. Maharaja Norendra Krishna Bahadur and others, from the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal, delivered 24th November 1888.

Present :—Lord Fitzgerald, Lord Hobhouse, Sir Richard Couch. Delivered by Lord Hobhouse.

The question in this case arises from a rather obscure passage in the will of Raja Jadubindro Krishna, who disposed of the residue of his estate in the following terms :—

"I give devise and bequeath the residue of my real and personal estate both joint and self acquired unto my executors in trust to pay the rents issues profits and income thereof unto my said daughter during her life time, and after death in trust to pay assign and convey the residue of my estate real and personal to my half brothers Rajas Nreependro Krishna Bahadur and Norendra Krishna Bahadur in equal moieties and to the heir or heirs male of their or either of their body, in failure of which in trust to give the same to the son or sons of my said daughter."

The will is dated 25th March 1851. The testator died in 1852. His daughter, who was his only child, is the Plaintiff and Appellant in this suit. She has six sons, all born after the testator's death. His brothers both survived him. One of them Nreependro has died, leaving only two sons, both born after the testator's death. The other Norendro is living. He had three sons born in the lifetime of the testator, of whom one is dead and two are living, and four other sons born after the testator's death. The Defendants and Respondents in this suit are Norendro, the surviving brother; his six surviving sons, and the representative of the one who has died; the two sons of Nreependro, who are also his executors; and the six sons of the Plaintiff. Every person, therefore, who could possibly claim an interest under the residuary gift is a party to the suit.

The Plaintiff contends that the residuary gift is invalid, except so far as it confers life interests on herself and her uncles, and that on the death of Nreependro, the moiety of the estate designed for him or his heirs male became vested in her as her father's sole heir. The adverse contention is that the gift is made absolute to each of the testator's brothers, defeasible only in events which have not happened, viz., in each case, the death of the brother without leaving male heirs of his body then living. The High Court have adopted the latter view of the case, and have dismissed the suit. From their decree this appeal is brought.

The view of the High Court has been supported by the Counsel for the Respondents the brothers' families, who expressly stated that their argument, though endeavouring to amplify and illustrate the High Court's view, must be taken as not departing from it. The High Court considered that the true intention of the testator was "that in the event of his two-half brothers having at the time of their death male descendants, they, if alive, or their families, as representing them if dead, should take the fee of this property; but that in the event of their having no such descendants at the time of their death, the estate should be divested and go over to the son or sons of his daughter."

The conclusion is rested, first, on the direction to the trustees to "pay, assign, and convey," which, it is said, shows that the whole estate is to be dealt with; secondly, on the circumstance that no words of limitation or exclusion are attached to the expression "heir or heirs male of his or their body;" and thirdly, on a view of the law, which is stated thus :—

"It appears from the Tagore case, as I said just now that if that [the gift to the brothers] is a limited estate in the sense that it is an attempt to give anything to one then unborn, the devise to that person would be invalid. But it is established by the case of Bhoobun Mohini Debi v. Hurrish Chunder Chowdhery, reported in L. R., 5 L. A., p. 138, and other cases besides, that although according to Hindu law it is illegal to attempt to give an estate to a person not in being, and that the estate which must be given to the first recipient must be the entire estate of the testator, it is competent to a Hindu in making his will to make a provision that the estate which he creates and gives to the recipient of his bounty may be divested or defeated by something which takes place after. That is established by this case, it is admitted by Mr. Evans and Mr. Kennedy, and may be taken as absolute law."

The rules of law thus stated do not bear directly on the decision of the High Court, because in their view the will does not, as events have turned out, purport to confer any interest on an unborn person, or any gift over on contingency, but it leaves gifts, made absolute in the first instance, undisturbed by subsequent events. But the whole construction of the will has been argued, quite properly, with reference to these rules. It is important to have them accurately stated. And their Lordships find that the statement of the High Court requires some qualifications.

The Tagore case decides not only that a devise to a person unborn is invalid, but that an attempt to establish a new rule of inheritance is invalid, which is more germane to the present case. There is no rule that the first recipient must take all the interest possessed by the testator, for limited interests are common enough.

The rule is that if a Hindu donor wishes to confer an estate of inheritance, it must be such a one as is known to the Hindu law, which an English estate tail is not. In stating the rule relating to the defeasance of a prior absolute interest by a subsequent event, it is important to add, first, that the event must happen, if at all, immediately on the close of a life in being at the time of the gift, as was laid down in the Mullick case, 9 Moo. Ind. App., 123; and secondly, that a defeasance by way of gift over must be in favour of somebody in existence at the time of the gift, as laid down in the Tagore case.

The case of Bhoobun Mohini conforms to all these rules. There was no gift over in that case. The donor made a gift to his sister Kasiwari in vernacular terms, which, though peculiar and referring only to lineal heirs, this Committee held to be identical in effect with other terms well known, and often used by Hindu donors who intend to pass the whole inheritance, though they mention only children or issue. Then, he said, "No other heir shall be entitled." This was held to mean that, if Kasiwari died leaving no issue then living, her interest was to cease. In effect the construction was that, if Kasiwari left issue, the absolute interest given to her in the first instance was to remain unaffected, but if she left none it was cut down to a life interest. In the latter case nothing had passed from the donor but the life interest, and when that was spent he or his heir would lawfully re-enter.

Upon the construction of this will their Lordships are unable to find anything which points to the death of the brothers as the time for ascertaining in what way the property is to be disposed of. The life of the daughter is the period for which the trust continues; it is on her death that the trustees are to pay, assign, and convey; and the question is, to whom? The payment, &c., is contemplated as a single act to be performed at one moment of time, and that time is the death of the daughter. The expression "pay, assign, and convey" is important, to show as much as that, but their Lordships do not enter upon any discussion, such as has taken place in England, as to the effect of such words upon the nature of the gift over. They treat the will in the same way as if the testator had said that, on his daughter's death, the property was to be held in trust for, or that it should go over to, his brothers and the other donees.

To whom then is the conveyance to be made? None is directed, except to the brothers in equal moieties, and to the heir or heirs male of their or either of their bodies (or, in simpler words, to the brothers and their heirs male respectively in equal shares), on failure of which to the sons of the daughter. Their Lordships cannot see where the absolute gift of the property to the brothers comes in. It is given, not to them, but to them and their heirs male. Why should the words "heirs male" be introduced at all, if an estate descendible to heirs general has previously been given? The words must mean either that the estate of inheritance given to the brothers is a qualified one, or that the heirs male are to take somehow by way of direct gift from the testator.

The latter of these two alternatives can only be reached by reading the word "and" as if it was "or." Indeed one passage of the judgment looks as if this construction was in the minds of the learned Judges. They point out that no words of limitation are attached to the words "heirs, &c." And they add, "This shows that the intention was that whenever the estate was conveyed from his own trustees to his half brothers who might be alive, or to their or either of their male descendants, it was to be an absolute estate as soon as it became vested in them. This cannot refer merely to the circumstance that in making the conveyance after the daughter's death it might be necessary, if the brothers themselves were dead, to convey to their heirs, because, on the hypothesis of an absolute interest in the brothers, the conveyance would be to the heirs general, or it might be to the alienees, not to the male descendants."

The absence of words of limitation after the words "heirs, &c." does not appear to their Lordships to be of much significance; but, as far as it goes, it rather favours the Appellant's view in the Respondents' construction, because if "heirs, &c." are themselves words of limitation, words of limitation attached to them would be inappropriate, otherwise they would be appropriate, and they would tend to show that the "heirs" were objects of direct gift.

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But upon putting it to M. Rigby whether he claimed to read the word "and" in a disjunctive sense, he at once disclaimed any such contention, and indeed it is obvious that there are great difficulties in the way of such a construction, even if it would better the position of the Respondents.

Their Lordships, therefore, find that the first of the two alternative construction is the only possible one. The will is composed in English; the draftsman seems to have had a smattering of English real property law; he clearly knew there was a difference between a son and heir male of the body; and apparently he had English dispositions of property in his eye. This seems to be an attempt, of a kind not infrequent among Bengal zemindars of late years, to introduce English estates tail into Hindu property which the law will not allow. At all events their Lordships must construe the words in their plain and obvious sense; and finding no gift to the brothers, except that which orders a conveyance to them and their heirs male of their bodies, they hold that the intention was to confer on them an estate of inheritance resembling an English estate in tail male. That cannot take effect. But the testator intended to benefit his brothers personally, and his gift to them and their heirs male would, if valid, have carried with it the enjoyment by each of his share during his life. They think that this intention though it is mixed up with the intention to give an estate tail, may lawfully take effect, as was held in the case of Tarakeswar Roy, 10 Ind. App.

Whether the words which introduce the gift over, "in failure of which," import a general failure of the brothers' issue, is a point on which we need not speculate. It is possible that the draftsman, following English models, intended to give a remainder after an estate tail; it is also possible that he was only thinking of the contingency that at the daughter's death, when the trustees came to convey they might find neither brothers nor issue of brothers in existence. In the first case the gift fails with the estate tail after which it is limited; and in either case the gift fails because the daughter's sons, being unborn at the testator's death, are incapable of taking anything from him.

It is suggested that a Court of construction may hold, in favour of the intention, that a fee simple or absolute interest is conferred by inapt words or dispositions, just as in English law an estate tail is often held to be conferred by inapt words or dispositions, because it comes nearest to effecting the actual intention of the testator. But if this testator intended not to give an absolute interest, which their Lordships hold to be clear from his introduction of heirs male,

it is impossible to say that his intention is more defeated by the law which cuts down his gift in tail to a life interest, than it would be by straining the will to give an absolute interest, in which case the property might pass away from the family to a mortgagee, or a general creditor, or a strange donee. Their Lordships would not be justified in taking any such liberty with the will.

The Plaintiff prays for a declaration of rights, for possession of a moiety of the property, for a partition, and for the appointment of a trustee. The decree, after declaring the rights, gives directions as to the appointment of a trustee and the continuance of a receiver. Except as aforesaid it dismisses the suit. Their Lordships are of opinion that the decree should be discharged so far as it declares the rights of the parties, and so far as it dismisses the suit. Instead of the portion discharged there should be declarations that, according to the true construction of the will, the gift of the residue, so far as it purports to confer an estate of inheritance on the testator's half brothers and the heirs male of their bodies, is contrary to law and is void; that in the events which have happened the gift to the sons of the Plaintiff, the testator's daughter, is incapable of taking effect; that each of the testator's half brothers took an estate for his life in one moiety of the residue in remainder expectant on the death of the Plaintiff; and that, on the death of Raja Nreependro Krishna Bahadur, the inheritance of his moiety devolved on the Plaintiff as her father's heir in remainder immediately expectant on her own life estate under the will, and she therefore became entitled in possession to one moiety of the residue. The High Court should place her in possession of that moiety, and should take steps to effect a partition if either of the parties desires it.

As regards costs, the High Court thought it just that the several parties should bear their own. Their Lordships think that the rights of all parties under this perplexing will could not have been settled, as by this decree they will be, without bringing before the Court all parties for whom the will expressly designed gifts, or who by a reasonable construction could claim them. The suit, or some like suit, was absolutely necessary, and it is not too extensively framed. The case is one in which it is just to pay the costs of all parties out of the residue in dispute. The decree, therefore, should be varied on this point also. In all other respects it should be affirmed. Their Lordships will deal in the same way with the costs of this appeal.

They will humbly advise her Majesty in accordance with this opinion.

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(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,  
Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little *brochure* written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman. *The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*, October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course. —[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract.] *The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

.....this interesting book. We are justified in so terming it, not on account of any romantic adventures that the author has to relate, nor of any very new discoveries in geography or natural history. There is something particular as regards ethnology; and a great deal of human nature in the book, shown to the reader with a simplicity and candour which bear testimony to its truth. Called from the busy haunts of men in the city to dwell for a time in Independent Tipperah as a judicious adviser to its chief, Doctor Mookerjee relates his adventures during the several journeys to and fro in that capacity, without revealing the secrets of the State, like a good diplomatist. He has adhered strictly to the advice which he offers to his brethren of the Native press, and has written what he saw and knows, without revealing all, considering what he might properly say and what withhold.....The above seems to be a curious passage to be found in a book of travels, and appears to have no connection with the subject. But it arises from a casual reference to a slaughter house, and a writer who "thundered weekly against the outrage of locating shambles in the immediate vicinity of a Hindoo temple"—where, in fact, no temple could be said to exist. Hence, the doctor advises his fellow-scribes not to be Pharisees, righteous overmuch, but to look and be sure of their facts. In the same spirit, he has written his book. He gives an account of his travels, which seem often to have been voyages, upon the widespread rivers of Eastern Bengal which in the rains become almost inland seas. On these he philosophises on the nature of the country and the people, making careful observation of his facts; and though he sometimes fancies he knows better than his boatmen, and more than suspects that they are getting the better of him, he submits with a grace that would have done credit to Socrates, and accepts the apparently inevitable in the interests of peace. The doctor is a close observer of nature, animate and inanimate, with an eye to the picturesque as well as to the sublime and beautiful. And although there is a vein of cynicism running through many of his observations, it is tempered by such evident good nature, that even a stranger would conceive him to be a laughter-loving rather than a stern philosopher. This is evi-

dent in his description of his boatmen and others, while he denounces the lawlessness which has made the poor fishermen suspicious even of honest intentions, because they have so long been the helpless victims of marauders stronger than themselves. Their only defence is flight or deceit, and the latter is then justification as a mode of self protection. We are shown not only the weakness of the people, but the shortcomings of the administration that leave these things possible.....The author is impartial in his censures.....There is much in the book to which space forbids us to refer. That it is not a prosy one may be gathered from the fact that, for its 300 pages, there are nearly as many index references. Many of the subjects are necessarily but lightly treated, but all sensibly and fairly. And Dr. Mookerjee is such a master of the English language that in the whole book we have scarcely found a phrase that might not have been written by an Englishman "to the manner born." There is nothing in it at which any one could reasonably take offence; and there is much from which both Englishmen and natives may learn greatly-needed lessons. —*The Indian Daily News*, Nov. 22, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious; he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree: "a naked Whiteman hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: 'she had such large languishing eyes!' But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the 'last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa' and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him..... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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This Company's Steamer "PUNJAB" will leave Calcutta for Assam on Tuesday the 26th instant.

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The Author accompanied the last Expedition under General Sir Harry Prendergast, in November 1885, and remained in Upper Burma after the conquest until June 1887.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1889.

} No. 364

## CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

[From the *Spectator*.]

### OUR CHILDREN.

I LOOKED at the happy children  
Who gathered around the hearth ;  
So blithe they were, no children  
Could happier be on earth ;  
With their merry plays, and their winsome ways,  
And the sound of their silvery mirth !

Then I thought of those other children,  
So wizened, and hard, and bold,  
Who huddle in slum and cellar,  
And shiver with want and cold :  
Not fresh as the dew, or the morning's hue,  
But haggard, and lean, and old.

But yet may they still, those children,  
Be taught to forget their pain ;  
And gathered in arms that love them,  
Their laughter may come again ;  
And the stare of woe and the craft may go,  
And the spirit be washed of stain.

But it is not in cold book-learning  
Those children's hearts to move ;  
And the stony eye of the serpent  
Is death to the stricken dove ;  
'Tis an angel alone can touch them,  
And that angel's name is Love.

For whatever the world may fancy,  
And whatever the wise men say  
Of our nineteenth-century progress,  
Of a new and a better way :  
Still it takes a soul to make a soul  
Now, as in the olden day.

A. G. B.

### THE NIGHTINGALE.

THOUGH age to age has handed down the tale,  
Since first the Grecian shaped it into song,  
Of Itys slain and Philomela's wrong,  
I, listening to thy music, Nightingale,  
Hear not the tortured heart's despairing wail,  
But love's triumphant pean loud and long,  
Love forcing utterance for thoughts that throng  
The soul of fire lodged in a form so frail.  
Or if I catch a saddening undertone,  
'Tis but the old-world note that joy is brief,  
Summer treads all too quickly upon Spring,  
Autumn on Summer, and the woods make moan,  
As white-haired Winter comes, when no birds sing,  
Ushered by sobbing stream and withered leaf.

H. T. R.

## THE POET.\*

What do poets want with gold,  
Cringing slaves and cushioned ease,  
Are not crusts and garments old  
Better for their souls than these ?

Gold is but the juggling rod  
Of a false usurping god,  
Graven long ago in hell  
With a sombre stony spell,  
Working in the world forever.  
Hate is not so strong to sever  
Beating human heart from heart.  
Soul from soul we shrink and part,  
And no longer hail each other  
With the ancient name of brother.  
Give the simple poet gold,  
And his song will die of cold.  
He must walk with men that reel  
On the rugged path, and feel  
Every sacred soul that is  
Beating very near to his.  
Simple, human, careless, free,  
As God made him, he must be  
For the sweetest song of bird  
Is the hidden tenor heard  
In the dusk, at even-flush,  
From the forest's inner hush,  
Of the simple hermit thrush.

What do poets want with love ?  
Flowers that shiver out of hand,  
And the fervid fruits that prove  
Only bitter broken sand ?

Poets speak of passion best,  
When their dreams are undistressed,  
And the sweetest songs are sung,  
E'er the inner heart is stung.  
Let them dream ; 'tis better so ;  
Ever dream, but never know.  
If their spirits once have drained  
All that goblet crimson-stained,  
Finding what they dreamed divine,  
Only earthly sluggish wine,  
Sooner will the warm lips pale,  
And the flawless voices fail,  
Sooner come the drooping wing,  
And the afterdays that bring,  
No such songs as did the spring.

\* From *Among the Millet, and other Poems*. By Archibald Lampman. Ottawa.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE *World* mentions Lord Harris as the likely successor of Lord Reay as Governor of Bombay.

POROUS glass for windows is one of the latest invention announced at Paris. It is too fine to permit of draught yet admitting air enough for a pleasant and healthy ventilation in a room. A mere advertisement to sell, we suspect.

COCOANUT butter is a bewildering phrase, but it is now a reality in ingenious France. It is made from the oil of the coconut. According to a Paris correspondent, it is one-third cheaper than margarine, it is appetising, nutritious, free from acidity, and excellent for kitchen purposes, and what not. Will it stand this climate? In Europe, in winter, coconut oil itself must be indistinguishable from butter.

THE following anecdote started by an enterprising native contemporary of Calcutta is going the round of the native press:

"A member of the first families in Calcutta, the founder of which house was honored by the Emperor of Delhi with the title of Raja Bahadur and the gift of a *jet* for meritorious services as one of the Ministers of State, is reported to have complained to his guardian that his class mates who are all Eurasians and East Indians were permitted to join the corps as volunteers, he being left alone in the class. What was the feeling of his guardian on hearing this report can be more imagined than described."

What, we wonder, was the feeling of the political lad's father when he read this paragraph, in which his ancestor is converted into a Viceroy of Delhi?

As for the point our contemporary desires to make, it is no doubt an invidious and lamentable distinction that Eurasian and East Indian boys may be volunteers but not Baboolings. But do our boys seriously want to be soldiers, or even to play at soldiering as Calcutta volunteers? Are you sure that the parents would not set up a howling, supported by our contemporary and the rest of the native press, with perhaps the exception of such old fogeys as *Hope* and *Reis and Rayyet*, against the tyranny of the British Government, were there a movement for enrolling native schoolboys in feeder volunteer regiments? This sort of reckless agitation will do more harm to the native press, as showing how little they are representative of their community, than any hostile criticism from the outside.

THE Bengal Government will grant no fresh scholarships to selected native graduates of the Calcutta University proceeding to study agriculture at Gloucester.

WE are glad to note that, at the late examination in London of students studying for the bar, Mirh Mahomed Shah Din, B.A., of the well known family of Bughbapora, in the Punjab, has won a prize of ten pounds by his success in Roman Law, Jurisprudence, International and Constitutional Law, and Legal History.

HURKE SONDAS NURROHMEDAS presents Rs. 6,000 for the encouragement of the medical education of the women of Western India, one-half for endowing a Lady Reay medical scholarship, and the remainder for a Lady Reay gold medal to be annually competed for by Lady candidates for the I. M. and S. examination.

THESE are the luckiest dogs going.

"The millionaires of the world amount to some 700 persons, England boasts of 200 millionaires; the United States of 100; France has 75. Jay Gould is the millionaire of millionaires, owning capital to the extent of fifty five millions of money. His annual income is three millions. Muckay, the Bonanza King, comes next in the list, and the Rothschilds figure in the third place. These three own 150 millions of money between them."

THE progress made in the matter of the North-West Frontier Defence in Rajputana is thus summarised. Bhim-pore and Jodhpore will select cavalry and infantry for special training from among their existing forces. Ulwar proposes to create a cavalry and 1,000 infantry, and Kotah a regiment of infantry only. The Maharaja of Jypore will maintain 1,000 ponies fully equipped for transport service. Bikaner will raise and maintain an armed camel corps, 500 strong.

MAJOR Drummond and Captain Hogg, on special duty in connection with the forces of the Native States, are now gone to Cashmere to assist in the reorganisation of the Maharajah's troops.

ACCORDING to the *Indian Union*, the Hon'ble Rana Sir Shankar Baksh Singh, K. C. I. E., Taluqdar of Khajurgaon, has established a Sivala at Benares, at a cost of Rs. 60,000, and has endowed it handsomely. This Taluqdar is said to have paid, in the year 1888-89, more than Rs. 80,000 to benevolent purposes in Oudh. What says the *Advocate* to that record?

"ENQUIRER" having sought the history of the old French graveyard in Park street, and asked whether the Huguenots were buried there, "Brown Clerk," another correspondent, in the *Indian Daily News* of the 5th, quotes from the *Bengal Obituary* a Latin tombstone inscription on "Angelica de Carrion Edwardi Turretta Tarvisini, Uxor Delectissima, . . . . . Mors eclipuit XV. Junii, A. D., MDCCXCVI. Et Aetatis Suae XVIII." &c., and exhumes a Notice in the *Calcutta Gazette* of 28th March 1793 by her surviving husband evidently, to wit:-

"Some disagreeable circumstances, too painful to relate, having imposed on Mr. Turretta the melancholy necessity of removing the remains of his beloved wife, the late Mrs. Turretta, from the Portuguese burying-ground to a cemetery of his own, near the English burying ground, he begs leave to inform the public that all Roman Catholic Europeans, or their immediate descendants, dying in this settlement, and preferring this cemetery, may have their remains deposited there, with permission to erect a monument over them, free of all charges, on application to the Reverend Vicar of the Portuguese Church in Calcutta, by which they will not only avoid the sorrowful predicament in which he was placed, but enjoy the comfortable assurance that their remains shall rest in peace."

"Brown Clerk" adds:-

"The French (or Turretta's) burial ground was originally the property of Monsier Turretta, a French (?) merchant, who held a lucrative appointment in the local conservancy department a century ago, and after whom *Turretta Bazar* has also been named. The ground was subsequently his gift to his co-religionists."

AN English paper says:-

"Hakluyt tells us of a certain Master Killingworth, of the Court of Ivan the Terrible, whose beard was five feet two inches long. It is also on record that John Maye, the German painter, had a beard which swept the ground as he walked. These hirsute growths have hitherto been univided of their kind but they are now put altogether in the shade by a beard which has reached the extraordinary length of ten feet, and, we are assured, is still growing. The owner, a certain Louis Goulon, is a forger of iron-works at Montlucon in the French department of the Allier. He was born in the Nièvre, and at the early age of twelve was obliged to shave. No sooner was the razor used, however, than whiskers, moustaches, and beard became quite unmanageable, and, notwithstanding the activity of all the barbers and the not-univers of all the quacks in the department, soon quite covered the waistcoat of the youthful patriarch. Goulon is now well advanced in years, and his beard, which was originally brown, is almost white. The silvery hairs are, however, as vigorous as their chestnut predecessors, and daily increase in length. Goulon has learned to turn his monstrous appendage to practical account, and he uses it as a comb and a chest-preserver, and sometimes even as a belt."

It is said that that irrepressible showman who would have purchased the white elephant of Burma or Siam, offered most tempting terms to the owner of the ten feet beard to allow him the chance of exhibiting him. But the proud Frenchman respected himself on his beard too much to bring it down to such a degradation on any terms.

IT has now been arranged that, during the continuance of the experimental accelerated mail service from Calcutta, and beginning from Monday the 4th March when the outward P. and O. Steamer is signalled in Bombay after midnight on Sunday, a special mail train will leave Bombay on Monday at eleven A. M., timed to arrive at Howrah early on Wednesday morning.

Unless, therefore, the mail from home is later than Monday morning in Bombay, it will be delivered in Calcutta on Wednesday, in time to answer correspondence by the accelerated train which leaves Howrah the same evening.

*Holway's Ointment and Pills* Travellers and Emigrants. Those who cross the seas change the climate, but they do not change the constitution. The altered conditions of life, the exigencies of travel and other causes render the traveller and emigrant peculiarly liable to diseases and accidents when far from efficient medical aid. With these associated remedies at hand they may be said to have a physician always at their call, and they may be certain that situations will be constantly arising in which they will require a ready resource in time of need. The directions for use which accompany each box and pot of Holway's Pills and Ointment are written in plain and simple language and are applicable in all cases.

BABOO Raj Kumar Surbadhikari has been appointed an Honorary Presidency Magistrate.

THE Commissioner of Chota Nagpore has appointed the Deputy Commissioner of Manbhoom, under Act VI of 1876 as amended by Act V of 1884, "to be the Manager and the management is vested in him, of the whole of the immoveable property of Rajah Biyo Kissors Singh, Zemindar of pergunnah Buttabhoom, and of any other property to which the said Rajah is possessed or entitled in his own right or which he is entitled to redeem, or which may be acquired by or devolve on him or his heirs during the continuance of such management." What may this announcement mean?

THE Governor-General gave his assent on the 1st March to the Act to amend the Law relating to Fraudulent Marks on Merchandise. It comes into operation as Act IV of 1889 from the first day of April, 1889, and extends to the whole of British India. But such piece-goods as are described in clause (f) of section 18 of the Sea Customs Act, 1878, as amended by this Act, shall not be affected by this Act, till the first day of August 1889, nor shall the provisions of Sec. 12—regarding the stamping of lengths of piece-goods manufactured in British India—apply till the first day of July 1889 to piece-goods made up in bales in a factory before the first day of April, 1889.

THE Melbourne Exhibition closed on the 31st January, after some ceremony, presided over by the Governor:—

"A procession was formed up the Avenue of Nations to a dais erected under the north end of the dome, and consisted of the leading naval and military officers, Colonial Committee, Mayor of Melbourne, Executive Commissioners of Exhibition, members of Ministry, Speaker of Assembly, the President of the Legislative Council and of the Exhibition, His Excellency, Lady Loch and family. As the procession passed up the Grand Avenue, the National airs of France, Austria, Germany, and America were played. Upon the procession reaching the dais, the Exhibition orchestra gave the National Anthem, and the speeches were then proceeded with. Sir James McBain, President of the Exhibition Commissioners, offered up prayer, after which the overture to 'Leonora' was performed by the orchestra. The President, accompanied by the Executive Vice-President, Vice-Presidents, and Secretary, then ascended the dais, and the former read a lengthy address. It was for the most part a *résumé* of the career of the Exhibition. After expressing cordial appreciation of the assistance of the exhibiting countries and colonies, the address went on to state that the attendance from the date of opening numbered 1,900,000, which, in proportion to population, compared most favourably with the records of previous exhibitions throughout the world. His Excellency, after a few complimentary remarks in reference to the undertaking, declared the Exhibition closed. The Union Jack was then hoisted on top of the dome, and after the roll of awards had been handed to representatives from the different countries, the ceremony ended."

HEALY *alias* Merton, who caused some sensation by his somewhat ingenious depredations in British Indian Street and was provided with free quarters and fed at Her Majesty's expense in the Presidency Jail, and Warner, who escaped with his master the Singer Sewing-Machine Company's money—Rs. 4,000—and was, like him, after conviction and sentence, lodged in the same premises with Merton, have, long before the expiry of their respective terms of 3 and 5 years, taken farewell of the place. The house has not proved to them one of correction. Their genius was not to be confined to the enclosed compound. They have left for fresh fields and pastures new. On Tuesday night, they made their escape. Merton was in irons in a strong cell specially guarded. It is said he had procured a pick-axe. By this he loosened his irons and got himself free of them. He next found himself out of the cell and released Warner, the same pick-axe helping him in opening Warner's cell. With the aid of tables, chairs and blankets of the two cells piled up one over the other and made into rope, they scaled the wall and landed themselves safe on the other side. The sentries on guard could only "raise an alarm and one of them flung his baton at one of the retreating figures, knocking off a sola helmet, which he left behind." The night was dark and the two friends eluded pursuit. The Police were informed and they have in return offered a reward of Rs. 400 for the capture of the two escaped.

Another version is that the two prisoners were lodged in the same corridor, Merton upstairs, Warner on the groundfloor. The warder in his round had seen the door of Warner's cell open at one in the morning when he raised the alarm. The two escaped were further seen by the warder and jail sentry crawling along the wall running between the corridor wall and the outer jail wall. But the sentry being shut in between two walls, could be of no use in arresting the

march of the two friends and they reached the outer wall and dropped down on the Cathedral side. The padlocks of the cells were found picked open.

THE *Melbourn* says:—

"Mr. Malabar has been examined by a practical phrenologist who has found out that Mr. Malabar's appreciation of woman is chivalrous but intellectual rather than passionate; that he has rather poor arithmetical talent; that his memory of trifling incidents is unreliable; that he loves the cause of human improvement; that he has great executive capacity, efficiency, thoroughness like Mr. Gladstone, but that he lacks the power given by muscular exertion; that he possesses what is called the prudent courage, that he is fond of the praise of men themselves deriving of praise, &c., &c. The sketch does not appear to have given to Mr. Malabar entire satisfaction, because he protests against being considered to possess intellectual faculties predominating over the spiritual."

Fiddlesticks! Chivalry that is purely intellectual has no meaning. We only wonder Mr. Malabar encouraged the mountebank.

HER Majesty has gone to Biarritz.

NONE of the Judges objecting, Mr. Eardley Norton has been admitted an advocate of the High Court here. Mr. Norton has found it profitable to transfer his allegiance from Madras to Calcutta. Signs of the contemplated desertion were evident enough for some time, until the officious vindication of Sir Comer by the great Congress Orator made it a dead certainty. Blessed be the Congress!

A NEW planet has been discovered by the Nice Observatory. It has not been named but numbered. It is of the thirteenth magnitude.

THE wife of President Diaz, of Mexico, is sending Madame Adeline Patti a diminutive dog weighing under a pound avoirdupois, but with a loud piercing bark.

THE *Morning Post* hears that the custom of using eau-de-colonge as an intoxicant has found its way into the Bengali zenanas, not only in Calcutta, but in several places in the mofussil, such as Burrisal, Dacca, &c.

SIR Stewart Bayley visits Uttarpara this afternoon. Raja Pearymohan Mukharji has issued invitations to meet His Honor the Lieutenant Governor at a Garden Party at the local Public Library, where there is not much of a garden at all. The invitations to the native gentlemen are not to the ceremonies for which the Lieutenant-Governor has been invoked. At any rate, we hope the accidents at landing and boarding for which, in consequence of defective arrangements, Uttarpara is famous, will be avoided this time.

BABOO Bejoy Kissen Mookerjee has ceased to be the Chairman of the Uttarpara Municipality, and also ceases to be the Honorary Magistrate of the Uttarpara Municipal Bench. Has he been shut up altogether?

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

ON Monday, the new President of the United States was inaugurated. He commenced with a bold bid for popularity all round. His Message to Congress flatters all the predilections and aggressive views and aspirations of his countrymen. It is at once Protectionist, anti-emigrationist, anti-Chinese, and Munroite. He would have no imports and firebrands from other lands—no swamping of native citizens by swarms of paupers from Europe and Asia. The United States seen as foolish over the Panama Canal as the British were over the Suez Canal. The President protests against any foreign domination in the Panama business. American rights and privileges must be sustained in Samoa. The Presidential fiscal policy is, by adjustment of revenue, to leave a surplus without abandoning Protection. The Message winds up with the rage of the hour—a recommendation to increase the Navy.

PARLIAMENT reassembled on the 21st February. The Speech from the Throne was read by the Lord Chancellor. According to it, the negotiations with the Tibetans for preservation of our rights in Sikkim are not yet concluded, but no further military action is considered

necessary. In India, however, the Government views the situation somewhat differently. They evidently mean to be better prepared either for aggression or for threat. The *Englishman* says:—"More troops are likely to be moved up to Sikkim before long. 200 of the Buffs, and 600 of the 3rd Native Infantry are under orders to hold themselves in readiness to proceed to Gnatong at the shortest notice, should occasion require their services." With regard to affairs in Africa, Her Majesty's Speech assures both Houses that there is no ground for apprehending any renewal of troubles in the neighbourhood of Suakim. The increasing military preparations by other European nations render it necessary for England to take more military precaution for the safety of her shores and commerce. The other Powers, however, are all friendly to her, but there is no guarantee that the present state will continue. The Speech concludes with the assurance that Government will soon take measures "to amend the tribunals dealing with real property in Ireland, to execute the Sugar Bounties Convention, to complete the conversion of Consols, and to restore the condition of gold coinage." The House of Lords voted the Address in reply. In the Lower House, Mr. Morley moved an amendment, attacking the treatment by Government of the members of Parliament now in prison, for offences under the Irish Crimes Act, and for the assistance given by the Police to the *Times* in connection with the Parnell Commission. Mr. Balfour, Chief Secretary for Ireland, of course, defended the policy of Government and announced its intention of strict adherence to it. The debate on Mr. Morley's amendment continued till the 6th March, when the closure was adopted and the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne voted.

The same night, Lord George Hamilton announced in the Lower House that the Government proposed to build seventy ships, namely, ten iron clads, forty-two cruisers and eighteen gun-boats. The cost has been estimated at twenty-one and a half millions sterling. Of these, ten will be spread equally over seven years and the rest added to naval estimates. The construction of the fifty-two of this fleet will be taken in hand immediately, and the whole seventy completed in six years. The Army estimates for the year come up to £17,330,000. This includes the cost of the new magazine rifle which is to replace the weapon now in use and that of the addition of 2,600 men for Colonial garrisons.

THE House of Commons has rejected by a majority of eighty votes Mr. Pickersgill's amendment claiming the right of the public to hold meetings in Trafalgar Square.

M. MELINE having failed to complete one, the new French Ministry has been formed with M. Faurand as Premier, M. Constans Minister of the Interior, and M. de Freycinet Minister of War.

KING Milan was reported to be ill and about to leave Serbia. He has since abdicated in favor of his son Prince Alexander, only twelve years old. M. Ristic, the leader of the Liberal Party, and two Generals act as Regents. Austria has been assured that this means no change of policy of Serbia. There is uneasiness, as a matter of course, in the European capitals.

THE latest news from Samoa is that Mataafa still resists the German demand for surrender. He is, however, agreeable to a truce and to stop raiding on German settlers.

PRESIDENT Harrison has completed his cabinet, Mr. Windon being Secretary to the Treasury.

LORD CROSS is convinced that the earliest occasion should be taken to abrogate the increase in the Salt Tax.

THE Report of the Public Service Commission is under consideration by a Special Committee of the India Council. Lord Cross has given his word that he would lose no time in deciding how far he is prepared to give effect to the recommendations of the Commission.

THE municipal elections come off on Friday the 15th. 50 members or two from each of the 25 Wards will be elected. Except in Wards 7, 16 and 18, there are more than two candidates in each Ward. The

candidates of the three uncontested Wards are deemed elected by the Act without any polling. The votes being personal this time, we may expect excitement at the polling stations. The European interests are well secured by the new Act, and pushed beyond it by the Chairman who has been constituted a sort of fetish by the legislature. But as usual the Christian community of Calcutta has been thoroughly apathetic. The spirit of Magna Charta had been up in certain Poor Whites in our Ward who reckoned without their host, but Mr. Moore's *tranchant* epistles seem to have caused its collapse. Our Christian fellow citizens, however, have no cause for anxiety. The Chamber of Commerce and the Trades Association are empowered by law to return 4 members each. The Port Trust gives two, and the Government nominates fifteen. The total strength of the new Corporation is fixed at 75 members.

Voters exercising their right of election are required to attend the polling stations and record their votes before the presiding officers. We hope the arrangements at the booths will be such as not to detain voters long, and that both the India and the Bengal Governments will observe the day as a holiday, and the private offices will allow facilities to their servants to be present at the polling.

His son having failed at the Civil Service Examination, Mr. F. B. Peacock comes out to India with his hopeful to see him set up as a Barrister-at-law.

SIR Henry Harrison does not move from his place in the Calcutta Corporation, although the 1st of April sees him shorn of his Police baton. His present pay and allowance are Rs. 3,500 a month. As Commissioner of Police he draws only Rs. 1,000. His services to the Corporation have been valued at Rs. 2,000 pay and Rs. 500 house allowance. The lowest pay fixed by the new Act for the Chairman is Rs. 2,500, the highest being limited to Rs. 3,000, exclusive of house rent. The new Corporation must bear the additional Rs. 500, if not more, for the satisfaction of seeing the author introduce his own measures of taxation and sanitation.

THE local Government has recorded a favorable verdict on the Engelbrecht accident in the Medical College Hospital, namely, -

"The medical officers who were concerned in the treatment of the case of Mr. Engelbrecht dealt with it with all due caution; that the chloroform was only administered after every precaution had been taken to safeguard its employment; and that the Assistant Surgeon (Ashoke Krishna Saha, House Surgeon) and Dr. Jameson (the Resident Surgeon) are in no way to blame for the unfortunate accident that occurred."

The case is stated in the Resolution to have been -

"Mr. Engelbrecht entered the Medical College Hospital on the 7th September last, having been advised to submit himself to an operation for hemorrhoids on the following morning. On his admission into the hospital he was carefully examined by the House Surgeon, Assistant Surgeon Ashoke Krishna Saha, who reported that his heart and lungs were sound. On the following morning he was brought into the operating room at 9-30, and told that as the operation would be extremely painful it would be well to administer chloroform to him. He at first demurred slightly, expressing a general dislike of chloroform, but subsequently agreed to take it. His heart was then carefully examined with a stethoscope by Assistant Surgeon Ashoke Krishna Saha and also by Dr. Jameson, the Resident Surgeon who was to conduct the operation, and the result of the examination being satisfactory, the chloroform was administered by means of a cloth cone by the Assistant Surgeon, while Dr. Jameson prepared his instruments. The operation had just been commenced when it was discovered that the patient had ceased to breathe, and all attempts to revive him by artificial respiration or by galvanism proved ineffectual."

The whole business is a disgrace to the Government. The medical department had never much of a character anywhere. O for an hour of Sir Ashley Eden and Sir George Campbell—to deal with the doctors as they deserve! The cue of the present Administration seems to be—to let all things to all interests.

THE Madras High Court lately received an anonymous petition against one Rangamannar Iyengar, Munsiff of Kalletan, in the Trichonopoly district. It was referred to Mr. Austin, Judge of the District, for inquiry. The Munsiff's explanation was taken and the officers and messengers of the Munsiff's court were examined by the Judge, who has sent up his report to the High Court. The Munsiff is accused of having raised subscriptions to celebrate the *Ayudha Poojah* in his Court and of having appropriated most of the money to himself as also the feeding fees paid by parties on account of animals under



attachment, and besides of having obtained help of the peons of his court in the construction of his house, &c.

BEFORE Messrs. Justices Mitter and Macpherson sitting in Criminal Revisional Jurisdiction, a case came on, on Tuesday, which affords a good illustration of the happy go lucky style of administering the country of the great Bureaucracy which never misses an opportunity of singing its praises. Baboo Joygobind Shome, an experienced pleader, and a wise good native Christian, and himself, to his misfortune, belonging to the same Local Government, moved for a rule against the Nowgong Treasury in Assam. The petitioners for whom Mr. Shome appeared, were Holiram and Lumbardar, both surnamed Mandal. The head-man of the village of Mikubhulta in which they lived sent them with Rs. 10,120 to pay the sum into the Government Treasury for Government demand on that village. The money was received by the treasurer (*Khazanchee*) under the Treasury Officer. He said after counting that the amount was correct and told the poor villagers to wait for their receipt. As no receipt was granted after sometime, they inquired and were told that they had deposited Rs. 1,000 less than the sum specified in the memorandum accompanying the money. They complained to the Treasury Officer, who ordered the Police to inquire. The Police naturally wanted to count the cash, but the Treasury Officer would not permit that. The Collector too, instead of granting any investigation, ordered the petitioners to make good the Rs. 1,000 at once. The Commissioner upheld the vagaries of his subordinate and referred the aggrieved to the Criminal Court for remedy against the treasurer (*Khazanchee*). They then applied to the Deputy Commissioner for permission to sue both the Treasury Officer and his *Khazanchee*; but the Deputy Commissioner ordered a preliminary investigation by the Extra Assistant Commissioner before issuing a process. These extraordinary proceedings were brought before the High Court and severely commented upon by Mr. Shome. The Court granted a rule on the Treasury Officer and his *Khazanchee* to show cause why criminal proceedings should not be instituted against them, and has called for the papers in the case.

Last Saturday all Calcutta, including the Viceroy, was out at Ballygunge, to witness the Spencerian ascension. But there was neither the balloon ascent nor the parachute descent. The crowd was immense and the disappointment high. After keeping the visitor expectant for several hours, Mr. Percival Spencer announced there would be no ascent as the gas had fueled him. The Oriental Gas Company and not he was to be blamed for the mishap. The people, as might be expected, were in a rage. They spoke hard things of the entertainer and demanded back the price they had paid. Mr. Spencer must have bagged a large sum as did the hackney carriage owners. Mr. Spencer afterwards offered a free entertainment and Mr. Niven of the Oriental Gas Works, not to be outdone in liberality, offered Mr. Spencer Rs. 2,000 on certain conditions. But they seem not to be agreed as to these terms and the next explanation of there is to be any—is not yet announced, nor how Mr. Spencer means to dispose of the collection of last Saturday. As it is not possible to know all the parties who purchased tickets, there is a suggestion that Mr. Spencer, after deducting the actual expenses, should make over the collection to some public charity. Mr. Spencer has had a full week to mullify his mind, and yet he seems undecided.

Everything said, we are bound to say that no case has been made out for Mr. Spencer's obligation to return the money he got in the usual way. He acted *bona fide*. Do you get back your money after a bad performance in the theatre?

We have given the names and confounding designations and offices of the several Hyderabad magnates, who had just been to Calcutta, and tried to gauge their respective positions and influence at the Durbar. One of the leading men who did not come, is Moulvi Mehdi Hasan, otherwise called Nawab Futteh Nawaz Jung, the ubiquitous courtier who is titular Chief Justice of Hyderabad, who, during his late visit to England on private affairs, was so lionised as if he were the Nizam himself. While enjoying in Europe, he, with true Hyderabad luck, not only found himself left, by the sudden illness of Nawab Mehdi Ali Khan, in charge of the mining negotiations, but also obtained the promise of promotion, on return home, to the high office of Home Secretary, which this intiguing Kadi coveted more than he cared for the dignity of Chief Justice. He was disappointed, however. It was said

that his transfer to the Home Office required the sanction of the Government of India—his services having been lent by our Government to His Highness the Nizam, some 5 or 6 years ago, while he was holding the post of Munsiff in the North West—and such sanction was not granted. Never mind, the man is as lucky as ever. For, it is given out in some of the newspapers, that he has been allowed an increase of Rs. 1,000 to his salary—thereby raising it to Rs. 3,000 a month, as a sop to him for his disappointment in getting Abdul Huj's post.

If this piece of news is correct, how came our Government to permit this extraordinary increase to the nominal Chief Justice's pay, after disallowing his promotion to the Home Secretaryship? Here is a petty Munsiff of British India, who, within 3 years of his transfer to a Native State, manages to become Chief Justice on Rs. 2,000 a month, and gives so much satisfaction in that venerable and venerated office that he is told off to make arrangements for the reception of Lord Dufferin, on his visit to the Deccan—leaving the High Court to take care of itself. Thereafter, he goes on his travels to England, evidently at the expense of the State, and, while there, is entrusted with the conduct of negotiations connected with the mining scandal. It is worth mention that the "good Templars" of the Inns of Court became so enamoured with his extraordinary good luck, that they called to the Bar a man who had never studied English Law, nor passed any examination, nor even eaten the proverbial dinners, though he doubtless gorged a good many influential gourdmands with true Oriental pillais and kabobs and the Nizam's Own Chutnies.

And now, to crown all, on his return from England, a thousand Rupies are added to his pay, for doing nothing in the discharge of his duties as Chief Justice, to entitle him to such increase.

Queer things these, to be sure, if not for Hyderabad, at least for the Government of India to sanction. We hope, however, that the report of the increase of pay is not correct.

DURING this week, the eldest daughter of Prince Mirza Jahan Kadir Bahadur was married to Prince Mirza Mahomed Jah Ali Bahadur, the eldest surviving son of His Highness the late Prince Mirza Mahomed Hamid Ali Bahadur, the eldest son and heir apparent of the late King of Oudh. The ceremonies attendant upon the wedding were performed with *clat*. We may take this opportunity of mentioning that the Government of India have, after all, done some justice to Prince Jahan Kadi, by raising his pension from Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 2,000.

WHEN we saw Nawab Sir Khurshed Jah Bahadur, the premier nobleman of Hyderabad, at the last Garden Party at Government House, given by the Muchness of Dufferin and Ava, wearing a bunch of golden thread on the top of his Hyderabad turban, similar to the one His Highness the Nizam was seen wearing while he was here during the Exhibition, we were impressed with the idea that, being a member of the great Shumsool Omra Family of Hyderabad, he was privileged to wear such a turban, as the turban worn by Sir Salar Jung or his father was a plain one without the golden tassel. But finding Sir Asman Jah, also a member of the Shumsool Omra Family, wearing a plain turban without the golden top, at the recent Investiture, we felt that our theory was not correct. And therefore we have made some enquiries, and are glad that we have solved the mystery. The peculiar golden head dress is only allowed to be worn by the members of the Nizam's Family; and as Sir Khurshed Jah's mother was a daughter of a former Nizam, he, being thus a royal grandson, is considered a member of the Nizam's Family, and as such is entitled to wear that sort of turban. Sir Asman Jah's mother not being a daughter of any Nizam, he is not permitted, although a member of the Shumsool Omra Family, to adopt that honoric head dress.

THE Amban is a grand Pangurdam doubtless, when his slightest nods and becks and the most trifling incidents in his personal life, are found important enough for careful record by leading journals. They have discovered that he had last week sent his servant down to market at Calcutta. The principal purchase made is, of course, opium—the condition *sine qua non* of Celestial existence—but the next makes a great descent from the sublime heights of Olympus to—say, Brummagem. The great Plenipotentiary of the Celestials sent to procure 320 two anna pieces.

Opium may well be supposed to grease the wheels of negotiation. In Bengal, we have a proverb which predicates profound understanding

of Tobacco. How much more intellectualising must be the more powerful drug! We have reason to know that many great men in Europe, besides the Sultan of Turkey—authors, journalists, professors, lawyers, merchant princes, diplomats, ministers of Church and State—show their appreciation of it by more or less habitual use. By the bye, was it this agent which was at the bottom of that unexplained passage in the history of the times related by Mr. Kinglake of the Cabinet Council, for the consideration of the final despatch of the British Government to Russia which led to the Crimean War—a conference at which all the ministers of Her Britannic Majesty fell into a profound slumber, in which the important document was adopted? What wonder that opium should play a part in Chinese diplomacy! Probably, it was the want of it that has caused the fate of the late negotiations about Tibet. It is most discreditable to the tact of our Government that the Amban should, in our territory or near it, be pressed for opium. How is a Celestial Envoy to preserve the even serenity of his temper and the balance of his understanding, under such a miserable situation? It is positively inhospitable in us that he should be compelled to send all the way to Calcutta for the necessary article. The Lieutenant-Governor should have, as his first act of courtesy, made his Ambanship a present of some chests of his best Patna. He would have therein found his advantage in the negotiation with the stranger.

We should not be surprised to hear that the Amban's servant found considerable difficulty in making his purchase. He might even get into a scrape into the bargain. Our excise law on the subject of opium is a disgrace. It entails trouble on many a subject of the Crown, specially in Assam and Central India, who are habituated to take it in large quantities, and need to keep a sufficient store as the grosser patrons of inebriating fluids keep cellars—but are not permitted by law to do so. A Mandarin must consume the drug by pounds per week. That is probably why the Amban could not procure it in sufficient quantities at Darjeeling.

But why so many 2 anna pieces? Three hundred and twenty are not enough for charity. The *Englishman* knows all about it. They are for buttons.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1889.

### THE LATEST HYDERABAD INTRIGUE.

SIR ASMAN JAH has come and gone. The public naturally enquire, why he came, what he has done whilst here, and why has he gone away so quickly? Quickly, we say—as it does not seem that his presence is urgently required at Hyderabad; for, had it been so, he would not have arranged to visit various cities in the North West on his way home, and timed his return to Hyderabad on the 20th instant, as given out by some of the dailies. He left Calcutta by the morning train of the 4th, after a stay of 11 days; and were he so inclined, he could have easily stopped here for another 11 days. The Hyderabad people and Hyderabad politics are both very mysterious. All we can do is to try to satisfy the curiosity of the public with the scanty materials in our possession, to the best of our power. The Hyderabad mining scandal is the burning question of the day, and the Supreme Government has now to pass the final orders for its settlement. The Nizam has been well plundered by the notorious Abdool Huq and the Watson fraternity, with the help or connivance of some of the highest Anglo-Indians, both in India and in England; the amount of money acquired by these men seems to be fabulous. The Commission appointed in London to investigate the origin and progress of this gigantic swindle, have come to a most unsatisfactory conclusion; and we are told that the Nizam's Government have agreed to come to a settlement with the concessionaires and the numerous body of English share-

holders, which may be fair to all parties interested in the mining business. Two schemes, we hear, have been prepared for the purpose, both with the help of some of the most accomplished lawyers. One is by Moulvi Mehdi Ali (Nawab Mohsinool Moolk) and the other by Moulvi Mehdi Hasan (Nawab Futteh Nawaz Jung). The former is the Financial and Political Secretary of the Hyderabad Government, and acknowledged to be the ablest man in the Deccan. He was the right hand man of the late Sir Salar Jung, and having held the most important posts at Hyderabad, for more than than 15 years, has managed, by his singular ability, to keep up his position, during the various changes that have taken place in the Administration of that State, since the death of his late chief, and in the midst of intrigues of the most formidable character. The latter, who was a petty Moonsiff in Oudh, on Rs. 200 a month, was brought into the service of the Nizam by the former (Mehdi Ali) only 5 or 6 years ago, and was provided with a post in the Judicial Department. As he proved of great personal service to the young Salar Jung, he was, within a short time, promoted by that boy minister to the office of Chief Justice, on a monthly salary of Rs. 2,000. Whilst holding this post, he was deputed to make arrangements for the reception of Lord Dufferin, when that Viceroy paid a visit to the capital of the Nizam. This man has an English or Eurasian wife, and with her he went to England on a pleasure trip. About this time, Moulvi Mehdi Ali was sent to England by the Nizam's Government to look after its interests and to represent it at the meetings of the Parliamentary Commission. Whilst the mining question was still being discussed at London, he (Mehdi Ali) got seriously indisposed, and was ordered by his medical advisers to return to India quickly. Mehdi Hasan, who was still on leave, and enjoying the sweets of London society, was, in the absence of Mehdi Ali, pitchforked into his place, by easygoing Sir Asman Jah, on the recommendation of his *protégé* and "chum," Moulvi Mushtak Hosein (Nawab Intisar Jung), the Revenue Secretary, although he had had no previous knowledge whatever of the intricacies of the mining business. This Mushtak Hosein, by the way, is, at the present moment, the most powerful, certainly the most influential, man in the Deccan, being the only individual in whom Sir Asman Jah reposes entire confidence, and under whose advice alone he acts. He is another of Mehdi Ali's *protégés*. Whilst holding the post of an Amlah in some Court in the North West, he was brought over by Mehdi Ali to Hyderabad, and there, after filling some subordinate post, he entered the service of Sir Asman Jah (then Nawab Basheerood Dowlah). Once, we believe, he was sent away from Hyderabad under the orders of the Resident, for going to Simla, without the knowledge and permission of that authority; but managed, after a year or two, to return to his master at Hyderabad. Since Sir Asman Jah's elevation to the Prime Ministership, Mushtak Hosein has been gradually rising in importance, and is now not only the guide, philosopher and friend of the Prime Minister, but the virtual ruler of the Government of the Nizam. Mehdi Hasan is a friend of Mushtak Hosein, and through his influence bids fair to prove another Abdool Huq.

After Abdool Huq's dismissal from the post of Home Secretary, Moulvi Syud Ali Belgrami B.A.—the younger brother of Moulvi Syud Hosein Belgrami (Nawab Imadood Dowlah) Director of Public

Instruction—was put in to officiate as the Home Secretary. Whilst Mehdi Ali was on his way back to India, and Mehdi Hasan was in England, the latter's patron, Mushtak Hosein, managed to get him appointed to the post of Home Secretary in Abdool Huq's place. When Mehdi Ali returned to India, and found that this extraordinary appointment had been made, during his absence, he represented the matter to higher authorities, and the result is, that the portfolio of the Home Office has not been made over to Mehdi Hasan on his return from England.

With respect to the rival projects in the field, without hazarding ourself into details, it may be roundly stated that by Mehdi Ali's scheme, the Nizam's loss in this mining business will be much less than by Mehdi Hasan's scheme, the latter having been framed, we are told, in such a shape, that Watson, Huq & Co. will be enabled to retain a substantial share of the booty. The Resident too thinks that the former will be safer and more economical for the State.

Both these schemes were placed in Sir Asman Jah's hands, and he made them over to his factotum, Mushtak Hosein for report. The latter has supported his friend Mehdi Hasan's scheme, and the Prime Minister has accordingly approved of it, throwing over the one prepared by Mehdi Ali. The Resident, Mr. Howell, has, on the other hand, approved of Mehdi Ali's scheme, and hence the disagreement between the Minister and the Resident, on this most important question of the day for the Hyderabad State. And hence it is that the question having been referred to the Government of India for final settlement, both the Minister and the Resident came all the way to Calcutta, personally to represent their respective views to the Foreign Secretary and the Viceroy. Mehdi Ali, Mushtak Hosein and Syud Ali Belgrami accompanied them.

Most important issues are involved in the decision of the Government of India. In the event of the Viceroy deciding in favor of Mehdi Hasan's scheme, the Resident goes out. For it will shew that His Excellency has no confidence in his own representative, or that the latter is incapable of grasping the difficulties of the question and arriving at a correct conclusion. As a result, Mr. Howell must vacate his post, as it would not be honorable for him to continue there after such a signal defeat. While, on the other hand, if His Excellency favours the scheme prepared by Mehdi Ali, and supported by Mr. Howell, Sir Asman Jah is sure to resign, as he cannot continue in his post any longer with dignity. We may observe in passing, that the chief party interested in this gigantic financial arrangement, *viz.*, the Nizam, has no share whatever in this controversy. The question before the Government is one of extreme difficulty and importance, and is sure to be dealt with by the Foreign Office with the greatest possible delicacy, care and consideration. The world, both here and in Europe, is watching the struggle of parties and interests over it, with intense curiosity, and Lord Lansdowne's reputation as a distinguished statesman will be firmly established if he can deliver a just judgment, without fear or favour.

The above will give some idea of the reasons why Sir Asman Jah came to Calcutta. What he has done during his stay here, is not easy to say. He has certainly had interviews with His Excellency the Viceroy and Sir Mortimer Durand, but from his short stay here, we do not think he has exchanged visits

with all the members of the Supreme Council and other high European officials, as the late Sir Salar Jung, or his son or even Sir Khurshed Jah had been in the habit of doing. He did not give the leaders of native society an opportunity of seeing him and forming an estimate of his character and ability, and by keeping away from the Evening Party at Government House, he disappointed the *élite* of Calcutta society, both Native and European, who were legitimately curious to know what metal he is made of. Our information is, that he has left behind a rather unfavorable impression upon Calcutta society.

Why he has left Calcutta so soon, passes us. Although he left Calcutta on the morning of the 4th, he will not reach Hyderabad before the 20th instant. He will be visiting Bardwan, Benares, Lucknow, Ajmere, Burhanpore and Bombay on the way. He had ample time to see and be seen at Calcutta. Probably, he was not pleased with his reception at the metropolis. The Viceroy did not pay him a return visit. He was not received at the railway station by any European official, not even by an Under-Secretary or an Assistant Magistrate. We were surprised to learn that even the leaders of his own community did not do him the honor of receiving him and seeing him off at Howrah. So far as we are able to gather, the only courtesy shewn him from the Mahomedan community, consisted of a couple of dinners given him by Nawab Abdool Lutef Bahadoor and Mr. Ameer Ali, the one in the Indian and the other in the English style.

As for the heads of the Hindoo community of the metropolis, we have not heard of a single individual having waited on him, or received a visit from him. The actual ruler of the largest Native State in India, to be thus treated, in the capital of India, may well cause him disappointment, and have hurried his departure. But whose fault was it? Perhaps, his own. His fame apparently preceded him, and he himself did not care to qualify it. Mr. Howell, we believe, is still in Calcutta.

#### THE SQUABBLE OVER THE FLYING MAN

IN that no very brilliant scrap of lampoon extant in British literature, in which the boy Shakespeare, before he had become father of the man—in the Wordsworthian sense—revenged himself upon a rural Honorary Magistrate, Sir Thomas Lucy, for punishing him for poaching in a deer preserve, the lispng poet sings—almost as the burden of his verse—

If low as is Lucy, as some folks mis-calle it,  
Then Lucy is low as, whatever befall it.

Be that as it may, or may have been, Spencer is not Spenser, nor Percival, Edmond any more than Herbert. Indeed, closely examined, Percival is not Perceval. Notwithstanding, Percival Spencer is a fine adroit combination, which proves that, whether its owner is an aeronaut or not, he is an adept in the mysteries of the profound science of Nomenclology. Without an absolutely false pretence, there is all the advantage of an illustrious odour. Percival Spencer is an exceedingly good name, carrying associations at once noble and literary; it is cumulatively aristocratic. The Spencers are well known in the British Peerage, and a Perceval was a Premier in this century. Its literary suggestion is of the highest, recalling England's quadret of Poets of the first rank as well as her greatest philosopher. Although the composition of poetry is obviously a different business from the occupation of amusing a gaping world, or a society eaten up with *emma* (whiskey pegs, endless lawn-tennis and the Columbian Rink notwithstanding) with breakneck ascents and jumps, yet the Faery Queen may not disdain to look with kindly interest

on the efforts of one of human kind to float in the empyrean. So far so good. But what's in a name, if the thing is not good? What is the good of Percival or Spencer, or even of the joint force and full result of all—what is the cumulative importance of Christian name and surname—if the bearer proves more incapable than your every-day Brown or Jones? If a rocket does not go off and mount straight and high, there is no consolation in the thought that it is of Armstrong manufacture. If the Flying Dutchman does not take wing for your behoof, Mynheer may be the Prince of Orange himself, but cannot escape ridicule and contempt and mobbing. If a balloon evinces an unconquerable disposition to cling to the earth, not all the blood of all the Howards will save it from popular vengeance.

Percival.....Spencer, indeed! Fiddlesticks! We were among the seven wise men of the East (including, if we are correctly informed, the Honble Law Member) who were left on Saturday last in this deserted metropolis on the occasion of the Exodus of all Calcutta and the suburbs to the plain of Bullygunge to witness the flight of Elijah and the fall of Lucifer! So being without a sense of personal grievance, on the contrary having profited in the way of strengthening our wisdom and virtue by the fate of those who ought to have known better, and indeed having, on the principle of Rochefoucauld, rather enjoyed the disappointment and distresses of friends, who waited the whole afternoon sweltering in the sun and then—thanks to our blessed Calcutta arrangements, whether at Government House or out of it—not finding their carriages notwithstanding a tedious search in the dark, we have no occasion to swear. But on the night of the 2nd instant, there was a discharge of profane language that in England would have made old Thurlow turn in his cold grave. Mr. Spencer if he were stone-deaf, could not fail to hear it or to understand its objective. The newspapers have since Monday kept up the parable. It were well for the poor aeronaut that, instead of Percival Spencer, he had been Spencer Percival. "At Home," he would have stood a good chance of meeting with the fate of his namesake by transposition. But, there was no Bellingham at Bullygunge. Having escaped with life and limb, he is now master of the situation. The disappointed legion are now trying to bully him into surrender of the cash he has bagged at their expense, but it is only a case of "Don't ye wish ye may get it?" He no doubt was in downright mortal danger for an hour or so about nightfall on the 2nd instant. He might have been mobbed, ducked in the nearest pond, or slated or chaired or hung on the nearest tree, say in Judge Beveridge's garden, and his earning might have been looted, but he escaped with only a furious slanging and the loss of some chairs. And now he can defy the world. A man who habitually risks his life is not to be terrified by letters in the *Indo-Dutch News* or the *Statesman*, or for that matter by any editorial thunders. Nor, we think, is it fair to one who undertakes such a hazard for your sickly crave for "sensation," to expect him to put with what has come to him in a legitimate way. There seems to us to lurk an element of envy, unconscious in the case of many doubters, in the public indignation against the poor man. If there were any fraud in the business, our opinion would be different. We certainly do not pity those who have lost their money. They did not pay for a legitimate purpose. Their disappointment has probably been the saving of one human being.

## THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

### VII.

#### *The beginning of the end: The European Workers.*

I have fairly come to the beginning of the end, and rejoice in anticipation. Not that writing for the press is a task soirk one that the prospect of the completion of the survey whereon I am engaged, hasty and necessarily imperfect as it is, relieves me of pressing dead-weight. By no means so. This history of the Congress is a labour of love with me. And yet like a weary way-worn traveller, who, after many wanderings and meanderings and digressions, is at last in view of the promised land of destination, my heart leaps with joy even to contemplate the approaching end of a modest beginning. The subject to which I have given the lion's share of my thought, required a peculiarly delicate handling, of which before this I thought I was not capable. To provoke the ire of one, to excite the envy of another, to

rouse a third's jealousy—with such a hideous prospect I started. Every syllable, I had to utter with bated breath! I had to break through a prevailing fetishism, to remove deep-seated and widespread prejudices, to clear misapprehensions and to cleanse the dirty linen. I would not say I have been able altogether to avoid angry comments, but I shall certainly say that, if there have been comments made, angry or otherwise, they have been mostly of a character which can never be avoided, though they can safely be ignored. The tongue of calumny can never be silenced, and the pen of wronged prejudices and exploded devices and clever subterfuges that dips itself deep into the venom of misguided ambition or mischanced patriotism, into the vitriol ink of narrow and mean bigotry, can never be made to lie at rest. I shall not address myself to the defence of self from such tongues and such pens; for defence against these is generally a signal for fresh offence on their part. I shall therefore buke them by taking no notice of them—leaving them to die a natural death so to speak in the cold shade of neglect. But I feel I must refer in a few words to the criticism of a wholly different kind to these. The friendly remonstrances I have always welcomed, nay for want of them I have actually courted even unfriendly ones. A morbid anxiety to avoid them is generally an evidence of weakness, a proof of want of vitality in the man and want of confidence in the faith of his professions. Well, one of these accuses me of being unnecessarily hard upon Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee. What do you think I wrote to him in reply? Why this: but can you say I have been unjustly so? How, he went on remonstrating, how could I be so oblivious of his past services to the country? I could only ask him to quote chapter and verse to prove that I have really ignored his single past work—name, as they say in Parliament. I fully appreciate his wonderful power and "Boulanger" influence. By his many qualities of head and heart, he is capable of better things than the tinkling harmony of "wordy nonsense" (I have quoted Mr. Telang). If ever Mr. Caine writes a review of the Congress speeches, I am sure his remarks on Mr. Surendra Nath's oratory will be found to support those of mine. In fact, of the dozen eminent men I have consulted on the subject, I could find only one who could be accused of "Boswellism" and blind hero-worship to Surendra Babu, and he is the Hindustani Vice-President of a first class Municipality of these Provinces. Am I then to be blamed for error of judgment? Even my worst critics must concede in that case that I have erred in good company. Maturer consideration of the subject has taught me that it may be that "Orator Surendra Babu's" line is agitation and not deliberation. Ever since the great contempt of Court case, his writings have been tamely and monotonously inoffensive. But in his speeches, there is the same fire and the same fury observable—he is the same stump-orator, the American equivalent for the English tub-orator. For what he has done in the past, in the way of preparing the field for political reforms, the country is "under a debt immense of endless gratitude" to him; but in the economy of Providence, there is time and season, place and circumstances for everything. What was useful in the past, may not be so in the present, much less in the future. The world is progressing, and we ought to move along with it.

The old order chngeth, yielding place to new.

This is his own watch word, borrowed from Tennyson. His mission and his work lay in the past. This compliment ought to satisfy him, he should not aspire for more, for he deserves no more. Let it not be supposed that I depreciate him because I do not propitiate him by false praises, by burying him, as Carlyle puts it in his famous work *Heroes and Hero-worship*, under the primrose bed of praises. Believe me, there is nothing so demoralising as eulogy, and undue eulogium does wrong to the bestower as well as the receiver. The object of praise is full of exaggerated notions of his over-weening self importance and self worth in the one hand, and the eulogist's heart is more and more depraved on the other hand. The one lives upon it, and the other feeds upon it. It is only the fools that praise, and he who is praised is only fooled to the top of his bent! I wish him to see improved, because I wish to see him better admired. In short, I have criticised him adversely, because I do not like to see him fall from the high pedestal of popular favour which he hitherto occupied. I have warned him as a friend and an admirer of many things that are good and great in him, and do not "judge it" as the slang

expression of sailor's puts it; and if he is wise in his generation, he will doubtless have to exclaim before long:

Faithful are the wounds of a friend.

Another well-meaning critic has severely rated me for having a hard and home-thrust, though insidious, hit at "poor and patriotic Norendra." Now, with regard to him, I was compelled to say that "ev'n his failings lean'd to virtue's side;" but they are failings all the same. He is an alarmist of the worst kind, a writing editor with a good deal of fire of a fighting editor in him, he is hasty in his judgment and therefore very often wrong in his conclusions. I know even his worst detractors will have to concede that

Unpractised he to fawn, or seek for power;  
By doctrines fashion'd to the varying hour;  
Far other aims his heart had learn'd to prize,  
More bent to raise the wretched than to rise.\*

I happen to know as a fact that, for his "bold," though honest, independence, he was highly respected even by Lord Dufferin.† I myself belong to the forward school; so I cannot be charged with depreciating his worth. I only say, that as the editor of the only daily native paper, he has a serious and solemn responsibility resting upon his shoulders. He will be held responsible before God and man as to how he discharges his trust. By his position, he ought to lead. The duties of a leader, as I understand them, are not indeed to go deliberately against the current, but to be prepared very often to forfeit popular favour by having to sail against the prevailing current. He has to lead, not to follow. The essentials of a leader are sobriety of thought and action, originality of ideas and principles, and the tact to make his speculations adopted by the world at large. I have spoken out my mind because I expect that, outspoken as he himself is, he will appreciate my remarks. Leadership does not imply that the leader should be above and beyond the canons of criticism. He ought to hear everything patiently and attentively, but he need not be guided by whatever he hears. He should, above all, never put his unquestioning trust on hearsay evidence, that turns out to be at least as often false as true. Other criticisms that have been made upon me are not worth the name of criticisms. So I need not notice them. This you will say is an elaborate defence by itself. I say, this is not so much a defence as the avoiding of offence. I have not been so much "exercised" by them, as amused and instructed. They are indicative of the interest my letters have excited, and, more than that, are evidence unmistakable of the popular appreciation of the general tone and spirit in which they were conceived. As such I accept them thankfully.

I have advisedly spoken of European workers and not speakers; for now they do not only speak, they also work. They have outlived the talking stage. This is one most noticeable feature in them. From their very position, they could not do otherwise. They are regarded by the members of their own community as little better than "Adullanites," though really they are so many "Abdiels." We, the children of the soil, can affect enthusiasm and love for our country without being really enthusiastic and patriotic at heart. With many of us this may be a means to a desired end. With the European members of the Congress, however, this is not possible. From the moment they join the ranks of the Congresswallahs, they are regarded as "Bibishian" the traitor was regarded in the camp of the Rakhshases. They have to suffer contumely and taunts and jeers, and, being an insignificant minority, have to submit tamely to social ostracisms. None would care to

\* Nonsense! What a base use of such a fine passage in English literature to apply it to such a man. We suppose we may be allowed to be among the worst detractors, and we do not concede even honesty of purpose, any more than dignity of conduct or wisdom, to these selfish firebrands. We might go further because we know. The enthusiasm for the particular party in question is one of the strangest delusions current, showing a decline among us in penetration into character and proving how we are apt to be misled by sound and fury. These are not matters for public discussion, or else the truth might be made clear to ordinary capacity.—ED. R. & R.

† Another of the numerous myths started by designing folk, and seized with avidity by a certain class of politicians. Herein Lord Dufferin's fate is almost unique, or he shares it only with Mr. Parnell. He is always being characterised as a typical diplomat, his policy is deep and secret unfathomable. And yet it would seem as if he always wore his heart upon his sleeve for every passing daw to peck at! It needs no ghost of a—to tell anyone with a modicum of intelligence, what the late Viceroy thought of the valiant Norender.—ED. R. & R.

elect such a lot so uninviting and disagreeable, unless profoundly impressed with the importance of the cause, the moral force of its basal principles, and the righteousness of its demands. Such a three-fold consciousness of one's duties and one's moral responsibilities presupposes a high order of moral rectitude and a strong moral backbone. He is prepared from the outset to endure no end of blunt satire.

This high appreciation of the duties of citizenship and consequent firmness of soul, constitute a no mean superiority, and this superiority is the secret of the remarkable difference observable between the general level of the two sections of Congressists—European and Native. This also explains for the enthusiastic love with which they applied themselves to the discussion of the several problems before the Congress. They were not half-hearted or lukewarm, for if it were possible for them to be so, they would not at all be in the Congress camp. We are self-regarding Indians, they are cosmopolitan foreigners. Their speeches as a whole exhibit a wider knowledge, a deeper study of the subject, and betoken a careful preparation of the case on the part of the speakers. They were therefore generally brief and to the point. Not only was the general level of knowledge higher, but also the method of treatment better. Everyone had not only something to say, but said that something briefly and pointedly. Perhaps, our European colleagues were less courteous and cautious in the use of their words and more rudely outspoken, than their Native conferees. Nor, if we except perhaps one, was there any offensiveness in their delivery. There was an entire absence of violent gestures or animated emptiness and vacuity of thought. Their adhesion to the Congress cause, is not only a source of strength to us, but is an earnest of the moral triumph that inevitably awaits us in the near future, the crown of olive which, as the crown of glory, will be ours before long. Our obligations to them are great, and their heroic self-sacrifice ought to excite our love and respect for them. Here the harvest is great, but the labourers are few. May their number increase!

B.

#### MONGHYR.

*Jamulpur, 27th February, 1889.*

The Consulting Engineer to Government for Guaranteed Railways, accompanied by the Chief Engineer of the E. I. Railways and other officers of the Co., was out from head-quarters Calcutta by special train for inspection of way and works on the line, and arrived at this station on Saturday evening, the 23rd instant. During their stay here, they paid a visit to Monghyr. Whilst at Loco. Works on Monday last the 25th, a number of cast iron sleepers manufactured in the Loco. Foundry were placed before them for test with a view to compare their durability and quality with those of English make. This being an important item of castings, of which a large number are turned out annually and used both on single and double lines, now in lieu of the wooden ones in use heretofore, it is creditable to remark that the test stood to the entire satisfaction of those present on the occasion, the Jamalpur sleepers standing the test by the falling weight of 3½ cwt from a height of 14 feet. The long tailed of and anticipated reduction in the clerical staff of the various offices attached to the Loco. Department, has at last fall a on the shoulders of poor *Karams*. No less than 50 clerks, the major portion of them being Bengalees, have been served with a month's notice, owing to the reduction of the establishment, and more I hear are to share the same fate later on, their salaries ranging from Rs. 20 to Rs. 150 and services from 2 to 30 years. It is needless to over-rate the critical position and circumstances in which they have just been placed by being thrown out of employ. Suffice it to say that the blow all of a sudden received by them, is too severe, especially in the present hard times. Besides, many of these have now become grey-headed in the service of the company. Had it been the Government Office, the poor souls, most of them, would have been fairly entitled to half pension by this time. I understand that the said reduction has been made under Government pressure, with a view to the introduction of State Railway system of accounts. The E. I. Railways daily earn, if I mistake not, over a lac of Rupees (both from coaching and goods traffic) and the amount thus saved by discharging a few poor clerks, would come to a few thousands only annually, which is like a drop in the ocean. A reduction is all that is requisite, is there no means by which the company can gain materially instead of dispensing with the services of a few ill paid clerks? I hope the company will not be wanting in their usual kindness to grant the men some substantial bonus or gratuity for the services rendered.

### CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF CALCUTTA.

1. Notice is hereby given that the lease and occupation for the term of three years, beginning from the 1st April 1889, of a plot of Land for carrying on the business of skinning the carcasses, boning the carcasses, and drying and crushing bones of animals collected from the town of Calcutta, and such like process, will be put up to public auction at the Municipal Office, at noon of Friday, the 22nd March 1889.

2. The purchaser will be required to sign an agreement and to deposit as security a sum equivalent to two months' rent as soon as his bid is accepted and thereafter the rent must be paid on the 5th day of each and every month following that in respect of which the rent is due.

3. The plot of Land may be of any dimensions that may be agreed upon as necessary for the intended business and will be situated at the east end of what is called the "Central Channel" running through the square mile, the property of the Corporation at the Salt Water Lakes.

4. The arrangements and plot proposed by the lessee for carrying on his business would be subject to the approval of the Municipal Commissioners.

5. The contract will include the cattle and carcasses brought to the platform from the portion of the suburbs to be amalgamated with the town as well as from the town.

JOHN COWIE,  
Secretary to the Corporation.

5th March, 1889.

### CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Sealed Tenders for the supply of 3½ laes cubic feet of Indigenous Stone, during the official year 1889-90, will be received by the Vice Chairman, and will be opened by him in the presence of Tenderers who may wish to attend, at 2 P. M. on the 13th instant.

2. The Stone is to be obtained from Rajmehal hills, broken so as to pass freely in all directions through a ring 2 inches in diameter, and to be delivered and stacked in the Municipal Depôts at Bagbazar or Nuntoldh. The quality of the Stone must not be inferior to that now being supplied, sample of which can be seen at the Municipal Depôts. Tenderers for supplying Stone of this quality from any other place than Rajmehal may be considered.

3. Each Tender may be for 10,000 cft. or in multiples of this quantity, and to be accompanied by sample of Stone in a sealed bag, and earnest money Rs. 120 per every 10,000 cft. of Stone to be tendered for, to be enclosed with each Tender.

4. The successful Tenderer must sign a deed of contract, duly stamped and registered at his own expense.

5. The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

6. Any other information required can be had on application.

UDOY NARAIN SINGHA,  
Superintendent of Stores.

8th March, 1889.

### CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

#### Supply of Straw and Hay for Govdhar mis.

Tenders for the supply of Hay and Straw for one year, from the 1st April 1889 to 31st March 1890, are invited and will be received by the Vice-Chairman up to noon of the 15th March. Covers to be superscribed "Tender for Hay and Straw."

Specification and Form of Tender to be had on application at the office of the Health Officer.

Rupees 200 to be deposited as earnest money with each Tender.

The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

JONH COWIE,  
Secretary to the Corporation.

### CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

#### Supply of Crushed Food for Cattle.

Tenders for the supply of Crushed Food for Cattle for one year, from 1st April 1889 to 31st March 1890, are invited and will be received by the Vice-Chairman up to noon of the 15th March. Covers to be superscribed "Tender for Crushed Food."

Specification and Form of Tender to be had on application at the office of the Health Officer.

Rupees 500 to be deposited as earnest money with each Tender.

The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

JOHN COWIE,  
Secretary to the Corporation.  
7th March, 1889.

Price by post 8½ annas.

### ASRUKANA

A Collection of poems in Bengali by SRIMATI GIRINDRAMOHINI DASSY (Author of *Kabutar, Bharat Kusum*.)

Asrukana is a collection of poetical pieces of singular pathos and beauty of expression \* \* It is a series of mournful songs that the reader is here presented with and they must touch a sympathetic cord in every heart that can feel. There is a singular appropriateness in the title of the work, and in its pious dedication to the memory of the husband of the fair writer. *The Indian Nation*.

The authoress is not unknown to Bengali readers. She has already published two or three poems by which she is favourably known, but between these poems and this is a difference that hardly admits of being measured.

This is poetry in life

We have read Srimati Girindra Mohini's poems in a reverential spirit. The poems are all of a lyrical description. The lyre is soft, sweet and tender, but awfully strong.

The tone of the poems is inexpressibly gentle, inexpressibly pure, and inexpressibly tender and affectionate. It is the tone of a world mother.

Bengal should be proud of this poem—*The Calcutta Review*.

Apply at the Bee Press,

1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Calcutta.

### ARMY CLOTHING DEPARTMENT.

Alipur, March 1889.

Sealed tenders are invited for the supply of stores and embroidery more or less as may be required, viz., stores for the year 1889-90 and embroidery for the triennial period commencing from 1st April 1889.

2. Tenders will only be received in the printed forms which are obtainable at this office. Blanks in the printed form must be filled up correctly.

3. Each tender must be accompanied by a Bank of Bengal or Government Treasury deposit receipt in the name of the Superintendent for Rs. 100 as earnest money. Cash or notes cannot be accepted in lieu.

4. The lowest tender will not necessarily be accepted, any tender may be accepted in whole or in part.

5. Any person whose tender may be accepted will be required to execute a bond and to give security in Government Promissory notes or cash for the due fulfilment of his contract, within one week from the date of acceptance of his tender, in default of which his earnest money will be forfeited. The security will be calculated at 10% on the contract.

6. Any further information required may be obtained, and sealed patterns inspected at the Clothing Agency.

7. Tenders will be opened by undersigned at noon on Monday the 25th March 1889 in the presence of such persons as may desire to attend.

W. H. MACKESY, Colonel,  
Superintendent, Army Clothing.

In Pamphlet, Price 4 annas  
or 6 copies for a Rupee.

### ARMY REORGANIZATION

With special reference to the Question of

### A Reserve for the Indian Army.

By Capt. ANDREW HEARSEY.

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TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

*Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,*

BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

*Formerly Minister to the late*

NAWAB FARIDUDDIN JAH BAHADOOR,  
(the last of the Nawabs, Nazim of Bengal,  
Behar and Orissa.)

*Latteriy Minister of the Tipperah State.*

Apply to Manager, "REIS & RAYYET"

1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street,

CALCUTTA.

### OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Kais and Rayet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little *brochure* written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah, Bahadour, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman. *The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*, October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Kes and Rayak*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who, being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon painees, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enchanting description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river :—[ *Extrait* ]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Excerpt.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his coast. — [Extract]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Kunkin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun rising and setting:—[Extract]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1837.

.....this interesting book. We are justified in so terming it, not on account of any romantic adventures that the author has to relate, nor of any very new discoveries in geography or natural history. There is something particularly as regards ethnology; and a great deal of human nature in the book, shown to the reader with a simplicity and candour which bear testimony to its truth. Eclipsed from the busy haunts of men in the city to dwell for a time in Independent Tipperah as a judicious adviser to its chief, Doctor Moorke relates his adventures during the several journeys to and fro in that capacity, without revealing the secrets of the State, like a good diplomatist. He has adhered strictly to the advice which he offers to his brethren of the Native press, and has written what he saw and knows, without revealing all, considering what he might properly say and what withhold.....The above seems to be a curious passage to be found in a book of travel, and appears to have no connection with the subject. But it arises from a casual reference to a slaughter house, and a writer who "thundered weekly against the outrage of locating shambles in the immediate vicinity of a Hindoo temple" - where, in fact, no temple could be said to exist. Hence, the doctor advises his fellow scribes not to be Pharisees, righteous overmuch, but to look and be sure of their facts. In the same spirit, he has written his book. He gives an account of his travels, which seem often to have been voyages upon the wide-predling rivers of Eastern Bengal, in which the ruins of some almost inland seas. On the one he philosophises on the nature of the country and the people, making a careful observation of his facts; and though he sometimes fancies he knows better than his boatmen, and more than suspects that they are getting the better of him, he submits with a grace that would have done credit to Socrates, not to vent the arrogantly invariable in the utterance of peace. The doctor is a close observer of nature, minute and unimpaired, with an eye to the picture space, such as to the sublime and beautiful. And although there is a vein of cynicism running through many of his observations, it is tempered by such evident good nature, that even a cynic would conceive him to be a laughing boy, rather than a stern philosopher. This is very

dent in his description of his boatmen and others, while he denounces the lawless ones which has made the poor fishermen suspicious, even of honest intentions, because they have so long been the helpless victims of marauders stronger than themselves. Then only defence is flight or deceit, and the latter is their justification as a mode of self-protection. We are shown not only the weakness of the people, but the shortcomings of the administration that leave these things possible. The author is impartial in his censures. There is much in the book to which space forbids us to refer. That it is a treasure may be gathered from the fact that, for its 366 pages, there are nearly a hundred references. Many of the subjects are necessarily, but lightly treated, but all soundly and fully. And Dr. Mookerjee is such a master of the English language that in the whole book we have scarcely found a phrase that might not have been written by an Englishman "to the manner born." There is no argument at which any one could reasonably take offence, and there is much from which both Englishmen and natives may learn great lessons of self-improvement.

*The Iranian Daily News*, Nov. 22, 1957

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sumbhu C. Mookerjee's *Little Booklet*, which was published some months since, it is not because the little book is either dull or pedantic. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious; he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree. "A naked Whiteman" hunts his snailabilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight; "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sumbhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "List of the Nawabs, Nizam of Bengal, Behar and Orissa," and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him.

*Franch in England* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in. *The Pioneer*, Dec., p. 7.

ST. THOMAS, DORSET, ENGLAND

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This Company's Steamer ... will leave Calcutta for Assam on Friday the 15th inst. inst.

All cargo for shipment by the above vessel should be sent to the Company's Godown at Juggannauth Ghat not later than Thursday the 14th inst.

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For particulars of the sailings of this line please apply to the undersigned.

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The Steamers of this Service leave Dhubri daily immediately on arrival of the mails from Calcutta, and are connected with the F. B. S. Railway for booking of traffic through to river stations.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1889.

} No. 365

## CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE AMPHITRITE, MAY, 1832.

[From Freilgrath.]

YONDER at anchor see  
The Amphitrite lying,  
With gaily painted sides,  
And crimson streamers flying

Her snowy wings are furled,  
The seagod on his breast  
Lulls her with kisses soft,  
And whispers her to rest.

From eastern coasts afar  
The good ship is returned;  
She hath braved the storm that blew,  
And the tropic sun that burned.

In girdle red, against  
The mast the skipper leaneth;  
And what a guest doth grace  
His craft he little weeneth.

A southern wight that guest,  
The young and lusty May;  
He hath crossed the deep blue waves,  
He is here with us this day

On Indian verdure lapped,  
Beneath the odorous shade  
Of the banyan thicket's verge,  
He saw the anchor weighed

Up leaping then he bound  
His sandals on in haste,  
Closer his mantle drew,  
And the rich shawl round his waist

Into the sea he dashed,  
Bravely the surge he breasted,  
And till a rope he clutched  
Ne'er faltered he or rested.

He swung him light on deck,  
Unseen by all the crew;  
Straightway at his behest  
A pleasant landwind blew.

And now arrived in port,  
Quickly the shore he sought.  
Marvellous goodly things  
This new comer hath brought.

The storks, his heralds, fly,  
Proclaiming through the land,  
"A wondrous guest is ours,  
A wizard treads our strand!"

Bare trees, he clothes in green,  
Bare spots with blossoms fills,  
Bright tulips, violets dim,  
Hambells and daffodils.

The earth arrayed most fair  
With thousand hues doth glimmer.  
Thanks blithe and hale Lascar!  
Right welcome, lusty swimmer!

Yonder at anchor, see  
The Amphitrite lying,  
With gaily painted sides,  
And crimson streamers flying

## BETWEEN THE RAPIDS.\*

THE shore, the fields, the cottage just the same,  
But how with them whose memory makes them sweet?  
Oh if I called them, hailing name by name,  
Would the same lips the same old shouts repeat?  
Have the tough years, so big with death and ill,  
Gone lightly by and left them smiling yet?  
Wild black-eyed Jeanne whose tongue was never still,  
Old wrinkled Picard, Pierre and pale Lisette,  
The homely hearts that never cued to change,  
While life's wide fields were filled with rush and change.

And where is Jacques, and where is Verginie?  
I cannot tell; the fields are all a blur,  
The lowing cows whose shapes I scarcely see,  
Oh do they wait and do they call for her?  
And is she changed, or is her heart still clear  
As wind on morning, light as river foam?  
Or have life's changes borne her far from here,  
And far from rest, and far from help and home?  
Ah comrades, soft, and let us rest awhile,  
For arms grow tired with paddling many a mile

The woods grow wild, and from the rising shore  
The cool wind creeps, the faint wood odours steal,  
Like ghosts adown the river's blackening floor  
The misty fumes begin to creep and reel.  
Once more I leave you, wandering toward the night,  
Sweet home, sweet heart, that would have held me in,  
Whither I go I know not, and the light  
Is faint before, and rest is hard to win  
Ah sweet ye were and near to Heaven's gate;  
But youth is blind and wisdom comes too late.

\* From *Among the Millet, and other Poems*. By Archibald Lampman. Ottawa.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

Blacker and lofter grow the woods, and bark !  
 The freshening roar ! The chute is near us now,  
 And dim the canyon grows, and inky dark  
 The water whispering from the birchen prow.  
 One long last look, and many a sad adieu,  
 While eyes can see and heart can feel you yet,  
 I leave sweet home and sweeter hearts to you,  
 A prayer for Pierre, my little Jacques, and thee,  
 A kiss for Jeanne, my little Jacques, and thee,  
 A sigh for Jeanne, a sob for Vergine

Oh, does she still remember ? Is the dream  
 Now dead, or has she found another mate ?  
 So near, so dear ; and ah, so swift the stream :  
 Even now perhaps it were not yet too late.  
 But oh, what matter ! for before the night  
 Has reached its middle, we have far to go :  
 Bend to your paddles, comrades ; see, the light  
 Ebbs off apace ; we must not linger so  
 Aye thus it is ! Heaven gleams and then is gone  
 Once, twice, it smiles, and still we wander on.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE Viceroy leaves Calcutta for Simla on the 2nd April. Allahabad and Lucknow have been put down in the programme of tour.

LORD CONNEMARA has received the freedom of Government House. His formidable lady has left for England. His Excellency the Governor was not present on the pier to see her off. It was not polite perhaps—there was no love lost—but a scene was avoided.

COLONEL Nassau Lees—an old “Qui Hye,” latterly an influential “Duck,” and finally a retired Indian at Home—is dead.

SIR DONALD MACKENZIE WALLACE left Calcutta by the accelerated mail train of Wednesday. There were very few to bid him farewell at the railway station. We congratulate the *Mirror* on the removal of the incubus on its breast.

LAST Saturday there was a free fight in the Wellington Square between one of the Buffs and a student of the Ripon College, in which the Bengali shewed much pluck and courage. If it is due to the training in the College and if the other students can act with equal spirit and resource, it is a good sign. But care should be taken to prevent the boys imbibing a rowdy disposition. That will never do—either for Bengalis, or in British India.

MR. Justice Chunder Madhub Ghose is, ailing from fistula-in-ano. He had suffered much from piles. He has been absenting himself from Court since Wednesday week.

THE *East* announces twice over, in two consecutive paragraphs, couched in identical terms, *verbatim et literatim*, the admission of Mr. Eardley Norton into the Calcutta High Court. Is this paragraphical reduplication a tribute to the great tongue of the Congress, just as in Indian usage more than one Shree are prefixed to the name, according to the rank and importance of the parties ? At this rate, Hume the Soul, if he is mentioned once, ought to be named three times three.

MR. BEAUMONT is leaving no stone unturned to get back to the Board of Revenue. If Sir Stewart Baley must be weak, Mr. Smith loses his chance of translation to the Board. Baboo Annada Prasad Ghose from Burdwan comes to the Presidency Commissioner's office as the 1st Personal Assistant, Baboo Amarnath Bhattachajee not being deemed worthy of the responsibilities of the place. Baboo Prankumar Das replaces Baboo Annada in Burdwan, unless the Secretary of State sanctions the appointment of the Excise Commissioner, in which case Baboo Prankumar hopes to continue in the Excise Department.

THE Madras Correspondent of the *Southern Star* writes :—

“Here is a very startling news for orthodox Tarjore ! Dewan Bahadur Regunatha Row, and Simivasa Row and some other learned men

quietly met in Triplicane and resolved upon bringing a Brahmin convert to Christianity back again to his old faith. Such a proceeding cannot but rouse opposition in the mofussil though it has not apparently attracted any attention here.”

The same thing has been done before, in Bengal. A notable instance was that of one Shannaprasad Chatterjea of Bhowanipore, in 1856.

THE veteran Vishwanath Mandlik Sahib Bahadoor has been elected Dean of the Faculty of Law in Bombay. A good choice. Thereupon this foolish paragraph or something to the same purport is going the round of our intelligent Native Press :—

“We are glad to learn that the Bombay University has set a very noble example by conferring on a native of the soil, Rai Sahib Mandlik, the high academic distinction of a Dean. This honor was hitherto exclusively reserved for the English. It is the first time that the Bombay University has chosen a native gentleman for this distinction in consideration of his ability, experience and learning.”

And they are all crying up Bombay at the expense of other academic centres. But it is all wasted breath. These writers confound the office of Dean with the true Doyenship. To reproach Calcutta in this connection for not appointing a native Vice-Chancellor, is beside the point. What Bombay has now done, has often enough been done here.

We read :

“The richest individual is the Czar of Russia, observes a foreign paper, who derives a revenue from his private personal estates of £2,000,000 per annum. Next to him also in Russia, are two noble brothers, who are of a Swiss origin. It was these brothers who saw thousands of acres of land aglow with the light of oil-gas, and at once purchased entire districts of the apparently worthless fields, sunk oil wells, and have now a larger trade of petroleum than any other concern in the world. In Germany, Paris and Vienna, the great banking firm of the Rothschilds tops every other a great deal ahead. The London portion of the firm has the post of precedence contested in London by the Baring brothers, who have ‘at instantaneous command’ £60,000,000, an enormous sum truly to so ‘command.’ The Barings owe their commercial rise to an American Mr. William Bingham, of Philadelphia, who many years ago, had the firm appointed the American Agency in the London business. The united Rothschilds of England and the Continent have loaned to Europe on Governments upwards of £20,000,000 within the last quarter of a century. Their power is shown in a very recent instance. In 1886, the Prussian Government demanded an indemnity of £5,000,000 from the City of Frankfurt. The head of the Rothschild house in that city sent word to Bismarck that if an attempt was made to force the levy he would break every bank in Berlin, and Bismarck was compelled to give way. Among the richest noblemen in Great Britain, the Duke of Westminster stands at the head, with an income variously estimated at from £800,000 per annum to even double that amount. Those next to him are the Dukes of Buccleuch, Devonshire, and Norfolk, and the Marquis of Bute, each of them with a rent roll of from £400,000 per annum to half a million. Finally, we may name Claus Spicler, ‘the Sugar King of the New World,’ as he calls himself. He is said to derive an income of £1,000,000 a year from his sugar plantations in the Sandwich Islands. His home at Honolulu is like the dreams of a sybarite and his wars are served by an army of negroes. His trade, too, dominates in the islands of the Pacific, and his ships, firms, and assistants may be found everywhere. It is owing to him that Germany has become a power in the Pacific of recent years.”

THE Emperor of Russia, as the richest owner of private wealth in the world, is not, however, neglectful of his responsibility for such possession. He has just distinguished himself by an act of Imperial beneficence. He has given away, to perpetuate the memory of his parents, a million roubles and an estate worth 300,000 roubles a year, to the foundation and maintenance of a blind asylum in St. Petersburg to be called the Alexander-Marian Institute.

What is Her Majesty about ?

THE cashier of the Bombay Small Cause Court has been committed for criminal breach of trust and misappropriation of Rs. 15,000.

THE Bombay Government have, it is said, taken magisterial power from Bhegwant, Balwant, Pradham, Bhankar, Bhalchander, Bapat, and Venkatesh Krishna David, Mamlatdars in the Ahmednuggur District, and five other Mamlatdars of the Poona District, whose names have not transpired.

THE Maharajah of Travancore has given Rs. 4,000 for the improvement of the Library attached to the Patcheappah's College.

MR. J. W. Maclellan, the lucky editor of the *North China Daily News*, has won 20,000 dollars in the Manila Lottery.

A NEW Polar Expedition from Norway will be despatched, in the summer of 1890, to the North Pole, under the lead of Dr. Nansen.

AN Italian man of science, named Galilæi, in a paper presented to the French Academy of Sciences, claims for Galileo the discovery of the microscope, as well as the telescope. He has stumbled upon a very rare book printed in 1610, according to which Galileo had already directed his tube, fitted with lenses, to the observation of small near objects.

THE *Bengal Government* proposes to amend 33 and 34 of the rules under the Bengal Tenancy Act, thus :

"33. When the record of rights has been prepared in the manner described in Rules 20 to 32, the Revenue Officer shall cause a draft of the khewat and khattan, or, when more convenient, of each separately, to be published in the following manner :

Notice shall be posted up at the landlord's village office, if there be one, and if there be none, then, in the presence of not less than two persons, on some conspicuous place in the village, stating that the records will be published in the village at a place and time to be specified not less than one week from the date of such notice, and calling on all persons interested to attend on the date so specified. The Revenue Officer shall either proceed to the place so specified himself, and read the contents of the record in the presence of parties who attend, or he shall depute an officer not below the rank of canoongoe, who shall read out the contents of the record in the presence of so many of the parties as attend, and the Revenue Officer or officer deputed by him, as the case may be, shall at the same time inform the parties who attend that the draft record will be open for inspection in the office of the Revenue Officer for one month. The Revenue Officer shall receive and consider any objection which may be made to any entry during this period.

34. When all applications for settling a fair rent have been disposed of, and all disputes of the nature mentioned in Rule 32 have been decided, and all objections of the nature mentioned in Rule 33 have been considered by the Revenue Officer, he shall note in the khewat and the appropriate columns of the khattan in regard to each entry what entries have been, and what entries have not been, the subject of dispute. He shall then finally frame the record and cause it to be published by notifying that its contents will be read out in the village at a time and place to be specified, not less than a week from the date of such notice, and by reading it out himself or causing it to be read in the village on the date so specified, in the manner prescribed in Rule 33 in the presence of the parties, or of so many of them as attend."

Any objection or suggestion from any person to the draft must be submitted to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the Revenue Department, before the 15th April next.

By order of the Lieutenant Governor, the Births, Deaths, and Marriages Registration Act VI of 1880, has been extended to the Sonthal Pergunnahs.

THE first Half yearly Departmental Examination of 1889 of Assistants and Deputy Magistrates and of officers of the Police, Jail, Medical and Forest Departments in the Chota Nagpore Division, will begin at Ranchhee on Monday the 6th May.

THE introduction or sale, without a pass from the Collector, in the District of the 24 Pergunnahs, of country spirit, unless manufactured at the suddi distilleries of Russa and Manicktoila, has been prohibited from the 1st April next, as also the construction or working of any still or the manufacture of spirituous liquor, except at the said distilleries. The same order applies equally to Howrah. There the pass must be obtained from an officer authorized to issue it. The area in the Hooghly District to be supplied from the Hooghly and Serampore Distilleries, under similar conditions, has been defined.

THE *Gazette of India* of the 9th declares the Court of the Recorder of Rangoon, as the High Court for Upper Burma, in reference to proceedings against European British subjects, for the purposes of Chapter XXIII of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882. This Chapter treats of Trials before High Courts and Courts of Session and enjoins trial by jury.

THE same *Gazette* publishes the regulations which have been issued by order of His Majesty the Shah of Persia, regarding the opening up of the River Karun and navigation from Muhammerah to Ahwaz to the mercantile marine of all nations. "The vessels navigating the Karun will carry out the regulations of the Government, which regulations shall hold good for ten years without fail, after which they will be altered according to the exigencies of circumstances." For a steam vessel—for the going and coming—a tonnage of one kran per ton, and, if a sailing vessel, ten shahis as toll and right of way will be levied. Unladen vessels will be charged half tolls. For breach of the regulations, if a steamer 600 Tomans and if a sailing vessel 300 Tomans fine will

be inflicted, and the vessel prohibited from the navigation for two years. The transport of arms is absolutely forbidden under the penalty of seizure. "Under no pretext whatever will any vessel have the right to protect any Persian subject in any way." "Persons whose presence is detrimental to order and who would cause difficulties by their presence, should not be in the vessels." Every comer must be provided with a pass from his own Government. Shipowners will not be allowed to erect any coal depôt, warehouse, shop, caravanserai or manufactory on the banks, but they will be built on the part of the Persian Government or Persian merchants. The navigation being "solely for the purpose of facilitating and stimulating trade and nothing else, on this pretext no political discussion, &c., will be allowed." Is His Majesty the Shah competent, alone, to enforce these regulations? His Majesty had to yield to the demand of the friendly Powers, and this is only the beginning of the end.

THE Secretary of State for India has expressed to the Governor-General of India in Council, his "cordial concurrence in the sentiments expressed by you in respect to the skilful manner in which the operations [Field Operations, Hazara] have been conducted, and the satisfactory results that have been achieved, which reflect great credit on General McQueen and the officers and troops under his command." Deploing the loss of "two such excellent officers as Colonel Crookshank and Captain Beley, Lord Cross expresses his satisfaction that "the operations generally have been attended with a comparatively small number of casualties amongst our troops."

IT is said that light clothing will become non-inflammable, by soaking them occasionally in a watery solution of tungstate of soda. Will colour stand the operation? At any rate, this recipe ought to be seriously tried. Modern civilization, with the abundance of clothing it is introducing among us, even in the remotest parts of the country, is not without its peculiar risks. Accidents from fire to women and children are not uncommon, caused usually by an end of the loose light robe or other garment coming in momentary contact with the element. A cheap handy protection from fire would be a great boon to the people.

THE two escaped convicts, Charles Edward Warner and John Healy *alias* Merton have been arrested and placed before Mr. Masden—thanks to the genius, patience and daring of a Bengal Police officer. They will be committed for their escape. They were arrested by the Sub-Inspector Preonath Mookerjee of the Detective Police. After a long and wearisome tracking from place to place, along the E. I. Railway line from Calcutta towards Rameeungee, he found them in a lane in the village of Jankoon, about 100 paces from the great jungle near the Soosoom hill. How he secured them, we give in his own words to the Magistrate :

"Two Bengal Police constables and 3 or 4 chowkidars were with me. As soon as I saw Warner, I recognized him. I told the constables to remain where they were, while I went round from the back, and arrested Healy. I opened my umbrella to conceal my face, and going from behind threw my arms round Healy, who had a bamboo in his hand. At the same time, I called out to give me my revolver, and I would shoot them if they tried to escape. I had no revolver, but I said this to frighten them. Healy struggled to get away, and we both fell, when I got on the top of him. Healy was eventually secured. The village chowkidars got hold of Warner, and secured him without any trouble. I found on the person of Warner a Bible and an envelope containing a currency note (much soiled) for Rs. 10, Rs. 12 in silver, and Re. 18 in small coin; also a few buttons and some other things. Nothing was found on Healy. The silver I turned in for food, etc., as I had fallen short of money.

Healy himself, who is a daring villain, testifies to the merit of his captor. No European officer, he said in Court, could have succeeded in seizing him as did Baboo Preo Nath Mookerjee.

MRS. PERCIVAL SPENCER has announced his second flight. The place chosen is the Race course, time next Tuesday. This time he will make his own gas.

*Holloway's Pills and Ointment.*—Rheumatism and Gout.—These purifying and soothing remedies deserve the earnest attention of all persons liable to gout, sciatica, or other painful affections of the muscles, nerves, or joints. The Ointment should be applied after the affected parts have been patiently fomented with warm water, when the Ointment should be diligently rubbed upon the adjacent skin, unless the friction causes pain. Holloway's Pills should be simultaneously taken to diminish pain, reduce inflammation, and purify the blood. This treatment abates the violence, and lessens the frequency of gout, rheumatism, and all spasmodic diseases which spring from hereditary predisposition, or from any accidental weakness of constitution. The Ointment checks the local malady, while the Pills restore vital power.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE sensational news of the week is that Colonel Nisbet, the Resident, has been put in possession of certain letters incriminating the Maharaja of Cashmere in a series of treasonable practices and a plot to poison the late Resident, Mr. Plowden. Colonel Nisbet has come down to Calcutta with the letters. It is all bosh, of course. Sir John Gorst, in the House of Commons, on the 14th, announced that the Government of India attach very little importance to the letters. These letters, it is said, were among the papers made over by the dismissed Dewan Luchman Das to Mr. Spitta, the Lahore barrister, who was employed to clear his conduct and to have him reinstated. Mr. Spitta dying, his widow, knowing no better use of them, disposed of these letters to a native, who, in his turn, revealed them to the Resident. Here, then, is a touch of romance in this bold intrigue to upset the administration, even at the risk of sacrificing the State. The word being passed, the *claqueurs* keep up the chorus of applause. Once the *Pioneer* introduced to the world the first crude story, they all (the Allahabad journal included) set to lick it into decent shape and proportions. Much skill has been exercised to give it *vraisemblance*. It is even said that the Maharaja "did not attempt to deny the charges thus laid against him, but himself proposed a plan under which he should abdicate the *gudde*." The said complicity of the Maharaja is now attributed to his feebleness and his absolute resignation to opium and astrologists. Maharaja Pertap Sing is not responsible for what he has done. It matters little whether he is or not. Anything is good enough for a plea to shunt a native Prince out of the way. It is proposed not to depose the Ruler of Cashmere, on proof of guilt, but to deprive him of his sovereign powers as a lunatic, and appoint a Council of Regency over the State.

It is evident enough that many ingenious if not ingenuous people would be glad to get high and lucrative appointments.

IN appreciation of the Fund started in India by the Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava, Her Majesty has presented her Ladyship the Order of Victoria and Albert. The decoration is enhanced by an autograph letter.

THE Parnell Commission has closed, as regards the evidence on behalf of the *Times*. The perjurer and forger of the Parnell Letters, Pigott, has committed suicide. Another important witness, Coffey, an Irish journalist, deposed to the Commission that the statement he had made to the *Times*' solicitor and signed, connecting the Land League and Irish Members of Parliament with crime, was a fabrication, intended to deceive the *Times* and mislead the Government. For the breakdown of the evidence regarding the Parnell Letters, the Eighty Club gave a banquet at which Earl Spencer and Mr. Parnell were the chief guests. The Earl complimented the Irish leader on the vindication of his character. Mr. Parnell, who was received with an "ovation," reiterated that England and Ireland were indissolubly linked. Lord Rosebery characterized the occasion as historic and said that it signalled the burying of ancient national animosity.

THE order for the exile of Duc D'Aumale has been withdrawn by the French Cabinet, the Chamber of Deputies by a large majority upholding the action.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL Sir Charles Warren has been drafted to the Straits Settlements Command.

SOME names are unfortunate as easily liable to corruption, and if appropriate the corruption sticks. The legal profession abounds in examples. What an ungracious name to begin with was Dunning, suggestive of pettifoggery, of importunate boring of clients and solicitors and friends. The evil Fates of Nomenclology pursue the man even after success, so that when he is raised to the peerage, he assumes the no very promising name of Wedderburne, as if one heard *Order(to)burn*. Sir Vicary Gibbs, the terrible Attorney-General, acquired the pat but far from pet name of Sir *Vinegar* Gibbs. To take a contemporary instance, Huddleston is bad enough for any one, without pointed manipulation by suffering wit. It is a formidable name for a judicial dignitary in especial. It must have been simply

galling to one presiding with prudence and temper. It would seem that, in course of time, there has sprung up an accommodation between the individual and this label. By dint of practice, doubtless, the old Baron has brought himself down to the level of his name. Of late, he is indeed gone to *Hurl-stoning* from the bench at the head of luckless juniors appearing before it.

THE Home Correspondent of the *Indian Planters' Gazette* relates:—

"In a case before the Divisional Court last week a junior barrister, whose practice is not so great as he may desire and deserve, was arguing that a 'commercial clerk' when out of employment should not be described as a 'commercial clerk' in a bill of sale. Said Baron Huddleston shortly: 'A barrister is a barrister whether he has any practice or not' (laughter), and upon the counsel mildly observing that he did not think that comparison applied, retorted, 'Then take the case of a scavenger' (more laughter, of course). The kid gloves were not very visible here, and in another case, a few days before, the Baron, commenting on an argument which had been suggested, said that he was 'astonished that any one should be so obtuse as to put it forward' There was certainly some excuse for his impatience here, as, if I remember, the argument was that the conductor of a tramcar might have 'implied authority from his employers to hit people in the eye,' but it has always been one of the traditions of the judicial bench to err on the side of politeness, especially towards the members of that noble army of martyrs, the junior bar."

Well said, Mr. London Correspondent! Well may the camp of the briefless be called the noble army of martyrs! But has it always been the tradition of the judicial bench in Great Britain to err on the side of politeness, especially towards the junior bar? We thought the tradition was the other way. We understood it to be one of the privileges of ermine to tear to tatters and insult all stuffs below silk, unless protected by the prestige of age or what is better than all—eminent success. The juniors were the special butt of ridicule. The Indian practice, at any rate, contradicts the writer. It is the favourite pastime of the Judges to try the patience of unfledged advocates and stuttering forensic orators. Baboo lawyers are, of course, the most welcome victims. Even smart young Civil Servants do not scruple to lay bold hands on them.

THE Indian Press has caught a "lion" or rather lioness and is exhibiting it in the Lady of Gondal in the Bombay Presidency. At the last annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of the girls' school at Gondal patronised by her, she made a speech exhorting the girls to imitate the example of Maitri, Gargi, Lila and other Aryan women of distinction of old in which, she said, it was better to be virtuous without earning than to become learned and vicious. Upon the strength of this respectable if not very novel sentiment, the *Indian Mirror* makes her out a prodigy scarcely recognizable by her good lord. "The Thakore of Gondal has in his spouse a remarkable lady of culture and refinement." It were a great satisfaction to know that we had among us at least one such superior representative of the gentle sex. Unfortunately, our contemporary, even with the help of the Wandering Parsee, is no judge of the matter. The same paper proceeds—"She is well versed in English and Sanskrit, and intends 'mastering' the French language" as if it were all a joke. Well-versed in English and Sanskrit, besides her own vernacular. If the lady has any feminine vanity, she will hardly be thankful for a compliment which presupposes a considerable length of years. At any rate, taking him at his own word, the editor has made out a case for vacating his seat in favour of the object of his adulation. He ventures into detail about the Sanskrit learning of the lady, with what success the intelligent reader may see. "She has already made considerable progress in the study of the *Vedanta* and the *Puranas*." Has she? Then she is indeed a philosopher in petticoat! Perhaps, we may expect her to come to Benares for the *Sankhya*, and to Nuddea for the *Nyaya*. The *Vedanta* and the *Puranas* do not well consist. But the poor *Mirror* cannot be expected to know the difference. We will only quote the concluding remark—"We earnestly wish to see the wife of every Native Prince following in the footsteps of the Rani of Gondal." May Vishnu and Indra save our poor Princes! Considering the education of the typical Indian Chief, Hindu or Mussulman, the question will occur to every man of experience—what will he do with a blue-stocking for wife?

A MADRAS District Judge is forcing himself to notice. A party having applied for and obtained a copy of a decree passed by Judge Thorburn (for instituting an appeal in the High Court) lost it and applied for another copy, paying the necessary stamps and copying fees. The Registrar (sheristadar), in due course of business, granted



the application and the decree was copied and the document was about to be handed over, when the Judge heard of the matter. All at once he flew into a rage. He suspected the ministerial agency of collusion. He certainly ruled it illegal to grant a second copy. He would not allow it. To relieve himself of all anxiety on that head, with the promptitude of an Inquisitor, he had the document burnt to ashes—by the common hangman, notwithstanding the crying protests of the applicant and his counsel. That may not be law or sense, but it looks like zeal. He did not, however, pass any orders on the fees received. Are they to be received for a Fund for supplying men to coach Indian Judges in their duties? The High Court has called upon Mr. Thorburn to report on the facts stated in the affidavit of the petitioner.

THE public offices under the Government of Bengal, within the new municipal Calcutta, with the exception of the offices of the Collector of Customs, the Collector of Stamp Revenue, the Shipping Master, the Registrar of Assurances, and the Salt Rowannah Department of the Board of Revenue, were closed yesterday on account of the elections. The Chief Judge of the Small Cause Court was applied to to close the Court, but he would not accede to the request. The Lieutenant-Governor was next moved—in vain. The great Mahadeo of the Administration would not move. Sir Stuart Bayley declined to interfere with the discretion of Mr. Millet. Weak! Here was just the occasion on which the Judge's discretion was not worth anything in particular, and on which the Executive Government might well interfere with the Court, to good purpose, but, nevertheless, the Lieutenant-Governor shrinks from exercising *his* discretion for fear of giving offence to officocracy—the fortunate men who divide the loaves and fishes between themselves. Yesterday was an epochal day in Calcutta, when not only the new Act which annexes to it the Suburbs and changes the municipal constitution, was first tried, but the experiment of voting *in propria persona* at the polling station was introduced. No sympathetic ruler who knows the people and cares for the great experiment, would think of grudging the trifling indulgence for facilitating it. The Chief Justice of the High Court was more complaisant, if not absolutely sympathetic, but he could not rise to the height of the argument. He gave one hour's leave, holding Court from 12 O'clock in the day.

THE elections yesterday went off quietly. There were no street fights and the appearance of thoroughfares was such as to preclude all idea that a new Corporation was being ushered into existence by the suffrages of the people. At the polling stations, however, there was more excitement than on previous occasions, for this time the voters had to attend personally to elect their representatives. But for the arrangements made, greater enthusiasm would have been visible. These prevented any gathering of voters or lookers on. The list of voters published does not give a true idea of the electoral strength of the town. It was carelessly and hastily done up. The dead were not eliminated. The living have been ignored. The corrections were made at haphazard. It is a real grievance that timely notice was not issued from the Municipal office. Everything was reserved, as if of purpose, till the last moment. The numerous and important class of owners of the soil and fixtures thereon—the only class having a permanent state in the town—has been disfranchised wholesale. House owners, as such, have been deprived of their power of voting. Every application for registration of name for the list was disallowed, because the name given was not in the assessment books of the Corporation; in other words, because no application for change of name had been made in time—in times past. The Chairman, it seems, was bent on economy and left it to the candidates to rouse the town for the election. In ordinary times, this extraordinary indifference would have been embarrassing enough. There being a change in the law, the candidates were at a loss how to proceed for want of necessary knowledge. The arrangements, however, for the polling were not in keeping with the previous action of the Chairman. Here Sir Henry Harrison was more awake to the convenience of the public. Each Ward had its own station and each candidate his own table, and instructions were issued to the polling officers not to allow any crowd round the tables to interrupt the business of the day. The schools of the town were chiefly utilised for the polling stations. Three of the Wards had no polling stations, for there was no contest. At the commencement of the polling, as soon as it was observable how the contest would lie, in 3 or 4 Wards the superfluous candidates announced their with-

drawal—a prudent step in their own interests and to the relief of the other candidates and the polling officers. In the other Wards—notably in our own Eleven—the contest was kept up till 6 in the evening when the polling closed. Two of the native candidates had employed European agents to canvass for them. One of them attempted the European style, and would have perhaps gone the whole hog, if he had to deal with European electors. The Chairman will scrutinize the votes, and dispose of objections recorded, before he would be prepared to announce the result in the Gazette.

WE are glad to learn that Mysore will not part with its indigenous post office without a struggle. A memorial from the inhabitants, in course of preparation for submission to the Viceroy, protests against the abolition of the Anche, as the Mysore postal system is locally called. Established in the middle of the 17th century, by the sovereign of the time Devaraj Oors, in 1659, it has stood the revolutions of ages, and continue to this day to give satisfaction. It is venerable from time and level to the means of a simple agricultural community. It is probably the cheapest post in the world. Mysore may well be proud of it. It would be a pity if such a fine relic of the past were ruthlessly destroyed.

WE heard from our Hyderabad correspondent that Moulvi Mehdi Hasan's friends have given out, that as a consequence of Mr. Howell's opposition to, and defeat on, Mehdi Hasan's scheme for the settlement of the Deccan Mining business, he is to be removed. There is a general anxiety in consequence. If Mr. Howell is transferred at this moment, it will be the greatest possible triumph for Mehdi Hasan, and the entire administration of the Deccan will, as a matter of course, pass into his hands. This surely will not be a desirable result. Whatever may be the decision of the Supreme Government in the Mining business, it will, in our opinion, be highly unwise to make a change in the Office of Resident, at the present critical moment.

THE *Madras Mail*, in a recent issue, recommends, that the post of Prime Minister of the Hyderabad State, which can only be filled by one of the leading noblemen, should be abolished. Our contemporary's idea is that the Nizam should himself assume his own administration and carry it out through one or more secretaries, selected from the ablest of his officers, and with the help and advice of a Council, to which all the chief noblemen should be appointed.

Such an arrangement will lead to only one result. From what we know of the Nizam's capacity and inclination to work, we cannot believe that it will conduce to the good government of his state, if the chief executive authority is reposed in his hands and taken out of those of a nobleman of high rank, who is responsible for the same—and in reality transferred to men like the Mehdis and Hasans who are quite irresponsible and unfit for being placed in such an important position. We have reason to believe that neither the Nizam, nor the leading noblemen of Hyderabad, are in favor of the scheme put forward by the *Madras Mail*. All that is required is, that the Government, through the Resident, exercise a healthy influence and supervision over the doings of the Prime Minister, and hold the latter responsible for the proper administration of the State, compelling him to vacate the high office, in case he is found wanting in satisfactorily discharging his important duties. Such an attitude on the part of the Supreme Government would surely urge the Prime Minister to work hard and fulfil the duties he is bound to perform; and in case he found himself incapable of doing justice to his important post, he would himself willingly resign, and save farther injury to his reputation and position. It would then be the duty of the Supreme Government to select another nobleman who might be found to be the ablest among the leaders of Hyderabad society, and recommend him to the Nizam to fill the high office.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1889.

### OFFICIAL DACOITY.

BEFORE time is given to regain our character from earth-grabbing and looting propensities as shown in the uncalled for annexation of Upper Burma, and the more recent scandals of our relations with the

Hyderabad Court, we are startled with the impudent and malicious reports from Cashmere of an attempt to poison Mr. Plowden, late Resident at the Court of the Maharajah, promising us another *Coup d'état* equal to that of Baroda in 1875, under the régime of Lord Northbrook, which resulted in the deposition of Mulhar Rao.

It would be premature, in the meantime, to express any opinion in the matter, and a piece of monstrous injustice to the Chief whose name is sought to be attainted with such a crime, to do other than receive the reports now in circulation, with the utmost reserve and caution. It can scarcely be believed that Lord Lansdowne, who must have before him the judicial farce played by Lord Northbrook in 1875 at Baroda, will commit himself to another act of such infamous magnitude, which called forth at that time the unanimous condemnation of all right-thinking men.

The particulars of the deposition of Mulhar Rao, are probably still fresh in the memory of many of our readers. The writer never entertained any doubt, that Mulhar Rao's fall was due to a conspiracy to oust him by ambitious rivals, and it is by means of a similar conspiracy the Chief of Cashmere is now sought to be made a victim of. Whether Lord Lansdowne, like Lord Northbrook, will be so self-willed and prematurely infer a crime had been premeditated, is not easy to say. In the case now before us, there is however no analogy. Colonel Phayre, then Resident at Baroda, was, at the time the conspiracy was hatched and worked to an issue, still an occupant of the Residency, who conceived his life to be in danger. Whereas in the present case, the discovery to poison Mr. Plowden is not made until he has left Cashmere, the task to do so falling to Colonel Nisbet, his successor. The outcome of this tardy and fishy discovery, and the Colonel's flight to Calcutta can only be set down to Colonel Nisbet's timidity—a proof positive, if need be for any, of his inefficiency to hold so highly important a post.

Like Colonel Phayre, Colonel Nisbet imagined himself surrounded by murderers and assassins. If medically examined, he might be found to be a victim of monomania, and as such has conceived, too, the idea that his life is in danger, and has fled to Calcutta. Can there be anything more cowardly than the act Colonel Nisbet has been guilty of, of abandoning his post to subordinates and seeking his own safety in flight from what at most can only be an imaginary evil? It is not an attempt to poison Colonel Nisbet that has come to light, but Mr. Plowden. What better proof is required that the man is quite unfit for any post, requiring the greatest amount of political tact at the court he is accredited to?

That the difficulties Government meet with, in satisfying all parties, is great, the writer does not deny. At the same time the writer does deny that the best methods are adopted by Government to secure this end. The sending of Colonel Nisbet to so high and important a post, is another of the endless scandals, daily bringing the Government into contempt; and as surely as any attempt is made, to make stock out of silly instincts of an incapacitated political officer, so surely will the world say, the Indian Government is wilfully blind to the loyalty of another of its native Chiefs, seeking only to crush and plunder.

Where our lust for lucre and clamour for annexation will stop, the man is not yet born who would dare say. Our latest dacoity, the annexation of Upper Burma, has not by any means proved a bed of roses,

and to any one knowing anything of that country, the continued unsettled state of the districts, in and around Mandalay, will not be wondered at, when the writer makes known the colossal dacoity perpetrated by officials of all classes on the annexation of the country, from the Viceroy down to the lowest Tommy Atkins.

It may not be generally known, our latest dacoity move was made but a few days ago by Sir Charles Crosthwaite, Chief Commissioner of Burma. It consisted of the Tsawba of Theebaw being asked to make over his ruby mines and forest districts to the British Government, which he very manfully declined to do.

The whole business from first to last in the annexation of Upper Burma, was one gigantic dacoity accompanied by endless murders condoned by the Indian Government, largely in the interests of a corporate body of merchants known as the Bombay Burma Trading Corporation, but who, happily for the body corporate, number not a few officials. Poison was not the scare that brought about annexation, but something very much less insensitive: Mons. Haas, the hairbrained Frenchman and his tall talk of French Banks, Railway shams, imaginary steamers and customs collections to recoup Theebaw and his Government!

Never was there a more elaborate budget of nonsense combined, than in the causes assigned for the Burmese War. It is a false pretence, as the writer will yet prove, that the war was declared to checkmate French intrigues. The simple truth, which will yet be universally recognised, is that the war was declared, to a great extent, in the interests of the corporate body known as the Bombay Burma Trading Corporation Limited, who had done Theebaw out of some twenty or thirty lacs of rupees, and who could keep their Rupees and their character only by involving the king in ruin.

ZITO.

#### THE NATIVE DAILY JOURNALISM.

We see the *Hindu* is about to realise the ambition of years. Started a weekly ten years ago, it, after the experience and success of six years, advanced itself to a thrice-a-week concern, and now, after four years of that chrysalis state, it confidently offers to make a daily appearance. We are not of the amiable folk who are always ready to take optimistic views of every sounding project or worthy undertaking. This kind of newspaper progress in especial, we are apt to regard with some distrust. Our habitual readers must be aware of a neat theory of our own of the biological evolution in the native Press. But that has nothing to do in this connection. It is a true development this of the *Hindu*. There is no humbug about our Madras brother's professions. It means what it says, and will do what it offers to do. Its success is real and thoroughly merited. The expression of the best mind of the South, it is a solid paper which would be appreciated in Great Britain, specially in Scotland. We only hope it will, in the new shape, maintain its status. That is not a joke, we can tell our colleagues. It is one thing to be a weekly, or any other more *quickly*, paper, and another to be a daily. The editorial writing may be somewhat hasty and the observations insufficiently considered, but the news must be copious and fresh from all the important centres in the country—in India, Ceylon, Burma, and from the frontiers and beyond them and from the chief places abroad. The present

*Hindu* does not show many connections in that respect, though, as it is, it is a semi-daily paper, there being an issue every other day, Sunday excepted. It is better to have no correspondence than such as obtains in our native press, including our own paper, supplied by striplings who force their services on you in exchange for a copy of your paper free, and doubtless also for the opportunity of advertising themselves in their little local circles, and bullying any weakly native officials in their neighbourhood. It shows the miserable condition of the native Press that it should depend on such a frail reed in such an important particular. Above all, there should be a free use of the telegraph. All this means a great outlay. We dare say the proprietors have made up their minds for it. If they go in for it with spirit and enterprise as well as capital, their success is certain—even in a financial sense. For, there will then soon be one European morning journal the less. We dwell on the subject at this rate, because it is just possible that our friends are being urged to this venture in view of an unfortunate model in the North with an unhappy motto *veluti in speculum*—apparently adopted, or at least made good, on the *lucus a non lucendo* principle. The *Hindu* is far better as it is. There is no comparison between the two in thought or expression—between the weighty well-reasoned comments of the Madras paper and the wordy inanity of the Calcutta print. Even in news, this queer product of daily journalism had not, because it cares not to take, the start of the every other day paper. In this comparison, the *Hindu* is, to its own surprise, doubtless, lifted up to the position of a Fabian of journalism winning by delay. So disgusted indeed are the Calcutta paper's own supporters, that there is a serious proposition in town to start a well written respectable paper that should be a true morning journal with its own telegrams and special correspondents. It is better to have a good fortnightly paper like, say, the *Indian Express*, than a regular breakfast of cold meat and *réchauffé* all the year round. To our discredit no doubt, that is the only native daily. But this is nothing to the disgrace of multiplication of such journalism. A single example may be explained away, and may be accepted, as an accident. Another will tend to fix the character of our diurnal journalism. We trust Madras will save us such a calamity. Let it not be supposed that we throw cold water on our contemporary's project. It is a worthy ambition, and we only wish it to be worthily executed. We will hail with sincere joy the *Hindu* appearing in the glory of a daily broadsheet. All the more, because we are sick of its present chronological arrangements. This thrice-a-week business is an anomaly and a nuisance. It is a disagreeable halt between two termini. It is neither one thing nor another. Unquestionably, the timing does influence the conduct, and we often see characteristics which are not reducible to classification. There is neither the direct hammering of the morning leader, nor always the sober calculation of the Saturday. Twice a week is bad enough, but the perfection of irrationality is reached by the thrice-a-week appearance. Everything is against it, and there is not a single point in its favour. As it cannot go back, we shall be glad to see our contemporary well out of its hole.

The *Hindu* venture in daily journalism in the South is, we believe, opportune. The soil has been prepared by years of education of the people. Even more than the schoolmaster, has the journalist pro-

voked that thirst for knowledge of every-day facts about ourselves and other peoples, which is the great supporter of the Press. The Congress and, above all, the agitation about it have done the rest. Even realising the high ideal, on which in all friendliness we insist, the new daily comes into the field at a propitious hour. Every body is able to advise the beauty of the ideal—the difficulty is to find the means. Sterling special correspondence and occasional secret information require money. Telegrams, long and frequent, are a most costly affair. It requires, therefore, a mint of money in these days to launch with complaisance a diurnal broadsheet. Fortunes are every year sunk in England on new daily journals, which required even larger fortunes to succeed. That too is the experience of existing flourishing journals like the *Daily Telegraph*. The *Times* is just now going through a fortune in this Parnell business. Roundly speaking, the forged letters were got for a lac of rupees, while the expenses of Commission and all must amount to some four lacs. That may be exceptional, but the normal disbursements on the daily press are on a magnificent scale. Dr. Russell and Mr. Forbes received for their work as correspondents the wages of ambassadors. There too it may be urged that the thing is in every sense *special*. Well, even so that *speciality* is an every day phenomenon, and the proprietary must always be ready for the contingency. But, over and above the occasional heavy drain caused by war or other very exciting events, there is a regular expenditure on a large scale on the ordinary suppliers of news called "specials," and on telegrams. Thus the *Times* maintains Blowitz on a fat stipend. In fact, the difficulty of new ventures has always been to compete with these standing Pioneers of the Press. Ingenuity has however tried to conquer the stumbling block.

We have only one suggestion to offer. Is it not possible to change the name? It is too denominational. The days of sectarianism and clan feeling are passed for the English-speaking natives. The particular banners serve to keep up the civil feud.

#### THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

##### VIII.

##### *The beginning of the end: The European Workers*

Mr. Eardley Norton.—Tall and slim, with prominent, floating eyes and a remarkably intellectual countenance, a well-shaved visage and affable manners, you will do him wrong to judge him by his years. The worthy son of a worthy father, from whom he seems to have inherited both his principles and his passions, a noble and a precious legacy by the way, he likes the people without ignoring their failings and, what is more, he is distinguished by an eminent desire to serve them. What his father taught by his utterances and, above all, by the example of a lifelong career of usefulness, he sedulously continues to teach from the public platform. He never speaks but has some revelation to make, and in the art of keeping his audience spell-bound, he is an adept. Master of an inimitably racy and graceful style, he has few equals in India as a first rate party speaker. Few knew this before his famous letters to the *Hindu* appeared. As he spoke on the Public Service Resolution, he seemed to possess no art and no address; but the effect of his able speech was there—deep and profound. He delivered his speech, as a lawyer, who has carefully studied his brief, speaks before the Court. But as he speaks he goes on inflicting wounds of bitter satire on the enemy. He has, however, very little of Mr. Legality in him. He is bluntly outspoken, and he would not let prudence dictate where honesty and honourable conduct is in jeopardy. His heart is ever on his lips. His outspokenness sometimes lapses into rudeness; but it is rudeness of a kind which awakens

sympathy for him in our breast, rather than excites our anger. And although Mr. Digby said Mr. Norton would have done well to have left unsaid what he said about Raja Siva Prasad, none can gainsay that he echoed a universal feeling when he asked Siva Prasad to settle with his conscience to do what he should! At one time it was feared that it might be imitated and prove "the little rift within the lute." He did not even spare Mr. Mudaliar and Mr. Justice Mitter. You must be, like Caesar's wife, above suspicion, or there is no escape from him. But he does not, like Don Quixote, tilt at every windmill he comes across:

Satire's my weapon, but I'm too discreet  
To run amuck, and tilt at all I meet.

When somebody pointed out to Mr. Norton that the *Pioneer* had found fault with his tall hat, he is reported to have said that he did not grudge the writer the pastime. It was hardly a compliment he paid to the writer when he, alluding to him, said that he pitied him that he had nothing better to write upon than to criticise the form of his hat. It proved that there was no flaw in his arguments! But, whatever the youngsters may say, it can hardly be denied that cold, calculating, cautious, crafty old men of the stamp of Sir T. Madhava Rao, our Nestor, would not like to see his rough plain-speaking imitated by those that do not belong to the governing class. And there is good reason for it. Lacking Mr. Norton's abilities and tact, any other man would make a mess of it were he to imitate his uncompromising bluntness of speech.

Mr. J. E. Howard. I think I am not exaggerating when I say that this mellifluous speaker had no equal in mere oily eloquence. Considering that only a week before he had lost his wife, we are filled with admiration for the warmth and sincerity of the man. When he was himself the object of sympathy of people, he came and practically sympathised with us. He had had entrusted to him the resolution for the separation of the executive and judicial functions, and such consummate ability did he shew in discharging his trust, that I do not know if people were charmed more by his eloquence than by the inexorable logic of facts with which his speech teemed. His long experience of thirty years challenged people's attention to what he said; and when I say that people envied his extraordinary and ready powers, and the flowing facility of his speech, I only mean to quote Gay who said, "envy is a kind of praise." At least, in Mr. Howard's case, our poet Laureate is not true when he says that

He makes no friend who never made a foe;

for, if I know him rightly, he has no foe. Kind and courteous alike to all, he at once disarms anger and dissipates misapprehension. He is also a deep-read scholar. His knowledge of English literature has elicited many complimentary remarks even from high quarters which, as we know, are very loath to praise. That his ideas and notions are lofty, his instincts generous, his motives unquestionably high and his advice safe and sound, will be evident from the following extract from his speech:—

"This triumph of the moral force is the proof that right must win in the end. I would ask you to find no fault with your enemies, to resort to no angry declamation and no heated remonstrance, but to be patient, persistent and true to yourselves. Not by violence or noise have the great things of the earth been achieved; not by ambition or self-seeking can a nation's life be regenerated; but by calm undomitable adherence to that moral force which is the supreme reason, by implanting in all with whom you may have contact, that you look for eventual triumph to these means, and these only: and the moral power which has made the English nation glorious throughout an empire on which it has been well and truly said the sun never sets, is the power to which you trust for the triumph of the great principles of moral freedom. (Cheers, prolonged and loud)."

Mr. John Adam.—Earnest and forcible, this Madras educationist is a very effective speaker. He spoke on the resolution regarding education. His was one of the most literary speeches. He vehemently criticised the Government's retrograde policy of squeamish penny-wise and pound-foolish economy. "What we desire is, to extend primary education, to broaden secondary education, and maintain, to its fullest extent, higher education." I shall make no apology to make a lengthened excerpt from his speech. Hear then the defence of education, of this veteran educationist:

"We are continually told that we Congress-wallahs are only educated men and represent only an educated minority. 'Reproach it is intended to be, though I consider it of the highest honour—but such it is remove all grounds for the accusation by striving to turn that minority

into a majority. But you have a higher reason for desiring the spread of education—look back and what but education has given you all that amount, and it is no small amount—of liberty which you now possess. Education has brought you here, education has taught you the value of representation, and education has given you men fit to act as your representatives (hear, hear). And why should Government recognise it as their duty to foster education? Why because education if it has taught you to value liberty has also taught you the midgulf between liberty and licence; if it has taught you to know your rights and knowing, dare maintain, it has taught you how to use and not abuse them; if it has taught you to pray for privileges, it has taught you their value, and inspired you with gratitude and loyalty to the giver (applause). It is owing to education that the old India is being rung out and the new India is being rung in (applause), not as in France, in America, aye, in England herself, by the tocsin clang heralding revolution and rebellion, but by the silver chimes proclaiming liberty and law. (Cheers).—Education is the fairy prince of the beautiful allegory, written as with prophetic prescience of to-day by the greatest poets of our time. Education is the fairy prince who with his magic touch has awakened the sleeping liberty of India, and the sleeper awakening, has found with her deliverer that union which we have to strengthen more and more with the perfect day. How does the poet express it:—

And on her lover's arm she lent  
And round her waist she felt its fold,  
And far across the hills they went,  
In that new world which is the old.  
And o'er them many a shining star  
And many a merry wind was born,  
And steamed through many a golden bar  
The twilight brightened into morn."

To add anything more of my own, would be to mar its effect, and disturb its pleasing harmony.

Mr. Pringle Kennedy.—This meritorious Mozufferpore pleader produced the most pleasing impression upon his auditors. He does not glory in the possession of a strong or a sweet voice, but he has something which amply compensates for them both. It has seldom been my lot to hear a more powerful debater. His satire, his epigrammatic turn of expression, his quaint thought and hardly less quaint humour, were fully appreciated by the delegates. His likening the Police to ever-hungry watch-dogs elicited cheers, and his reference to it as the department which does whatever it is forbidden to do and does not do whatever it is required to do, also prompted several rounds of applause. He was one of those who most strongly opposed the resolution on the Arms Act. He believed the third clause was a purely sentimental request. "To ask the Government to repeal the Arms Act because it is a slur on our loyalty is about as reasonable as to ask to have the section of the Penal Code relating to theft repealed because it is a slur on the honesty of the thriving classes—(Laughter). The whole course of civilisation was to debar man from wearing arms except when it is absolutely necessary. I think that the Europeans should be compelled to take out a license equally with natives of India." He concluded by pointing out that, although Lord Ripon was a great friend to the people, he never took any steps towards the repeal of the Arms Act, which showed that it was no slur. To the merciless satire of Mr. Kennedy on Mr. S. N. Banerjee's "casting an unmerited slur upon our devoted loyalty," I may be permitted to add: it is also an unmerited slur upon the chastity of our women to keep them confined within the four-walls of an air-tight zenana. Will Mr. Banerjee consent in a day to emancipate the female members of his family and let them see the broad light of day? I think, not.† Mr. Kennedy is one of those promising young men of whom India expects much, and expects not to be disappointed.

Mr. F. T. Atkins.—Knowing as people did the antecedents of this gentleman, they were in fear lest he should play fast and loose again. He had been as inconstant as a shadow, and as fleeting and flimsy as well as anything. But by his conduct he proved himself better than his antecedents. It amused me considerably to see him shake his head and shrug his shoulders in doubt that, after all, Siva Prasad may not prove as true as his professions. This threw me into a thoughtful mood of mind, and made me draw an analogy between these two. I was at last persuaded to exonerate Mr. Atkins from all blame and set his conduct during the Ilbert Bill Agitation days down to misguided enthusiasm and error of judgment. In any case, the late Mr. White (may his ashes rest in peace!) saw before his death that he was in the right and his rival of Allahabad was wrong. There is naturally joy over one

\* Why not?—ED. R. & R.

† "B" does not know his man.—ED. R. & R.

erring brother that repenteth. So his last days must have passed a little more pleasantly than it would otherwise do. None but those who have lived and fought for a long-cherished principle, know what inexpressible joy it gives to find their rivals coming round. Well, he brought with him to the Congress a reputation (*sic*) for being a powerful demagoguish speaker. And although he gave what seemed to many an artificial nasal tone and flourish to his words, and brought into requisition his swinging hands and violent gestures, yet he showed, by his sensible speech, that he could also prove himself to be as sensible a speaker as any body could be. The history of this self-made man is remarkable. From a humble myrmidon in the service of the E. I. Railway Company, he has lived to produce the most pronounced influence upon his community. With a certain section of the people, his words carry great weight. He was received with open arms, and at the railway station Babus Norendra and Surendra Nath spoke to him long and very courteously.

On life's vast ocean diversely we sail,

Reason the card, but passion is the gale.

Mr. Atkin's adhesion teaches us that we should take great care of this passion-gale, that it may not sweep away our reason-card.

Captain Hearsey—will be known not so much for his words as for his deeds. He appropriately quoted the well-known and oft-quoted lines of Byron with great effect. It is to be pitied that he who advised us to adopt "perfectly legal and constitutional methods," should, within little more than a month, be vegetating within a prison-cell for a conduct contrary to his advice. I once met him at the railway station with another distinguished friend, when he bitterly complained to us of our indifference to him. He once suffered in his pocket, he said, for us, and he would again go to prison for us. He was then yet in high hopes of getting the whole proceedings quashed as being irregular; but his cheering hopes proved to be more delusive than real. We should deeply sympathise with him in his incarceration and period of trial. He was another of those who opposed the Arms Act resolution.

Captain Banon. His heartwhole devotion to his duty, self-imposed though it was and perhaps for the reason all the more dear, was truly heroic and soldier-like. He spared neither time, nor talents, nor energy, to work for the Congress for the last month and more. And considering that his speech on the Congress was, as I happen to know, his *debut* before the public, he ought to be congratulated upon his success. Having long and tangled locks of hair, and leading a retired *yog* life, he, bustling about here and there, became the "observed of all observers." I would not say, "a curiosity." He spoke with great physical effort, loudly straining his lungs. Like Captain Hearsey, he is an able, though rather violent, writer.

B.

## THE MAHOMEDAN EDUCATIONAL CONGRESS.

SIR AHMED AND MR. CHISTI.

There appears to be some sensation in the up-country Urdu papers regarding a petty quarrel (if it can be so-called) between the Guru of the Necharis and his Punjabi Chela. This latter is the same individual who was allowed to create a fuss last year among the Mahomedan schoolboys in Calcutta to serve party purposes, and who was declared by the leader of the Nationalist Mahomedans to be an orator, a profound scholar and consummate journalist. No one could guess at the time why he was so much pushed on and imposed upon the public, as the real worth and the qualities of the man at whose lionising an unsuccessful attempt was made, were known to many who had any information about the press and the politics of the upcountry, and especially that of the Punjab and the N.-W. P. It was known in every quarter, that Mr. Chisti was wholly devoted in supporting and advocating the cause of the great Sir Syud, and that he was one of his *protégés* and very loyal adherents. His own paper and public and private utterances were in themselves reliable evidence of the above facts. Not one even of the Necharis did know or could see what mysterious changes his opinions and tenets had undergone after his visit to the metropolis of India. He was treated all this time with the confidence and tender regard which a loyal disciple always commands from his Guru and the brethren of his faith. Things went on smoothly, until the unfortunate hour for disastrous explosion came.

Grand preparations were made to hold an Educational Congress at Lahore, and the Mahomedans who do not look upon the great Syud as an infidel (Kufur) were invited from every part of the

Punjab and N.-W. P. Some attended the Congress while others could not or did not purposely go to Lahore to hear the words of wisdom and experience from the lips of the old and venerable Syud. About the time that Sir Syud was preparing to go, or whereabouts, it is alleged, he received a most impertinent and offensive letter from the Punjab threatening him. This letter was not only a very suspicious summons but a signal of alarm or a challenge for a mean sort of duel. Sir Syud mustered courage (as he was not a Babu) and went to the battle field, armed with all his arms, offensive and defensive. The remarkably cowardly and mischievous letter was critically and carefully examined by the experts of the E. C., some of whom came to the conclusion that it was in the handwriting of Mr. Chisti. He certainly disclaimed its authorship and did everything in his power to make the experts and Sir Syud change their opinion, but it is believed they could not change it. This brought about the explosion and served as a lighted candle for the fire of discussion and division. Sir Syud (as is reported) got indignant at this unexpected treatment from his loyal Punjabi disciple, and then there was an open warfare. The party divided into two, and the Congress lost its representative character even in that limited sense. The Chistis then quietly gave it out that they had abandoned the leadership of the great Syud and enlisted themselves in the ranks of the little Syud at Calcutta who had done so much for Mr. Chisti, during his last visit there, and who was an advocate of political freedom for his co-religionists. Great was the disappointment and indignation of the Syud's party at finding out that the string was being skilfully pulled from other friendly quarters outside the Punjab. It was then discussed that Sir Syud was only an educationist and opponent of the Congress and all political aspirations of the Mussalmans in their present state of education, which was lamentably backward. The Chistis, although very limited in number, declared that they had thrown in their lot with the little Syud who was a most zealous and active exponent of their political rights and privileges and who had power to coerce and force Government by his political tactics to give the Mussalmans all the butter and bread at their disposal in preference to the Hindus. The upshot of all this warm discussion was that papers (as it is now alleged) wrongly declared that there was an open rupture between the two Syuds who used to shew themselves very friendly. This was too much for either of them to hear any longer with silence, and it was found necessary to check the scandal. Disclaimers appeared in quick succession from both sides, in their special organs, and now both are profuse (to the great amusement of all Indian Mussalmans) in their expressions of good will, sincerity, and friendship towards each other and in praising each other in most complimentary terms.

It is whispered in some well informed circles that the historical interview between the two Syuds some time last year, which took place at the Great Eastern Hotel, Calcutta, had much to do with all this quarrel, which is the current topic in most of the vernacular papers in the upcountry. It is said that in that visit the younger went to the older to ask advice about his Congress, when the latter opposed the other's plan most strongly, so much so that the Syud Junior could not muster courage against the declared opposition of the Syud Senior to call the Congress, but he took some other step to make the old man feel keenly for his unwise opposition.

A. PUNJABI.

## DACCA.

Dacca, 11th March, 1889.

The friends and admirers of Mr. Luminie, the Divisional Commissioner, entertained him to an evening party on the 4th instant. The Northbrook Hall was splendidly decorated with flags, arches, &c., and the illumination was grand and imposing. Babu Sri Nath Roy, of Bhaggakul, as a local paper announces, bore the expense. The attitude of Mr. Luminie towards the educated natives of this country has always been unfriendly and hostile. Only the other day, at the opening of the Town Hall, at Mymensing, he told his audience, that the hall had not been intended for "sentimental sedition." Mr. Roy could surely make a better use of his money, than to burn incense in the worship of a setting sun that shone but did no good to any one.

Mr. Castle, the Assistant District Superintendent of Dacca, has been transferred to Patna. The mournful tale of his official high-handedness laid bare, week after week, in the columns of the "Garib," must have touched a sympathetic cord in every heart that can feel. But, after all, these performances of the boy Assistant do not go unrecognised by our paternal Government; for he goes on promotion. The Dacca public, however, may thank their stars for his removal from the town.

Babus Rup Lal Das and Raghu Nath Das have filed criminal information against the editors, printers and proprietors of the "Garib" and the "Dacca Prokash" newspapers, for certain alleged libellous statements contained in certain articles which appeared in those two papers. They are in connection with the visit of Lord





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# Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1880.

} No. 390

## CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

### LICENSED TO DO WHAT?

LICENSED to make the strong man weak ;  
Licensed to lay the wise man low ;  
Licensed a wife's fond heart to break,  
And make her children's tears to flow.

Licensed to do thy neighbour harm ;  
Licensed to kindle hate and strife ;  
Licensed to nerve the robber's arm ;  
Licensed to whet the murderer's knife

Licensed thy neighbour's purse to drain ;  
And rob him of his very last ;  
Licensed to heat his feverish brain,  
Full madness crown thy work at last

Licensed, like spider for a fly,  
To spread thy nets for man, thy prey ;  
To mock his struggles—suck him dry—  
Then cast the worthless hulk away

Licensed, where peace and quiet dwell,  
To bring disease and want and woe ;  
Licensed to make this world a hell,  
And fit man for a hell below

### YOUTH AND AGE

I OFTEN think each tottering form  
That limps along in life's decline,  
Once bore a heart as young, as warm,  
As full of idle thought, as mine ;  
And each has had its dream of joy,  
His own unequalled pure romance  
Commencing when the blushing boy  
First thrills at lovely woman's glance

And each could tell his tale of youth,  
Would think its scenes of love evince  
More passions, more unearthly truth,  
Than any tale before or since  
Yes! they could tell of tender lays  
At midnight penned in classic shades,  
Of days more bright than modern days—  
And maids more fair than modern maid—

Of whispers in a willing ear,  
Of kisses on a blushing cheek !  
Each kiss, each whisper, far too dear  
Our modern lips to speak,  
Of passions too untimely crossed ;  
Of passions slighted or betrayed—  
Of kindred spirits early lost,  
And buds that blossom but to fade.

Of beaming eyes and tresses gay,  
Elastic form and noble brow,  
And forms that have all passed away,  
And left them what we see them now ;  
And is it thus— is him in love  
So very light and frail a thing ?  
And must youth's brightest visions move  
Forever on Time's restless wing ?

Must all the eyes that still are bright,  
And all the lips that talk of bliss,  
And all the form, so fair to sight,  
Hereafter only come to this ?  
Then what are earth's best visions worth,  
If we at length must lose them thus ?  
If all we value most on earth  
Ere long must fade away from us ?

### BETTER THAN BEAUTY

My love is not a beauty  
To other eyes than mine  
Her curls are not the fairest,  
Her eyes are not divine ;  
Nor yet like rose buds parted,  
Her lips of love may be ;  
But though she is not a beauty,  
She is dear as one to me

Her neck is far from swan-like,  
Her bosom unlike now ;  
Nor walks she like a deity  
Thus bright thing could below ;  
Yet there is a light of happiness  
Within, which all may see ;  
And though she is not a beauty,  
She is dear as one to me

I would not give the kindness,  
The grace that dwells in *her* ;  
For all that Cupid's lightning  
In others might prefer !  
I would not change *her* sweetness,  
For pearls of any sea ;  
For better far than beauty  
Is one *kind heart* to me.

*Holloway's Pills.*—Weakening weather. The sultry summer days strain the nerves of the feeble and decrepit, and disease may eventuate unless some remedy, such as the purifying Pills, be found to correct the disordering tendency. Holloway's medicine gives potency to the nervous system, which is the source of all vital movements, and presides over every action which maintains the growth and well-being of the body. No one can over-estimate the necessity of keeping the nerves well strung, or the ease with which these Pills accomplish that end. They are the most unfailing antidotes to indigestion, irregular circulation, palpitation, sick headache, and costiveness, and have therefore attained the largest sale and highest reputation.

*Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.*

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THINGS must have come to a pretty pass in Southern India, when undergraduates in the country do not receive quite the wages of porters and coolies in the Presidency towns. The *Cochin Daily* notices that the Deputy Commissioner of Tanjore advertises for an Assistant Master, a matriculate for the English School at Madhavur, on the magnificent salary of seven rupees a month. It seems time enough to withdraw the schoolmaster back home.

It is some time that the Bombay Corporation voted two lacs of rupees for its building. In 1886, the grant was raised to five lacs. In the present month, the resolution is for Rs. 975,500. We begin to be seriously afraid whether the Corporation will ever get its local habitation. The building Dicks are not donkeys that they will ever think of kuling their gold and goose.

We read in the *Bangalore Spectator* :

"A gentleman residing in Infantry Road, filed a charge against his chokra boy for assaulting him in his own premises, by hitting him with a stone, giving him several blows and a kick."

These cases are now cropping up from time to time in different parts of India to the discredit of our officers and gentlemen. They tend to show not that the native servant class is getting impudent and rude and dangerous, but rather that the master class is becoming intolerably cruel.

MR. MARSDEN would not commit Warner and Healy for their escape from the Presidency Jail, as he at first led people to expect. But to mark his indignation at the laxity in the Jail, he sentenced the two friends to an additional one week's imprisonment each. We hope this will draw the attention of Government to what is being done in that House of Correction.

THE Chief Justice of the Police Bench is unquestionably a great magnate. But he is a Haoual Rashid rather than a Washington, more of a Sultan than a constitutional ruler. There are not times favourable to Sultanizing, yet he manages through all the meshes of manifold laws and regulations to indulge his proclivities and peculiarities. In these days of hindoo prebend and subervency to routine, it required no little courage in a Magistrate to show *et cathedra* sympathy for accomplished jail birds neatly slipping out of their cages. He was evidently charmed by Warner and Healy's recent exploit. We do not know if he has ever been tried by the invasion of pretty equestriennes and languishing lasses in his court. It is lucky that he is protected by stern Christian Law of matrimony, or else the appearance from time to time of a fascinating disreputable courtier, such as conquered the stern heart of Lord Stowell, might make him a veritable Caliph with a seraglio.

MR. GRATTAN GEARY, the popular Editor of the *Bombay Mail*, has early been put forward as a candidate for the Chair of the Bombay Corporation. The well known and popular Dr. Finlay, who had before, for two different terms, filled the office, declines it again, but this time he has come late in the field, and he is being overtaken by the *Rast Goffar* to retire gracefully in favour of the proconsul. We do not know whether the good Doctor will thank our contemporary for the suggestion. The two candidates are notoriously at war, and such an act will, we are told,

"show that an opposition of ideas, however vehement, and bitter between the two, has not rendered him unmindful of the interests of his opponent."

Does the *Rast Goffar* really fancy that that consideration will be any temptation to Dr. Finlay to act up to its suggestion? Is it any part of the Doctor's duty in this contest to prove to the world his great regard for Mr. Geary?

THE agitation against the Crawford Commission has begun to take effect. About half a dozen Mansfield witnesses who had been indemnified by the Bombay Government, have been deprived of their criminal powers.

ACCORDING to the *Newspaper Press Directory* for 1889, there are now published in the United Kingdom 2,176 newspapers, distributed as follows:—England, London, 463; Provinces, 1,277—1,740; Wales, 87; Scotland, 190; Ireland, 146; Isles, 23. Of these, there are 133 daily papers published in England; six daily papers published in Wales; 19 daily papers published in Scotland; 15 daily papers published in Ireland; one daily paper published in British Isles. In 1846, there were published in the United Kingdom 551 journals; of these 14 were issued daily, 12 in England and 2 in Ireland; but in 1889 there are now established and circulated 2,176 papers, of which no less than 174 are issued daily, against 14 in 1846. The magazines now in course of publication, including the quarterly reviews, number 1,593, of which more than 400 are of a decidedly religious character, representing the Church of England, Wesleyans, Methodists, Baptists, Independents, Roman Catholics, and other Christian communities.

A Race Club has been proposed for Hyderabad.

THE widow of Astronomer Proctor will draw a pension of £100 per annum. There has been a handsome private collection for the widow of Matvey Arnold.

THE Northern Division Magistrate has sentenced to four months' hard labour one Satrooy Dey for burning three women with sulphuric acid.

THE United Service Club has doubled its annual subscriptions and invited donations from its existing members, to balance the finances. The proposition to extend the scope of membership was not accepted.

It is reported from Bangalore that fair samples of rough diamond have been found in the Arskeri Taluk. Prospecting is being attempted there, and applications made for leases of land.

LORD CONNEMARA has appointed Mr. Claude Vincent his Private Secretary, Mr. J. D. Rees having made over charge on the 12th and gone on six months' furlough.

THE Government has struck at the root of one of the frauds in connection with the Simla Exodus. Orders have been issued disallowing the education grants for children of the clerks moving up to Simla this season.

THEY have started a Music Society at Allahabad with Mrs. Douglas Strachan as Secretary. Already 95 ladies and gentlemen have been enrolled as ordinary and honorary members. What of the Indian Scientific Institute of that city? Is it still in existence?

THE Allahabad Municipality have agreed to apply to Government for a loan of Rs. 1,50,000 at 4½ per cent for Water Works for that city.

MR. E. E. Lewis, Commissioner of the Rajshahiye Division, goes on six months' furlough from the 1st May next. Mr. N. S. Alexander, Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, acting for Mr. Lewis.

THE Bengal Regulation III of 1878 for the confinement of state prisoners, which came into such significant prominence during the trial of Amer Khan and Hameed ul Khan, and Acts XXXIV of 1850—for the better custody of state prisoners—and III of 1857 to amend the law relating to the arrest and detention of state prisoners, have been extended to the Dacca district and the Mahal of Angul. The Regulation also comes into operation in Kollan, in the district of Sanchal in the Chota Nagpore Division.

FOR a brief field for the Assam-Pohar State Railway, in mouza Gurhea of Hahli pergunah, zilla Bhaugpur, 10 acres 3 roods and 32·65 poles of land of standard dimensions has been declared.

THE Public Works cess for the year commencing on the 1st April 1889, has been fixed by the Lieutenant Governor at one-half of an anna in the rupee on the annual value of lands and on the annual net profits from mines, quarries, railways, and other immovable property, excepting such as may have been exempted under section 2 of the Cess Act, IX (B. C.) of 1880.

THE Viceroy, accompanied by the Private Secretary Colonel J. C. Ardagh, C.B., the Military Secretary Lieutenant-Colonel Lord William Beresford, V.C., C.I.E., Surgeon-Major E. H. Fenn, Surgeon to the Viceroy, and two Aides-de-Camp Captain the Hon'ble C. Harbord and Captain H. R. Pakenham, leaves Calcutta for Simla on Tuesday, the 2nd April, at 6-15 P.M., and arrives at Simla *via* Allahabad, Lucknow, Hurdwar and Umballa, on or about the 15th April.

TODAY'S *Gazette of India* publishes the translation of the special Regulations of the Ottoman Board of Health applicable to the Mecca pilgrimage of 1889.

MR. B. H. BADEN-POWELL, C. I. E., C. S., has been confirmed a Judge of the Punjab Chief Court, *vice* Mr. J. D. Tremlett retired, Mr. J. Fizzle, C. S., Officiating Judge, will continue to be a temporary Judge, and Mr. A. H. Benton, C. S., Divisional and Sessions Judge, Peshwar, officiates as a Judge of the Chief Court.

THE Rajas of Dewas, of both Branches, having coined copper pieces of quarter anna and pie values at the mints of the Government of India, the said coins being identical in weight with the coins of the Government of India of the same metal, and the value being inscribed in the English language, they have been declared to be legal tender in British India.

THE Resident in the Eastern States of Rajputana will henceforth be known as Resident in Jaipur, and the Political Agent in Bhartpur and Kerowlee will be described as Political Agent in the Eastern States of Rajputana.

SIR F. R. Hogg, C. S. I., K. C. I. E., having been granted furlough for 3 months and 7 days, from the 7th April next, Mr. A. U. Fanshawe officiates as Director-General of the Post-Office of India during that period.

THE Governor-General in Council has remitted the stamp duty payable, under the Indian Stamp Act, 1879, on all instruments of the nature of a memorandum or agreement furnished to, or made or entered into with, the Public Works Department by contractors for the due performance of their contracts.

FROM the commencement of the next official year, duty at the rate of Rs. 210 will be levied on each chest of Malwa opium of 140½ lb avoirdupois, net weight, imported into the Punjab through Ajmere.

FROM the 1st April, the Military Accounts Department, Bengal, will be divided into two circles—to be respectively called the Eastern and Western Circles of Military Accounts, Bengal.

KHAN BAHADUR SERAJ-UL-ISLAM has been appointed a visitor of the Presidency Jail.

FROM the next month, April, the troops in Upper Burma come under the orders of the Commander-in-Chief, Madras Army. They will also form a District Command of the 1st class, with Head Quarters at Rangoon. There will be two 2nd class Districts, with Head-Quarters at Mandalay and Myingyan respectively, the Lower Burma Division being temporarily constituted a 2nd class District extending to and including Meiktila. In other words, the whole Burma Command will form one 1st class District and three sub-Districts.

GASPODIN PASHINO, the Russian secret agent, of whose previous visit to India a good deal has been heard at times, was recently seen marketing in Peshawur city, preparatory to proceeding to Afghanistan to visit the Amir.

IT appears that in commemoration of the visit to London of Indian Princes and notabilities to England during the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, the Corporation of the City has struck coins.

KATMANDOO, like all hill sites with a congested population, suffers much from dearth of pure water. Hence the epidemics to which the town is exposed. It is gratifying indeed that the Durbar is seriously

bent on providing an artificial supply. A scheme has been prepared by a Mr. Fimmimore, for drawing water from springs four miles above, in cast iron pipes. The cost has been laid at 4 lacs.

THIS is the preamble of the Imperial Decree promulgating the new Japanese Constitution :—

"Having, by virtue of the glories of Our Ancestors, ascended the throne of a lineal succession unbroken for ages eternal; desiring to promote the welfare of, and to give development to, the moral and intellectual faculties of Our beloved subjects, the very same that have been favoured with the benevolent care and affectionate vigilance of Our Ancestors; and hoping to maintain the prosperity of the State, in concert with Our people and with their support, We hereby promulgate, in pursuance of Our Imperial Rescript of the 14th day of the 10th month of the 14th year of Meiji, a fundamental law of State, to exhibit the principles by which We are to be guided in Our conduct, and to point out to what Our descendants and Our subjects and their descendants are for ever to conform.

The rights of sovereignty of the State, We have inherited from our Ancestors, and We shall bequeath them to Our descendants. Neither We nor they shall in future fail to wield them in accordance with the provision of the Constitution hereby granted.

We declare to respect and protect the security of the rights and of the property of Our people, and to secure to them the complete enjoyment of the same, within the extent of the provisions of the present Constitution and of the law.

The Imperial Diet shall first be convoked for the 23rd year of Meiji, and the time of its opening shall be the date when the present Constitution comes into force.

When in the future it may become necessary to amend any of the provisions of the present Constitution, We or Our successors shall assume the initiative right, and submit a project for the same to the Imperial Diet. The Imperial Diet shall pass its vote upon it, according to the conditions imposed by the present Constitution, and in no otherwise shall Our descendants or Our subjects be permitted to attempt any alteration thereof.

Our Ministers of State, on Our behalf, shall be held responsible for the carrying out of the present Constitution, and Our present and future subjects shall for ever assume the duty of allegiance to the present Constitution."

A RUSSIAN physician -Portugaloff prescribes the following as an infallible cure for drunkenness:—Dissolve one grain of strychnine in two hundred drops of water, and inject five drops of the solution every 24 hours. It has an immediate effect. In a day, the craving is turned into aversion. If the desire return, repeat the treatment. After a continuous injection for eight or ten days, a patient may be discharged cured.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

ON Tuesday the 9th April at 1-30 P.M., the Lieutenant-Governor will hold a Durbar at Belvedere for receiving the new recipients of titles and decorations. The timing is unfortunate, that being the mud day, proving the provinciality of Bengal. Neither Durbar nor Durbarees have any connections in the civilized world.

CERTAIN of the people of the frontier Nawab of Amb are in custody, on a charge of having joined the enemy during the Black Mountain expedition. After the trial of the British subjects, those of the frontier chiefs will be either made over for trial to their respective Lords, or detained as prisoners of war.

A BOUNDARY dispute, which might have led to unpleasant consequences to friends and neighbours, had divided Nawab Inam Baksh Khan, K.C.S.I., of the Mazari tribe, and Sudar Muan Khan, of the Drishack. We are glad that the Deputy Commissioner of Dera Ghazi Khan, Mr. M. L. Dames, has been able to bring the two chiefs to terms. The Nawab takes three-fourths and the Sudar one-fourth of the disputed territory. They have executed an agreement to the effect before the District Judge.

IT appears that a retired Indian Civil Servant addressed the Government with a view to inquire whether as such retired servant his wife could, without offence, accept any presents from, say, a Ranee with whom she and he—in fact they—were intimate. The correspondence went up to the Secretary of State who in due course deliberated on it in solemn conclave of his whole Council. The result was the rather obvious decision that it would be highly objectionable if civil officers on the retired list received presents from natives. The letter embodying this opinion was in December circulated by the Government of India to all subordinate administrations and departments.

WE find from the papers that Sir Asman Jah was at Lucknow the guest of the well-known printer Muashī Nisāl Kishore. We think this was arranged by the Master of Quarters and Reception of the Durbar, Moulvi Mehdi Hasan, who had preceded him there, having gone thither direct from Hyderabad.

We cannot understand why Sir Asman Jah did not engage his own quarters. At any rate, if Sir Asman Jah must do his tour on the cheap, could not Mehdi Hasan or Mashtuk Husain persuade some Mahomedan nobleman of Lucknow to ask the Hyderabad Minister, one of the foremost and wealthiest Mahomedan noblemen in India, to his house? It seems that none of the ministers cringes has any influence with the Mahomedan nobility of Oudh.

The arrangement has startled the native community, and will, we have no doubt, be heard of with alarm and distress in the Deccan. It is a positive humiliation to the Nazim, and, knowing as we do the feelings in such matters of our people and our princes, we shall not be surprised to learn that His Highness will treat this legitimacy Viceroy on this ground.

THE manner in which Moulvi Mehdi Hasan of Hyderabad has been called to the Bar in England, raises the question as to the intrinsic value of such legal certificates. As far as we have been able to ascertain, this lucky gentleman is not the minutely learned qualification to begin with. He is not even an indifferent English scholar, having had no education whatever in any English school. He has only a smattering of English, which he has picked up promiscuously from his English partner in life, and has acquired a facility in speaking from his visit to England. We are told he is unable to write two lines in decent English. His knowledge of Indian Law is naturally confined to what he acquired while he was Munsiff in Oudh. As for Mahomedan Law, whatever he knows he must have learnt in Persian or Urdu, for we hear he is perfectly innocent of Arabic.

We have gone to this length in describing the Moulvi's qualifications, simply to enquire of the commentators of India and England, whether in their opinion the authorities of the Temple were justified in calling an individual with such qualifications to the Bar.

Of late, many of our young men go to England to qualify themselves for the Bar, and come out as Barristers. Are we, from Mehdi Hasan's example, to believe that any of our young Indian Barristers have succeeded in being called to the Bar in as equally easy manner? If so, how is it, that Baba Durga Mohan Das, one of our senior Pleaders of the High Court, who recently went to England to qualify himself for a Barristership, was unable to succeed in his wish, because illness prevented him from fulfilling the requirements of the Temple and compelled him to return to India much earlier than he intended?

WE quote from the *Indian Daily News* :

"Mr. G. M. Currie, C. S., Magistrate of Howrah, has issued the following rule, for the conduct of business by the Honorary Magistrates at Howrah, dated February 27—

1. It is to be regretted that some Honorary Magistrates of the Howrah Bench find difficulty in nominating a Chairman; that they absent themselves without notice, which causes great inconvenience in work; that their hours of attendance are very irregular; that they at times cannot maintain order in the Court, and that cases are tried very irregularly. It is also reported that Magistrate officers are allowed to fix dates of cases, and write out the orders, which the distributing officers (if only sign) this is bad procedure. Cases are once or twice kept pending from day to day, and such arrangements cause great trouble to the parties concerned. Also the Magistrate appointed to receive complaints is said to receive them at his house.

2. Under the circumstances, I have appointed a Chairman for each day in the Rotation List. In his absence the second officer will take the chair.

3. Unless a Magistrate takes formal leave to absent himself from the Bench one week previously to his absence, he will be reported to Government for his irregularity.

4. Every Honorary Magistrate should attend the Bench exactly at 12 noon. An attendance register will be kept in which the hour of arrival and departure of each Honorary Magistrate will be entered.

5. All petitions must be filed in the open Court, and orders written by the Bench clerk. No one else should be allowed to interfere with them when once filed.

6. No Magistrate will sit on the Bench when his name is not in the list. This does not preclude Magistrates trying part-heard cases separately.

7. The records of all cases must remain in charge of the Bench Clerk, and not in charge of the Municipal officers (who are generally complainants in the cases).

This discloses a discreditable state of affairs. But the confusion is not confined to Howrah. In Calcutta, a similar laxity prevails. Both

in the municipal and criminal Benches, it is not the Magistrates but the clerks attached to the court who have the upper hand. Subpœnas are issued by them without any order of the Magistrates; the dates in municipal summonses are put in at leisure by the office after they have been signed by the Magistrates. Formerly, no order would be taken of any Magistrate for the issue of the municipal summonses, but for the past few years, at the instance of one of the Magistrates, the practice has been discontinued. The other irregularity, however, still obtains, and Mr. Marsden, who is supposed to be responsible for the proper working of the offices, seems to be left in blissful ignorance of either omission or commission, depending too much on the officers for the proper working of the office. He has taken upon himself to nominate chairmen for the satisfactory conduct of the Benches. Practically, while the officers and the Magistrates are allowed to rule them, the officers are left to take care of themselves.

THE death in Europe is reported at Mehar of Mr. John Bradshaw, long connected with the Education Department and the Press of that Presidency. A brilliant mathematician, he was popular as a Professor in the Engineering College. Afterwards, he held with credit the office of Inspector of schools. He was chiefly and most famous in journalism. For a long series of years, he maintained with his graceful pen the *North Indian Journal of Education*. He achieved the highest distinction as editor of the once famous morning paper now alas! no more, the *Illustrated*. He brought it back to its old popularity and prestige, during the pining days of the lamented John Bruce Norton. Such at least is the appreciation of the living. The felicity of his style is much admired. Was Mr. Bradshaw superior as a writer to Dr. Austin? Anyhow, he was a good man, straightforward, kind, capable of friendship, benevolent to the poor, and, above all, just between natives and Europeans.

At the Vizagapatam Sessions, Akula Rajamma, a delicate girl of 18, was sentenced to transportation for life for murder of her infant child 6 months old, and for attempt at suicide. She was married to a man who ill-treated her, and she left his protection and lived with her parents. They not being able to support her, she then to go back to her husband. This she took to heart, and meditated mischief on herself and her infant. She repaired to a well and went down it with the child. Her resolution, however, gave way when she came in contact with the water. But it was then too late to save the child, she escaping death by clinging to a protruding stone step. She came out of the well, returned home and gave out what she had done. The law had now its course, and she was charged with and convicted of murder and sentenced. Her fate now causes sympathy, the absence of which had forced her to the rash step. There was an appeal to the High Court from the sentence of the Sessions Judge. Their Lordships found nothing in the case to mitigate the punishment, but had the heart to recommend it for the merited consideration of the Governor. Lord Curzon, more humane than the stern Judges or rather the law, has commuted the sentence of transportation to six months' simple imprisonment.

Mr. Joseph Dodds, an ex-M.P., has been struck off the roll of solicitors for embezzling £15,000, the property of his client Mrs. Meynell. There was an application for stay of order, on account of the dangerous character of the solicitor. Baron Huddleston remarked that there were few felonies to the extent of £11,500 and a fraud in the shape of forgery in connection with a cheque for £7000, and that the man who could defraud an old lady of 76 as Mr. Dodds had done, deserved no consideration. Mr. Dodds was held in high esteem in Stockton. He was the leader in every public movement and there was not a public body with which he was not connected. He could afford to be generous with other people's money.

THERE has scarcely been a patriotic military demonstration in which the gentle sex has been wholly unrepresented. Without going to the long past, women have been found in Spain, during the Peninsular War, associated with members of the sterner sex in resisting the invaders. So in the Hungarian struggle of 1848. Perhaps, the most remarkable example is furnished from that East, in which woman is usually immured in seclusion and inaction. During the Crimean War, an opulent and influential Amazon, known as the



Black Virgin, fired with patriotic and religious zeal, came all the way from the wilds of Kurdistan to Constantinople with a thousand troopers, equipped and armed by herself and at her cost, for service in the field, in defence of the Caliph and against the Nazirine. In the American Civil War, woman played a recognised part in keeping up the spirit of patriotism or party, while occasionally a stray woman has been discovered actually engaged in the masculine work of warfare disguised as a male. In the last Polish rising against Russia, a noble lady in male attire was killed in the act of leading her men in battle. Such cases were not unknown in the Danish War or the Franco-German War, or the Russo-Turkish. And now the rule holds good even farther East a woman warrior has been discovered sharing in the Burman patriotic movement to resist the British usurpers. A lady knight attended to Boh Tok's band, well armed and mounted on a nag, acted as a scout, and must have been of great help in procuring intelligence. She has been caught and will be tried doubtless. We have no idea of what explanation Mee Oung—such is her name—may be able to offer. At any rate, her horsemanship is beyond question. The "pretty horsebreaker" is not yet an institution in indigenous Oriental society. A Burman equestrienne is a marvel. The natives, of both Upper and Lower Burma, are laughing consumedly at the spectacle or the idea of a woman sitting astride on a nag.

It is something to know that there is no chance of annexation, pure and simple, of Cashmere. It would scarcely have been human if opportunity was not taken of the charges against the Maharaja to recast the administration. Colonel Nisbet has left Calcutta with the Viceroy's instructions in that behalf.

MR. COLVIN, Private Secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor, has been appointed guardian of the minor Nawab of Rampore.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1889.

### MUNICIPAL FACTIONS.

ANOTHER ILLUSTRATION.

WHEX will faction fights in Mofussil municipalities end? When will they learn to forget personal differences in considerations of the public good? Upon the success of the limited scheme of Self Government, which these institutions embody, depends the action which Government may take in regard to the political aspirations of the people. And yet is discredit being brought upon the experiment by the conduct of our own countrymen. Indeed, the success of Local Self-Government has been conveniently assumed as an accomplished fact, and upon this assumption are already based all sorts of enthusiastic demands for popular rights. Nothing would give us greater pleasure than if the fact were even as it is complacently assumed. Not that success of a kind has not attended the establishment of these municipal institutions, and it is satisfactory that official testimonies so far have been on the whole favorable in regard to their working. Nevertheless, there is no denying that the canker of party-spirit has been constantly at work. There is hardly a single municipality in peace. This is the fourth year after the introduction of the new scheme, and although this might be regarded fairly long time for the spirit of party to have played itself out and for experience to have grown into wisdom, we fail to see signs of any wisdom. There is discord everywhere, in a more or less violent form, and it really grieves us to hear all the reports which constantly reach us. Having taken no mean share in the discussion of the subject from the earliest stage, and feeling the interest we do in the success of the measure, we are naturally turned to for advice and help by the members of these municipalities in their worst troubles. We are at times repositories of confidences from both parties, and not

unoften our position is one of extreme delicacy. It is high time, however, that a warning should be given to all and sundry. If they went on behaving in the way they have been doing, they might some day lose the privileges they enjoy under the new system. They fight one another in lightness of heart, but they are incurring a serious responsibility, which is nothing short of imperilling the present and future advancement of the country.

Such counsels are often thrown away. In too many cases, these dissensions are fomented by men, without character, unscrupulous, and disreputable, who have been pushed into an undeserved importance by the chances of election or nomination. Such men are scarcely amenable to reason, and somehow or other they find it their interest to keep up the quarrel. In peace, they sink to their natural level.

There is always a clique at work, and this clique tends to hamper the hands of the unofficial executive. One of the painful effects of Local Self-Government has been, as we pointed out some time ago, an unloosening of authority. This is chiefly felt in the collection of the rates. Municipal officers nowadays do not command the respect which their predecessors, under official *régime* used to do, and consequently not only is the collection thrown into arrear and municipalities are unable to meet their liabilities with punctuality, but even graver consequences sometimes ensue affecting their very *personnel* and constitution. Not only have municipal tax bills to be presented for payment a number of times before they are paid, and that long after they are due—not only have municipalities to keep their establishments and creditors out of their due, owing to want of money—but an attempt to enforce the law in regard to the realization of the rates may cost the Chairman or Vice-Chairman his office. Municipal tax collecting staff go about like so many seekers of alms or at best collectors of voluntary subscriptions, being put off again and again, although the law is very strict on the point, providing a regular series of cycles for presentation of bills, notice of demand, and, in default, of realization by distress. The non-official *régime* has often not the courage to put the law into force, and that naturally, because in case of resistance offered to its authority, attended not unoften with violence to its officers, it receives scant support from the Magisterial Courts. The other day, we gave an instance of a municipality presenting the humiliating spectacle of having had its officers whipped while in the execution of a distress, and going to law only to reap additional disgrace. A worse case of a similar kind has lately happened in the Bhadrakali Municipality. It is a small municipality, on the western side of the river Hooghly, between the municipalities of Serampore and Uttarpara. The Chairman of the Municipality is, we understand, in great trouble, for simply doing his duty. A relative of one of the Uttarpara Zemindars had a brick-making yard in this municipality, but he would not pay the tax which was assessed upon his place of business. Relying on the influence of his connections as well as on countenance given to him by the inevitable clique in the Municipal Board hostile to the Chairman, he had been evading payment long and openly defied the law. For three quarters together, he refused payment, when the Chairman, according to the due course of law, proceeded to realize the arrears by distress. This was an unpardonable offence in the eyes of the Uttarpara Zemindars, one of whom has the *putni* of the town of Bhadrakali. With the aid of the

municipal clique referred to, they now set about the persecution of the poor Chairman in right earnest. Not only were the executing officers whom the Chairman had sent with the distress warrant assaulted, but he himself is in danger of being mauled some day. The Chairman, having proceeded so far according to law, however, in the end, lost heart. He did not prosecute for the resistance and assault. Whether he was cowed down by the formidable landlordly influence in alliance with the offending party, or acted from any amiable motive, we do not know, but he made a mistake of which advantage was of course taken. In the meantime, the usual weapon of the litigious, of lodging a number of complaints before the authorities against the Chairman, both in his private and official capacity, had been put into requisition, until we understand Mr. Duke, the sub-Divisional officer at Serampore, and the Magistrate of Hooghly have had to proceed to the spot and hold local enquiries. This is humiliating enough, and his enemies have fairly turned the tables upon the unfortunate head of the municipality. Indeed, he gave them an advantage by not following up his first proceedings, but it is really hard that men who voluntarily sacrifice so much of their time and energy in serving the public should be thus repaid with persecution and humiliation.

#### THE ROMANCE OF THE BALLOON.

It has been the balloon week in Calcutta. Indeed, for more than three weeks, from the commencement of the month, the good citizens have been exercised about a flying visitor and his flying *tamasha*—show. And for the last five days in especial, they have had the balloon quite in the head. Mr. Spencer, the aeronaut, is not quite a stranger, having some ten years before visited the city and ascended from Sealdah on the Circular Road. He is one of the most famous exhibitors in the line, having performed in all parts of the world and at many places, from the Crystal Palace, London, down to obscure county towns. He had thus ascended in the sky and descended unscathed nearly a hundred times. This is an enormous success and, we may add, extraordinary luck. All these adventurous showmen—all who habitually tempt fate by hazarding their lives on dangerous feats or ferocious animals or poisoning reptiles—invariably come by their end, sooner or later, in the exercise of their wonted skill or confidence in their respective lines. The Champion of the Belt is usually pounded to death by a rival. The admired jockey, if he is not in a hurry to retire upon his laurels, may any day be thrown off his horse into the lap of death. The great steeple-chaser is in danger of perishing by being spattered on a high hedge. The Blondin of many triumphs at last loses his balance and slips his foot to be hurled headlong and smashed to pieces. For once, the snake-charmer fails to charm and pays the inevitable penalty of his desperate game. In like manner, the balloon becomes the winding sheet as it were of the intrepid balloonist. Few aeronauts have such a run of luck as Mr. Spencer. Most of them receive their final *quietus* within a dozen or so of public descents. Here is a young man who has braved the peril for times without number and is not a whit the worse for it. He has repeatedly—incessantly—undertaken the risks of aerial navigation—has gone up the heavens for more times than most of us have gone on their travels on *terra firma*, and he retains all the enthusiasm of a scapegrace who meditates going to the sea. Enjoying, after all his adventures, unfractured integrity of limb and even a whole skin, he maintains unshaken confidence. He bears a charmed life.

Yet this renowned and thoroughly tried exhibitor had very nearly left Calcutta with an unenviable notoriety.

Such is the evil temper of this community that he was treated with suspicion from the first, and quickly given a bad name and then hanged, without the formality of even a summary trial! Here was an exhibition peculiarly liable to miscarriage, but our people would listen to no

excuses. Accidents are allowed to occur in the best regulated households: only the programme of the rash man who offers to ride in the air for your amusement and edification, must be ensured against all mishaps! In an unlucky moment, owing doubtless to failure in the gas supply of the Oriental Gas Company, Mr. Spencer was unable to fulfil his engagement at Ballygunje, at his first performance: his inflated bladder could not be kicked up above the heads of the neighbouring trees. Thereupon, he became the butt of ridicule and suspicion, as if he were a poor 'prentice hand or an absolute rogue. Europeans, Eurasians, Bengalees, Upcountrymen, but most of all Marwaris—who might be supposed to have more regard for human life and limb—abused him like a thief. With more courage, they might have murdered the poor "caterer" to their amusement. The crowd was great, and the disappointment was all the more keenly felt for the long confinement, in a hot baking atmosphere, in an inconvenient situation, out of the way of most people. Then the darkness of the evening completed the misfortune of the seekers of an hour's diversion. Many were obliged to pick up their way home, leaving their carriages and servants in the lurch.

It was probably this personal disaster on the 2nd March, that was the source of the bitterness and pertinacity with which, the following week, the unfortunate balloonist was pursued. But surely Mr. Spencer could not possibly help his guests' miseries in that behalf. It is now admitted that he was not responsible even for the failure of the engagement as regards the balloon. Be that as it may, there was certainly no excuse for treating the unlucky professional, as if he were a sharp practitioner who had raised the wind. The most respectable and usually sensible men called upon him to disgorge his ill-gotten gains, on pain of being branded and drummed out as a swindler. *Reis & Rayyet's* was the only voice that was raised in his defence. We argued that he was no more bound to return the value of the tickets or to make over his earnings to a charity, than the manager of a theatre is bound to do so in the event of a *fiasco* of a performance. All Mr. Spencer's reputation—his life-long career—his previous exhibition at Calcutta—his recent success in Bombay availed him nothing. In a moment of fury, every claim to consideration was overlooked. It was forgotten that here was a famous *artiste* in a most difficult line, almost a *savant*—an experienced navigator of the skies. Everybody chose to see him but a thief caught in the act, trembling in the dock in the presence of outraged Justice! The poor young man did not know what to do, but he was determined to retrieve his reputation if possible—certainly to prove his honour. So having quarrelled with the Gas Company, he announced his intention of making his own gas and giving a performance free or, after the manner of Pratap Chandra Roy's *Mahabharata*, "chiefly *gratis*." That came off on Tuesday, in the Race Stand enclosure.

After the disappointment and hardship of Ballygunje, and particularly considering the suspicion freely cast on Mr. Spencer's capacity if not good faith, Calcutta might well be expected to be lukewarm on this occasion. But though people still continued loose of tongue, indulging in ungenerous and cynical remarks, likening the second invitation to a cry of "The wolf!" in the fable, yet there was quite an enthusiasm of attendance. The massing of men on the Maidan was unprecedented; certainly since the arrival of the Prince of Wales there had never been such a gathering. The wise were still at home, just moving to the terrace above our printing-office, and, as but half of the programme was gone through, we lost nothing, and were for once equal to the Viceroy himself, who was lording it over Her Majesty's lieges from his post of vantage in the Race Stand. The weather was cloudy, and, though this was a comfort to the assembled host on the great plain before Fort William, it seemed a bad prospect for the navigator of the air. When the time fixed came—5-30 P. M.—the apparatus was not ready in proper form. By applying his tests, Mr. Spencer found to his dismay that the gas was not sufficient! But he could not afford to make another excuse, so he filled the huge bladder as much as he could in the next half hour, and proceeded to satisfy public expectation as well as he could under the circumstances. He had had no peace since his failure on the 2nd, and literally no sleep for the last two days. That very day—the 19th—he had had

no nourishment except a bottle of beer. Thus weakened in body but strong in mind and nerve, confident of his skill and experience, with a heart for any fate, he jumped into the sling attached to his balloon, which is his only seat. His worst fear was now verified, for he immediately discovered that the gas was short. There was no help for it now, unless he would cover himself with disgrace by another disappointment and be driven to suicide. So as the balloon could not support both himself and the umbrella—the parachute—by which he meant to descend, he cut the string which held the latter and let it go, and gave the word for "hands off!" The balloon slowly ascended, moving in a northerly direction till it stood for a moment to the north of the fort. Still moving north, it passed the Government House and Government Place. As it ascended, it emerged in a stratum of the atmosphere where a different direction of wind prevailed than among us on the surface of the earth. It was a rather cloudy day and now that very day was drawing to its end. Still so long as he travelled North or West, Mr. Spencer was tolerably sure of a practicable landing. He had now reason to cry—

My wind is turned to bitter West  
What was so soft a South before;  
My sky, that shone so sunny bright,  
With foggy gloom is clouded o'er.

Caught in a westernly wind, he sailed briskly over the houses to the east of Cuthbertson and Harper's premises. Onward he marched, fast and even faster, while he mounted straight up the firmament, till he ran Shelley's glorious bird close.

Higher still and higher  
From the earth thou springest  
Like a cloud of fire;  
The blue deep thou wingest,  
And singing still dost soar, and soaring ever singest

In the golden lightning  
Of the sunken sun  
O'er which clouds are brightening,  
Thou dost float and run,  
Like an unbodied joy whose race is just begun.

The pale purple even  
Melts around thy flight.  
Like a star of heaven  
In the broad daylight  
Thou art unseen, but yet I hear thy shrill delight

A rider of the heavens must be of an imaginative turn. If Mr. Spencer had not been too much occupied with keeping his balance and preserving himself from being benumbed by the cold of the upper atmosphere, he could not have failed to realise the sublimity of his situation. He was higher than ever skylark or nightingale had dared to climb, and he might have heard in his mind such aspirations from kindred spirits left below as the following

Fade far away, dissolve, and quite forget  
What thou among the leaves hast never known,  
The weariness, the fever, and the fret  
Here, where men sit and hear each other groan;  
Where palsy shakes a few, sad, last gray hairs,  
Where youth grows pale, and spectre-thin, and dies,  
Where but to think is to be full of sorrow,  
And leaden-eyed despairs,  
Where Beauty cannot keep her lustrous eyes,  
Or new Love pine at them beyond tomorrow

Away! away! for I will fly to thee,  
Not charioted by Bacchus and his pards,  
But on the viewless wings of Poesy,  
Though the dull brain perplexes and retards:  
Already with thee! tender is the night,  
And haply the Queen-Moon is on her throne,  
Cluster'd around by all her starry fays,  
But here there is no light,  
Save what from heaven is with the breezes blown  
Through verdurous glooms and winding mossy ways.

For a moment, the balloon veered to the south-east. And then it shot rapidly up like a rocket, and disappeared on a trice towards the east or south-east of the town. And then there was anxiety in every face, and the whole host of spectators left the scene—whether the plan of Fort William or their respective perches on housetop in a painful state of mind, bewailing the fate of the balloonist and even blaming themselves for having tempted him to his fate. Many had not a wink of sleep that night, and all discussed the subject till a late hour. Morning dawned on a still anxious city. Enquiries were being made from

the previous evening in all directions, but nothing could be gathered.

Calcutta was never in such a ferment over the fortunes of one man and that a stranger. The sympathy for the intrepid man who was lost in the distant heavens above us, was not confined to any section of the community. It was universal; the very natives who quietly went about their accustomed avocations over the loss of a thousand of their countrymen in the *Sir John Lawrence*, went about asking about the fate of the balloon man. Hindu and Mahomedan ladies themselves were inconsolable at his disappearance. Those who had witnessed the ceremony of the aeronaut taking wing, felt the most. Father Lafont, who had officiated at it and might be supposed to know something of the disasters of reckless flights, was violently agitated the moment he saw his youngman careering madly aloft the air beyond the viewless firmament. Thus it remained for nearly three days. Meanwhile, all sorts of speculation were afloat, the learned specially displaying how little they knew. Nor were rumours of a reassuring kind wanting. It seemed to be the humour of a good many witless men to start canards. Everybody was ready to believe. The newspapers were glad to profit on the prevailing curiosity. Government House itself, at the mercy of Prefect Lambert, was deceived. If we are correctly informed, the Viceroy himself, whose tender humanity was resplendent on the occasion, believed in the news, supposed to have come from a survey party in the Sunderbuns, of the safe descent of the balloonist and his apparatus. There was a sense of relief at the viceregal residence, in consequence, on Thursday, shared in from the highest to the lowest mental. But the newspapers would not be again taken in. There was absolute disbelief at the *Statesman* office. Later on, came the first telegram to any purpose from a responsible officer, Babu Troylucko Nath Sen, Deputy Magistrate in charge of the Basirhat sub-Division, 24-Pargannas. That officer had received an autograph intimation from Mr. Spencer of his descent in a village in the Sunderbuns, Lot Banstollabad, at 7-30 on Tuesday. That news was the signal for the newspapers to send representatives to catch the interesting aerial navigator, each trying to make a monopoly of the "lion" if possible, at any price. The *Statesman* actually sent a special train to Baraset, where the aeronaut was expected. From Baraset, its representative plunged into the country in the direction Mr. Spencer was to take for him, and luckily found him coming in a country carriage fast asleep. He awoke to a new sensation when he heard of all the interest his flight had excited in the great metropolis. Mr. Spencer, lucky as ever, was without a scratch. He had alighted from his volatile car as one does from a park phaeton quietly. But no sooner he landed than the balloon disburdened flew away again. He then made his way to the nearest village, not without difficulty, met by deep waters on the way. However, he managed to dodge past them. His apparition—the white ghost as the people thought—set the villagers to flight. His hissing tongue proved him of the Nag-Bans-Serpent Tribe—a surely more inviting guest than a disembodied spirit. His pantomime might be very intelligible at the European theatre or the Italian Opera, but it only made matters worse at Banstollabad. He took his coat off his back to show he was human, but the naked whiteness of his person all over only dismayed. Besides, the athletic form of the man came from Paris. At last, Mr. Spencer became a lion off of the Almighty Dolla. That was irresistible. Banstollabad bowed to the influence which is recognised by saint, by savage, and by sage, and would conquer New-York or London or Calcutta as Basirhat. The scene of glory drew the hitherto shy rustics. The *rationale* is done. The presence of corn dispelled the atmosphere of romance and uncertainty. The stranger's connection with here dissipated the glamour of spirituality in which their imagination had invested him. It proved him but too human. So they came and became humane to the human. All in a moment, their milk of kindness was stirred, and they brought him milk to drink and rice to eat and made him a bed to lie down. One is reminded of the adventure of Mungo Park in the heart of Africa, when of a disastrous evening he was taken in hand by the good Samaritan of a Negress. From Banstollabad, Mr. Spencer was conveyed by boat to Hosseimabad, near Takee—the seat of the Munshee Baboo—child of luck as he has always been, he discovered

on his way his balloon floating in the water, and captured it. At Hossehabad "Baboo" Rahim Baksy, the sub-inspector of Police, treated him with the consideration due even from the Bengal Police to a man who can mount the air. Thence he went to Basrhat, and on to Baraset, travelling by the special train to Calcutta. At Basrhat, he read at the Deputy's the *Engel shah's* account of his flight. Mr. Chamberlain, the wide awake and energetic Railway Traffic Inspector, had gone in the special after Mr. Spencer. Mr. Spencer must have ascended some 12,000 feet!

And now he is besieged as never lion, real or figurative, was besieged. Great men are calling on him at his hotel, and little fry hover about the streets to catch a glimpse of him. He is the wonder of the hour.

### THE MAHOMEDAN EXODUS TO EUROPE.

#### LIBERAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL PROSPECTS FOR MAHOMEDAN YOUTH.

Since last year there is again a revival of the mania of going to England among the young Mahomedans. It is said that they cannot receive proper education here and therefore it is necessary that they should go to that great centre of Western Learning and science to receive a sound, useful and practical training, and to qualify themselves for profitable, learned and honorable profession. Fault is found with the present system of University Education and it is declared a failure. Moreover it is said that the competitive examinations have placed an insurmountable difficulty in the way of Mahomedan youngmen who find it impossible to make their way sure to the goal of their ambition. Most of them think that their education in England, of whatever quality it might be, will give them a passport to all high and lucrative appointments at the disposal of Government and make them successful in other well paying professions.

After a careful consideration of the question, I have come to the conclusion that generally the guardians have failed hopelessly to exercise their discretion in the selection of beings who should have been sent. If the guardians did not exercise proper discretion and act with strength and courage, it may become very dangerous and ruinous. Some boys have fled from their houses and after arriving at Aden sent telegrams and letters to their guardians to send them money to enable them to proceed to England. You can imagine the feelings of the guardians, relations and especially of the native ladies on hearing such news. In some cases properties were sold and mortgaged to raise the funds and money was at last sent. There are two cases in which the families are sure to be next door to pauperism by the time the young men return with their robe of honour to India.

Now let us examine who all these students are who have become so impatient to visit England for the purpose of education, even at the risk of ruining their families. They are mostly the sons of (financially) middle class men who have hardly sufficient means to meet the enormous expense of educating boys in England. The Mahomedan youth who go to England in search of education are generally disappointed students who have failed to obtain the University degrees in the country and whose prospects of education, simply on account of their irregular habits, laziness, and want of perseverance, have become blighted. When they fail in the Entrance and F. A. Examinations here they blame the system of education, the college, the teachers and the policy of Government in order to make out a case before their guardians for going to England. Most of these men have gone for the bar which is considered to be the easiest thing possible and for which the disappointed students consider themselves fit. I do not think that either the bar or any other profession can benefit a man who has not received a proper education.

Past experience has placed sufficient interests before us to examine fully the result of their general and special education in England. In 1877 and in the following years, a very important and rather influential batch of Mahomedan students was sent to England and most of them were to qualify themselves for the Bar. Some of them were sons and relations of some of the most leading Mahomedan gentlemen of this Province and some were relations of well to do Zemindars and leading Pleaders. They had gone from different stages of education in which they were here and most of them were disappointed students defeated in the race of education and had lost courage altogether. By no means were they promising young men who could have been expected to rise to the top of the ladder in any profession or distinguish themselves as scholars. In most cases mistake of selection was apparent and inexcusable. About that time some middle-class men sent their relations and sons (although their number was small) for legal education on a purely speculative principle. They sold or mortgaged the whole or part of their properties, obliged to borrow at high interest to meet the expenses. All of this batch (of 1877) have returned and are now engaged in different professions. Almost all of them came out as Barristers and joined the

Bar, and nearly all or most of them failed to make a living in the profession, with the exception of three, one of whom is at the metropolis and two of them in two of the most important districts in Behar. Not one of them has yet been able to recoup even 25 per cent. of the money which was spent on his special education in England. The success of these three men is qualified and it is due partly to their natural talents and mostly to the patronage and influence of their families and the community which they justly command. Among the rest some have been treated very generously by Government and provided with respectable and good appointments in different branches of the service. These gentlemen had luckily many circumstances in their favor which need not be detailed here. Suffice it to say that the action of Government was praiseworthy and they deserved the patronage. Local Boards or Municipalities have taken some in their service. Some of these men were so hopeless of their success in the bar that they never tried it and if one or two did it they did it in a half hearted way. Of those who were sent on speculation are some very hard cases. The time was favorable and it was fortunate that generally these men represented influential families, else it would have been difficult for them to keep up their heads above water even with this much success into the bargain.

Now the question arises, why have they generally failed as Barristers or in getting something independent of Government patronage. The answer is clear. There must have been some thing wrong either in their education or their selection of the profession for which they were especially educated. Both causes are to be found in the disappointed men. In each of these cases it cost the guardian not less than Rs. 25,000, on the whole, plus the amount spent after return to this country in setting up in the profession. This is a very large sum for one who is not wealthy. What is the quality of the education which has been purchased at this enormous sum? In most cases it is far inferior to that generally found among our graduates and in some undergraduates, not to speak of the sound or practical knowledge of law or any other special qualification for that profession. There are men among this batch who, to the great disappointment of their friends, cannot write or speak English correctly and intelligibly on the commonest subjects and whose defects of composition strike the most unmethodically trained.

In fact intellectually they have earned nothing in England which can in any way compensate for the large capital which was invested in them, and socially there is very little in them which can be admired by the respectable of their community. Those who belonged to good houses still keep most of their good qualities of good breeding and respectable and amiable manners, in spite of a superficial superstructure of Western habits alike inconvenient to themselves and to their relations and friends.

Generally these young men are too apt to borrow foreign tastes and habits, forgetting in 3 or 4 years everything they had learnt in all their previous lives. These habits and tastes cost much to their guardians and cause much inconvenience and not unoften annoyance and disgust to the respectable and old class of natives generally. I do not think that we can afford to pay and invest such large amounts for this sort of education in the present deplorable financial condition of our community. I have shewn above how some men of the 2nd batch of 1877 got something to fall back upon and how some of them remained in the bar. Of the latest batch, that of 1888, with the exception of one all have gone to England to study for the legal profession. On their return to India after being called to the bar, their prospects appear to me very uncertain and doubtful. Government can now hardly give them good appointments. The bar is getting overcrowded year by year and it is impossible to shine in it without sound training both general and legal, and some special natural qualities which must be always a *quæ qua non*.

I believe we have now gained sufficient experience to properly regulate our action in this matter, and if we do not benefit by it, it is our own fault. I think the following conditions should be essential for our youngmen being sent to England for education. The first and the most important one should be the financial condition of the parents and the guardians or the family to which any of them belongs. The second condition is scarcely less important that the boy is not a disappointed boy, but one who is at least an undergraduate, and promising into the bargain. The third condition is that he bears a character which would probably stand the temptations with which he would be surrounded in a great free and luxurious foreign country. If these conditions are fully observed I am quite sure the result will be very satisfactory.

Those few persons who went first, after completing their education, naturally derived more benefit by their special education there. They have to some extent distinguished themselves in some departments and are deserving of every one's commendation. Their education is such as our youngmen ought to emulate. These men did not depend upon the help of their guardians. They distinguished themselves at school or college or proved their mettle in competition, and our Government and other Governments sent them at state expense. This is the safest and most honorable

and independent way of going to England for young Mahomedans, and failing in that they can be sent under the above conditions only. I would prefer to send our graduates if they have means to bear the expense and if they fulfil those conditions.

These young men who are being sent indiscriminately, so far from learning much forget the little knowledge of their own vernacular in the course of their sojourn in England. There are many among them who can hardly write an Urdu or Persian letter correctly and they ought to be ashamed of it as respectable Mahomedans. These are hard facts and they must be unpalatable. They must know that to acquire some knowledge of European manners and a capacity for small talk is not all that we expect from them after spending a fortune which could have educated at least a quarter dozen boys here very well or could have supported two helpless widows and some poor relations. These young gentlemen are all mighty politicians and seem very fond of browbeating Lord Salisbury and criticising the action of Mr. Gladstone. We do not want all this tall talk but substantial and real work and education and a character which would command the respect of every good person. There are other far better qualified persons both in India and in England to take care of England's world-famed ministers.

Many of these young men learn most of the vices of European society and bring with them European notions regarding marriage, the Pardah, female education, courtship, which are most unbecoming to their social condition. These they air in season and out of season, though they have only considered them theoretically, acquired them or learnt them at second-hand in English Society. Upon those fanciful convictions some have been betrayed into foolish connections the effect of which they could hardly anticipate and have thus compromised the position and honor of their respective families and marred their prospects in every way. Their position is anomalous and their lives fit from happy.

It is high time that the Mahomedan community should seriously ponder over a matter which is causing enormous mischief in more than one way and the immediate result of which appears to be to bring ruin on some of their good and respectable (although not rich) families. I have only placed some facts for their consideration. Their accuracy may be relied upon. In support of each fact I have positive proof collected from personal observation and thorough enquiry.

Old Moor.

17th March 1889.

## ENGLISH POLITICS

BY A HINDE IN ENGLAND.

*Let Eng. (10/3/89)*

It is no ordinary pleasure that in my first letter to *Reis & Rayyet* I am able to communicate to you a most glorious vindication of our Sincere saying "victory attends on virtue." I think patriotism has never before been carried in this party governed country with so much rancour, so much bitterness and so much pertinacity as when Mr. Gladstone lost his office and following in order to his friend the down-trodden Irish. The last effort in that direction was undertaken by the *Times*, as is now very strongly suspected, criminal collusion with the present Government, which is doing its level best to ruin a nation's cause and the Nationalist leader. The big bubble of "Parnell and Crime" has burst at last; the villain who forged the whole batch of letters purporting to be of Mr. Parnell's and Mr. Egan's has sent in an unqualified confession of his guilt, and himself has fled to France to escape the fury of the London mob who madonately would lynch him if they could get a chance. Only the other day the "Thunder" celebrated its centenary, little dreaming that a just Nemesis had reserved such a stupendous humble pie in store for it in the near future. The Pigott-organ of Pining House Square now flags very small. In the dinner in sack-cloth and ashes to be a person than Sir Richard Webster, the Attorney-General, has his full share. Day before yesterday he on behalf of the *Times* admitted that the letter was not genuine and expressed the regret of those whom he represented that the letters were published. Sir Charles Russell expected surprise at the language the Attorney-General had used. He had hoped for a stronger statement. His clients would not justify their course and they would ask the assistance of the Court in endeavouring to find out whether Houston embarked on the adventure on his own responsibility. This Houston was the co-between who supplied Mr. McDonald, the manager of the *Times*, with the precious contents of the now historical black bag. The Liberals have gone mad over their victory. Their next move now is to unravel the whole of that diabolical conspiracy of which the forger Pigott was but the outward and visible sign. That is now the one universal cry from every Liberal platform, the one unvarying literature in every Liberal print. The table is turned with a vengeance and the Conservatives have caught a veritable Tartar.

But, before I proceed with the next item in my budget of news, I want to give you some idea of what is meant by politics in this country. We all know that England is a conservative country,

and in one sense it is true. But if you want to see the undisturbed and undisturbed sway of King Demos you will find it nowhere under the sun but in this tiny island. The greatest deference is paid to popular opinion, and the humblest unit who contributes towards it is more jealous of his rights than the proudest Koolin at home. The Englishman understands better than any mortal on earth that knowledge is power, and does not neglect to keep himself posted even in such current events as may perhaps have the faintest likelihood of ever affecting his interests. He is all eyes and all ears. His power is immeasurable, and the one single rod with which he wields this power is the press of the country. It acts and reacts on the whole administration of the realm in a way that is difficult to conceive, and on a principle which I give below will show what homage is given to the voice of the people.

The Royal Court of Justice where the Parnell Committee sits is on account of want of space forbidden to the outside public, admission being given to a select few by tickets. Even such rigid economy has had to concede to public opinion to an extent as has never been known before, and no less than two hundred seats are allotted for the press, affording accommodation to a greater number than would find room in the roof of the building.

The Metropolitan Police keeps guard over a circle of 25 miles, and within this area it controls the population of Belgium, nearly 5 millions, of "all sorts and conditions of men." The court generally sits at half past ten. The evening papers come out between 1 and 2 with full details of what has transpired in the court during the first two hours. Before dusk the papers have reached their sixth edition, and till 3 O'clock, sometimes, the new-bag shriek, "Surprise! Surprise!" apprises you that the last of the day's proceedings have yet to be heard. It is impossible for our people to conceive the width, the extent, and the energy that is lavished here upon the dissemination of knowledge. There is not a single man, woman or child out of the vast population, that does not know the most remarkable portions of what has transpired before the Parnell Committee during the day. From the highest to the lowest every body will tell you what were the proceedings of some lawyer, Sir Charles and the Attorney-General or the Bench, what were the most sensational disclosures, or who and who were hit off by that eminent chronicler, Mr. Lockwood, &c., &c., (one of the Parnell Committee) who is generally in a very disturbed hum in his favourite premises and the Court of Justice of the select company assembled in that part of the Royal Court of Justice. A committee and a troop of servants are furnished with all the paraphernalia necessary to hold a monopoly of excitement; but our wallet finances shrank into insignificance before, not the fit nor the fair, but the political plague which rages periodically from Land's End to John o' Groat.

It would be a terrible blow to the Conservatives. But they themselves are hurrying on the downward in a way as to challenge to them to harvest the wonder and gratification and admiration of their own country. Every one of Mr. William O'Brien's brothers and sisters has been carried away to an early grave by consumption. The survivor himself is of a weak and delicate health is possible. In an ill-laid hour Mr. Balfour chose this man to be his victim to wield his vengeance for the lashing which he gets from the Nationalist leader both within and without Parliament. O'Brien's recent incarceration, the death struggle with the jail ward as in his determination not to part with his own clothes for a felon's garb, his thirty-six hours' confinement in a cold cell with only his hat on his criminal condition, some questions exposed, excitement, and then finally why the cup was full to overflowing for English Liberals to hear periodically at London.

When a race is worth being great bombs are used,

And with their oath, which smote on earth and air,

Stamped her strong foot, and on high would be free,

Coleridge little thought that the later day Conservatives would bound the Liberals to an attitude still more terrible. There is not a single Liberal or Radical platform throughout the whole length and breadth of the Kingdom from which the name of the Chief Secretary for Ireland is not cursed and execrated. The papers are full with reports of these political meetings, even for the *Spartan*, and such is the pressure for space that sometimes Cabinet ministers are content to have a bare skeleton of their speeches.

While the pulse of an excited democracy is throbbing with this ominous excitement outside Sir Stephen's, within its walls is going on a scene, if possible, still more interesting. Last week on the re-opening of Parliament Mr. John Morley gave notice of an amendment to the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. The first shot was fired last Monday when Mr. Morley introduced his amendment. The speech of the first literary man of the day is not half so interesting for its literary merit as for its unanswerable logic and transparent veracity. Poor Riffour is pitifully cornered. His heartless and inhuman cynicism has exasperated all right-thinking men, disgusted many of the important members of the Liberal Unionist rank; and arch shuffler as he is and one of the cleverest adepts in writhing and wriggling, the *Kanya* nephew of a

worthy uncle will have a very stiff time of it over the Irish question.

India in Parliament is conspicuous by its absence. In last Wednesday's paper I find a notice of motion in the name of Mr. Cune-- To call attention to the administration of the laws relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors and opium in India, and move a resolution. The speaker was greeted with applause. I must stop here as my time is up; next week I will present your readers with a longer and more varied budget.

DACCA.

Dacca, 18th March, 1889.

Mr. C. F. Worsley, our new Commissioner, after staying here for a few days with Mr. C. D. Brighton, has started on a tour of inspection. The hot weather has set in early this year,--the only set-off is a cool breeze from the river side. The excellent view which Dacca commanded from the river side seems to have provoked the wrath of the mighty goddess, for a regular chain of clouds is being thrown up by the gradual cumulation of sand deposits and Dacca thus bids fair to lose its fine river view and be altogether deprived of that internal and inland commerce which that brisk port Narainganj has already a good deal usurped. Since that awful event, the last year's tornado, a day which every one here remembers whenever there is a gathering of clouds in the firmament, the Nawabs Khajah Sir Abdool Ghani, K. C. S. I. and Khaja Ahsunullah are living in a country-seat of theirs known as "Dilkoosha," literally "heart-drawing," a suburban retreat about three quarters of an hour's journey from the town proper. It is a beautiful place; the scenic effect of an open meadow before and a background studded with luxuriant trees and plants, is charming. It seems as if both Nature and Art vied with each other to make it so delightful,

and well does it deserve the designation by which it is known. The old residence of Sir Nawab and their family is being rebuilt; the one just completed is a grand palace, a model of modern architecture of great beauty and taste. Thanks to the liberality of the Nawab Ashunullah, the Dacca people now get a regular supply of ice at a moderate rate of 2 annas per seer. Ice is fast becoming one of the necessities of life in this land of scorching sun and burning heat. That it is a great boon there is not the least doubt. If the working of the Local Self-Government is to be measured by the success it has attained in individual districts and towns, it is then no matter for congratulation as far as Dacca is concerned. It is rather a subject for serious consideration for those who, in season and out of season, are clamouring for a further extension of the principles of representative Self Government. Here our civic fathers are an embodiment of jealousy. They are in perpetual hot water, where the factious spirit plays the dominant part. The unmetalled condition of the roads, the mass of refuse lying in places for days together, and the deplorable condition of the drainage and sewage, all point to the activity of our senators in dubious directions. One would have thought that of recent municipal scandals no repetition was needed, but the event has turned otherwise. Today being the second day of the Holi Festival the town presented a lively picture of fantastic incongruity. The entire Hindu population one and all, and all sorts of people in every sphere and condition in life have gone literally mad over it. Even our ancient Dispensers of justice and Keepers of peace appointed by the Government to deal justice and maintain order and the public peace, participate in it fully. Nay, they are the greatest sinners in this respect. Think of more than one such reeling and rolling in the open streets with besmeared face and soiled dress. Are we to thank Western civilization and its levelling theory for this state of things?

ALPHA.

NOTICE.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

SEALED Tenders for undertaking the printing work of the Corporation of Calcutta, will be received by the Vice-Chairman, and will be opened by him in the presence of the Tenderers, who may wish to attend, at noon of the 29th March 1889. Covers to be superscribed "Tender for printing work of the Corporation."

The earnest money Rs. 200 to be enclosed with each tender.

The successful Tenderer must sign a deed of contract duly stamped and registered at his own expense within three weeks of the acceptance of his Tender.

The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

The following is the schedule of rates at which the printing work in the Municipal Office is now valued, and the most convenient form of Tenders will be to tender under the same heads, or if preferred at a uniform percentage above or below the rates there given, but any Tenderer is at liberty to add any further details or explanation he may think requisite.

Schedule of present estimated Rates.

	Rs.	As.
Royal tabular form for 100 copies	3	0
1/2 do. do. ...	1	0
1/4 do. do. ...	0	8
do. do. for 1,000 copies	4	0
Demy tabular form for 100 copies	2	0
1/2 do. do. ...	1	0
1/4 do. do. ...	0	8
do. do. for 1,000 copies	4	0
Foolscap tabular form for 100 copies	1	0
1/2 do. do. ...	0	12
1/4 do. do. ...	0	8
1/8 do. do. ...	0	4
Foolscap tabular page, intricate for 50 or 100 copies, per page	3	0
Do. solid for 50 or 100 copies, per page	2	0
Perforating 100 copies	0	1
Numbering 1 to 100	0	1

The Tenderer must also state where the Printing Office of the contractor is or will be situated.

Any further information can be had on application.

JOHN COWIE,  
Secretary to the Corporation.  
22nd March, 1889.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Sealed Tenders for breaking imported stone ballast, at the Municipal Depots, during the official year 1889-90, will be received by the Vice-Chairman, and will be opened by him in the presence of Tenderers who may wish to attend, at 12 A. M., on the 25th instant.

2. The stone is to be broken so as to pass freely in all directions through a ring 2 inches in diameter, and to be stacked for measurement, the work to progress uniformly to completion, up to 31st March 1890.

3. Earnest money Rs. 1,000 to be enclosed with each Tender.

4. The successful Tenderer must sign a deed of contract duly stamped and registered at his own expense, within 3 weeks of the acceptance of his Tender.

5. The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

6. Any further information required can be had on application.

UDOY NARAIN SINGHA,  
Superintendent of Stores.

16th March 1889.

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NOTICE.

This Company's Steamer "OUDH" will leave Calcutta for Assam on Friday the 29th instant.

All cargo for shipment by the above vessel should be sent to the Company's Godown at Juggannauth Ghat not later than Thursday the 28th idem.

CACHAR LINE.

For particular of the sailings of this line please apply to the undersigned.

DHUBRI & DEBROOGHUR MAIL SERVICE.

The Steamers of this Service leave Dhubri daily immediately on arrival of the mails from Calcutta, and are connected with the E. B. S. Railway for booking of traffic through to river stations.

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BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,  
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SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late  
Nawab Faridoon Jah Bahadoor,  
(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,  
Behar and Orissa)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street,

CALCUTTA.

## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and reaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman. *The Indian Pioneer's Gazette & Sporting News*, October 1, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know; and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river: [Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye. [Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course. — [Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruckin, or Mr. Bluk would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting: [Extract.] *The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

... this interesting book. We are justified in so terming it, not on account of any romantic adventures that the author has to relate, nor of any very new discoveries in geography or natural history. There is something particularly in regards ethnology; and a great deal of human nature in the book, shown to the reader with a simplicity and candour which bear testimony to its truth. Called from the busy haunts of men in the city to dwell for a time in Independent Tipperah, as a pious adviser to its chief, Doctor Mookerjee relates his adventures during the several journeys to and from that capacity, without revealing the secrets of the State, like a good diplomatist. He has adhered strictly to the advice which he offers to his brethren of the Native press, and has written what he saw and knows, without revealing all, considering what he might properly say and what withhold. The above seems to be a curious passage to be found in a book of travels, and appears to have no connection with the subject. But it arises from a casual reference to a slaughter house, and a writer who "thundered weekly against the outrage of locating shambles in the immediate vicinity of a Hindoo temple" where in fact, no temple could be said to exist. Hence, the doctor advises his fellow-citizens not to be Pharisees, righteous overmuch, but to look and be sure of their facts. In the same spirit, he has written his book. He gives an account of his travels, which seem often to have been voyages, upon the w-despreading rivers of Eastern Bengal which in the rains become almost inland seas. On these he philosophises on the nature of the country and the people, making careful observation of his facts; and though he sometimes fancies he knows better than his boatmen, and more than suspects that they are getting the better of him, he submits with a grace that would have done credit to Socrates, and accepts the apparently inevitable in the interests of peace. The doctor is a close observer of nature, minute and inanimate, with an eye to the picturesque as well as to the sublime and beautiful. And although there is a vein of cynicism running through many of his observations, it is tempered by such evident good nature, that even a stranger would conceive him to be a lander-loving rather than a stern philosopher. This is evi-

dent in his description of his boatmen and others, while he denounces the lawlessness which has made the poor fishermen suspicious even of honest intentions, because they have so long been the helpless victims of marauders stronger than themselves. Then only defence is flight or deceit, and the latter is then justification as a mode of self protection. We are shown not only the weakness of the people, but the shortcomings of the administration that leave these things possible. The author is impartial in his censures. There is much in the book to which space forbids us to refer. That it is not a prosy one may be gathered from the fact that, for its 300 pages, there are nearly as many index references. Many of the subjects are necessarily but lightly treated, but all sensibly and fairly. And Dr. Mookerjee is such a master of the English language that in the whole book we have scarcely found a phrase that might not have been written by an Englishman "to the manner born." There is nothing in it at which any one could reasonably take offence; and there is much from which both Englishmen and natives may learn greatly-needed lessons. *The Indian Daily News*, Nov. 22, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Beng*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-embellished with detail in what is fictionously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a ruler is, by the way, facetious. He is given over to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree. "A naked Whiteman hurls his scepticities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight." "she had such large lustrous eyes." But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "Last of the Nawabs" Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. *Travels in Beng* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in. *The Pioneer*, Dec. 1, 1887.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1889.

} No. 367

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

ALTHOUGH the writers on the Constitution, from Blackstone to Brougham and Bagehot, are deep in a conspiracy of silence on the point, and the poor manual-makers follow suit, the Queen of England has, of her own right, in her own person, a jurisdiction independent of, and apart from, her courts and judiciary. Neither the ecclesiastical nor law courts touch her privilege to sit in judgement in the matrimonial disputes of the Upper Ten in the realm. This jurisdiction is akin to that of the Caste Tribunal which existed in the last century in Calcutta, presided over by Maharaja Nava Krishna of the Sobhabazar family. The High Court of Justice, in its matrimonial side, may adjudicate on the property or other rights in dispute. But only the Queen can give or withhold what is scarcely less dear—caste.

Her Majesty has been pleased to relax the rule about the drawing-rooms, for ladies who have been divorced, whether for any fault of their own or not. There used to be no exception. Now a lady who has divorced her husband may apply for permission for attendance, and Her Majesty will consider each case on its merits. The Queen-Empress thus exercises a real influence on English social and domestic life. In spite of great temptation and sometimes pressure from her own family, that influence has been exercised for good.

SIR Donald Mackenzie Wallace arrived at Bombay on Friday week and left it on Sunday following for Kurrachee *en route* for Bagdad and Buhire. At Bombay, he was the guest of Lord Reay. At Kurrachee, he was interviewed by the local *Phoenix*. Sir Donald has reverted to his former position in the *Times* service.

THE richest biped in petticoat boots from South America. This she is. She has Done Isadore Cousins of Chili as the owner of many mines, of different minerals, in her country, and of a fleet of iron steamers, and what not besides into the bargain. She is out on her travels, and is now going to New York. The *mot* in the "Empire City" is that, if she takes the place, she may buy it. The associated Eudorashocracy, for which that city is infamous, may be meditating a *coup* on her for leaving blackmail. She must finally gravitate to Paris—the capital of civilization and nonsense.

THEY may be romance in every line. Uninteresting as the vulgar pursuit of wealth ordinarily is, there are not wanting picturesque situations and incidents in it, and many writers of better work in that vein. But they usually seek to affect our imagination with fabulous accumulations and financial operations on a vast scale. Plutocracy, however, is not half so interesting as aristocracy. Again, in real life, the accounts of the successful high priests of Mammon are not by any means so edifying as those of humbler but nonetheless successful pilgrims. The trials and triumphs of Plutocracy Below-stairs naturally come home to the business and bosoms of humble humanity. We accordingly present to our readers this account of the head of the *Durwan* profession—the wealthiest hotel porter in the world.

"The aristocratic tourist who makes his home at the Grand Pacific during his stay in Chicago is greeted on his arrival by a tall man of genteel appearance, who takes his big travelling bag with a Chester-

fieldian bow and conducts him to the foot of the elevator. This man is John Culliton the richest hotel porter in the world. Culliton is said to be worth more than 1,000,000 dollars and lives in elegance in Park Avenue. He prides himself on the memory of names and faces, and knows every public man in America who has chanced to stop at the Grand Pacific Hotel. He is always posted on the railway time tables and is prepared to give his opinion readily on the amusements in the city. He has ten assistants, who receive 90 dollars a month each and then board."

THE worship of Mammon is intelligible. That of Bacchus is more grovelling and simply stupid. Here is the Romance of Rum and—not water.

"A novel kind of duel, with a tragical termination, has just taken place outside Paris between two rivals in the affections of the buxom barmaid of a wine tavern. The rivals were brothers, and they resolved to drink copious libations of fiery and undiluted rum until one or both should be overpowered. The alcoholic article sold as 'pure Jamaica' in Parisian taverns (the *Daily Telegraph's* correspondent says) is bad enough when well watered, but when taken neat and in large quantities it is worse than the poisonous absinthe with which too many Frenchmen ply themselves *ad libitum*. The brothers began their 'rum duel' before the eyes of their dumsel, who supplied them with the deleterious concoction as they called for it. At last one of them fell down by the side of the counter, and was carried home carefully and restored. The other went out into the frosty air full of liquor, caught a chill, and died, thus leaving the field free to his rival."

Talk of Amurrs after that! Why, these Bacchanalian she-devils of the capital of Civilization beat hollow any fights to be found in Timbuctoo or recorded in Herodotus.

WITH the importation of the Baku petroleum, the trade of India with Russia is on the increase. To take one instance, Russia is now a large buyer of our Indigo. The year before last, she purchased a little over 300,000 yards at Rs. 125,000. Last year, the consumption rose to over 1,000,000 yards, worth more than Rs. 50,000. A small quantity of all this rich dye is required for use at home, the great Northern empire not being famous for manufactures. Nearly the whole will be carried to other countries of Asia and Europe. Those countries were formerly supplied by England, and so was Russia too. But now that profitable carrying business is going away, Russia has insulated herself into a lonely clime in it.

THE Bengal Chamber of Commerce, on the 23rd March, waited in deputation on the Viceroy with an important address on the subject of Railways. The deputation was composed of Sir Alexander Wilson, Kt., President, the Hon'ble C. H. Moore, Vice President, and the following Members of the Committee: W. J. M. McCaw, Esq., Chairman, Piecgood, Sub-Committee, J. N. Stuart, Esq., Chairman Indian Tea Association, R. Williamson, Esq., Chairman Jute Manufacturers Association, John A. Ralli, Esq., Chairman Sub-Committee on References, Thos. Payn, Esq., also D. Cruickshank, Esq., Past President, H. B. H. Turner, Esq., Past President, and S. E. J. Clarke, Esq., Secretary. The address urged upon Government adoption of a vigorous policy of railway construction, with special reference to the clams of Bengal which have been neglected.

A MOST piteous case of murder is being investigated on the other bank of the town. A little native girl of ten, passing by a pond, was

*Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.*

attracted by the cries of an infant lying on the slope of the water, while its mother—another girl of not very much more mature years—was engaged in removing the earth from a spot lower down. The girl loitered there for the end of the operation. Soon she saw the mad (as she must be termed) mother take up her child, and, placing it in the spot made ready for it, cover it up with earth and mud. In horror and alarm, she ran for the nearest constable, but, before he could come to the rescue, all was over with the poor infant. When the body was exhumed, it was still warm but life was extinct. The mother was still there, as if chained and unable to turn her eye from the spot where lay her first unhappy fruit of—love, regretting his rashness when too late. She was a comparative stranger at Howrah, having come three months apparently on purpose—from a rural hamlet in the Midnapore District. Not necessarily to commit the foul and unnatural murder, at any rate with the natural object of hiding her shame from her own people. In such circumstances, it is but a step from the natural to the unnatural.

Such crimes are common enough in every country. It is the injustice of society that is responsible to a great extent for goading the victims to the murder of their offspring.

THIS is the official summary of the Financial Statement of 1889-90:—

"The Financial Statement of 1889-90 was made in the Legislative Council by Sir David Barbour on the 27th March.

The principal features are summarised as follows:—

The Accounts of 1887-88 have closed with a deficit of Rs. 2,028,000, including as expenditure Rs. 456,000 on account of Special Defence Works. The deficit has resulted mainly from a special charge of Rs. 1,059,000 incurred in connection with the conversion of the 4 per cent. Sterling Stock into 3½ per cent., from heavy military expenditure in Burma, from a fall in exchange, and in the price of opium, and from a reduction in Railway Revenue, counter balanced by an improvement in Revenue and reduced Expenditure under other heads.

The Revised Estimates of 1888-89 show a deficit of Rs. 202,000, including as expenditure Rs. 318,000 on account of Special Defence Works, and a surplus of Rs. 616,000, if the cost of these works be excluded. This deficit is less than that originally estimated by Rs. 406,000, and as there has been a heavy fall in the rate of exchange, unforeseen expenditure on Military Expeditions, and a temporary decline in the Salt revenue owing to persistent rumours of an impending reduction of the duty, the result is held to be satisfactory.

The Budget Estimates for 1889-90 show a surplus of Rs. 106,000 after providing Rs. 1,103,000 for Special Defence Works, and excluding the cost of the same works, a surplus of Rs. 1,200,000. Imperial revenues have received a special asset of Rs. 710,000, towards which all Local Governments, except the Punjab, contribute. The Estimates are stated to have been framed with moderation.

It is announced with the usual reserve that the Secretary of State proposes to draw, during 1889-90, £11,600,000 of Colonial Bills, and to raise a loan of £3,750,000 under the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway Purchase Act for the purpose of advancing funds to Railway Companies; also that the Government of India will probably raise a loan of Rs. 2,500,000 in India, of which Rs. 500,000 is required for the Dock Works at Calcutta and Bombay, and Rs. 250,000 for Municipal Water Works.

Sir David Barbour alludes to the Excise question at some length, and shows that a remarkable improvement in revenue has, in some cases been secured by greater strictness of control, and attended with a reduction in consumption. He also corrects a misapprehension regarding the policy followed by the Government.

The unfavourable receipts from the Salt revenue in the current year are clearly shown to be largely due to the persistent rumours that have been current throughout the year that a reduction of duty was imminent.

Regarding the position of silver he says:—

"The present condition is not one of permanent equilibrium. Either there will be continuous progress in the direction of demonetising silver and substituting gold, or the world will revert to the old system of double legal tender."

He holds that the action of the United States and the Continental nations of Europe may bring on a crisis at any moment, and declares that no solution of the currency question is possible without international agreement.

Reviewing the general financial position, he adds:—

"Among the more encouraging features in Indian finance is the elasticity of the ordinary revenue. It is true that we have not many new sources of revenue open to us, but the receipts from existing sources grow with satisfactory rapidity."

Attention is called to the progress made in completing the military defensive preparations.

The annual deficit in Upper Burma is shown to have been reduced by Rs. 328,000 in the year, and the position is summed up as follows:—

"I have tried to state fairly both the probable difficulties of the future, and the reasons that exist for holding that we shall be able to encounter them successfully, and my deliberate conclusion is, that while there is every need for economy and for husbanding our revenue, there is no ground for desponding or pessimist views. Unless some unforeseen disaster occurs, there is every reason to hope that the lapse of two or three years will show a decided improvement in the financial position of the Government of India. It is true that the surplus which we have been able to show in the Estimates of the coming year is little more than nominal, only Rs. 106,000, but the Estimates have

been framed with great moderation, and if the Indian revenues continue to exhibit their usual elasticity, and no unforeseen disaster occurs, I anticipate that the Financial Statement of 1890-91 will show decided improvement."

IN a recent sessions trial at Ahmedabad, the Jury acquitted the prisoner who stood charged with murder, but the Judge was of a contrary opinion and sent up the case to the High Court, supporting his view in an elaborate judgment. The High Court agreed with the Jury. The Sessions Judge was shown to have placed too much reliance upon the evidence which had been worked up by the Police, and besides to have not noticed certain important points.

THE pianograph is one of the latest developments in that line. Attached to an ordinary piano, it reproduces on music paper the notes played.

THE Calcutta session of the Supreme Legislative Council closed yesterday. The session of the Bengal Legislative Council opened to-day.

MR. F. C. BARNES has been confirmed Superintendent of Stamps and Stationery, from the 6th May 1887. It took the Government nearly two years to come to a decision. Relieved of anxiety, Mr. Barnes goes on one year's leave, from the 17th April.

IN the Districts of Beerbhoom, Burdwan, Midnapore and Bankura, the District Judge and the First Subordinate Judge or (where, as in Beerbhoom, there is only one such officer) Subordinate Judge, are, in their respective territorial jurisdictions, appointed Special Judges empowered to hear appeals from the decisions of the Revenue officers employed in conducting the survey and preparing the record of rights, in certain estates.

FROM the 1st April, fees under the Inventions and Designs Act V. of 1888, sec. 82, sub-sec. (3) and sec. 62, sub-sec. (3), will be realized in cash instead of in stamps.

MR. H. MILLER having gone on 6 months' leave, the officiating Second Judge Mr. G. C. Sconce acts as Chief Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court.

THE next or second Criminal Sessions of 1889 begins on Monday, the 29th April.

NO less than 113 Mooktears have passed the prescribed examination of the 21st and 22nd February.

THE new municipal Act comes into operation from the first April. On Monday, Sir Henry Harrison ceases to be the Commissioner of Police. Mr. J. Lumbert, C.L., assumes full powers as the head of the Metropolitan Police Force, his Assistant Mr. A. B. Barnard taking his place as Deputy Commissioner.

WE publish elsewhere the result of the municipal elections in the 25 Wards held on the 15th, and the nominations by the Local Government, the Port Trust, the Chamber of Commerce and the Trades Association, as also the new boundaries of the suburban municipalities occasioned by the absorption of a portion of the Suburbs in the Municipal Calcutta.

THE *Calcutta Gazette* of the week publishes as an appendix the Draft Rules proposed to supersede the existing Rules under Sec. 24 of the Indian Steam-Ships Act VII of 1834. No rules can be protection against wholesale loss of life, unless they are observed and enforced. There is little chance of such observance, unless men are punished for neglect. And there is little chance in this family circle of Indian administration of anything beyond a mild wiggling for its Prodigals and scapegraces, so long as the poor victims, numbering by the hundreds, are only Baboos, native women, and so forth. By the bye, what was the final order on the Surveyor Bushby, in connection with the *Sir John Lawrence*?

MEANWHILE, we are glad to learn that there is a project before Government for removing, or at least reducing, the James and Mary shoal near the mouth of the Hoogly, on which so many vessels are every year stranded.

THE average of visitors to the Indian Museum, during the 20 days of February on which it was open to the public, was 1,731 a day, the total of visitors being 34,656, as follows—natives (males 23,819+9,559) 33,378 and Europeans (1,019+259) 1,278.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE High Court seems to be under a cloud. Two of the Senior Native Judges were ailing when the country was startled by the news of the sudden prostration of the good Chief. Sir Comer Petheram has been seriously indisposed since Sunday last. In fact, it was rumoured yesterday that he had succumbed to pain in the abdomen and extreme exhaustion. The news was premature, and we hope may turn out false in the *finale*. It is something, under present circumstances, that the Doctors have not yet given up all hopes of recovery.

MR. R. F. Rampini, District and Sessions Judge, Burdwan, has received a temporary lift to the High Court, in place of Mr. Justice O'Kinealy on furlough. Mr. Charles H. Hill, Barrister-at-law, Public Prosecutor to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, officiates for Mr. Justice Wilson of our High Court. Is there no practising barrister here worthy of, and willing for, the temporary distinction? Mr. Justice Macpherson has also obtained furlough for 4 months and ten days, and it is believed Mr. H. W. Gordon, Judge of at Satun, will again come to the High Court.

SOCIETY in Calcutta is dissolving. Soon it will fade away like camphor, leaving behind only an odour—a sound—a memory at most. The breach in the official camp has already commenced. The supernumeraries have led the way, going out like scouts in advance. Yesterday's Legislative Council of the Viceroy disclosed a gap. The Minister of Agriculture and Sir Dinshaw Petit were *non est*. To-night, the Hon'ble Mr. Member and the Hon'ble Law Member and Sir David Barbour leave. The Viceroy's departure is fixed for the 2nd April.

Sir Dinshaw's time is up. His term completed, he is not coming to our city again, we fear. He has left his mark, however, in his characteristic way. He has left with the District Charitable Society an offer of Rs. 20,000 for a Sir Dinshaw Moneckjee Petit Lepet Asylum. The Parsee Knight is clearly no expert in Nomenclology. Petit Lepet Asylum would have done just as well, without detracting from his fame. A long straggling designation is an inconvenient thing up for a man or institution. The name he gives is of the nature of a needless Alexandrine.

That, like a wounded snake, drags its slow length along.

The institution is not needless, however, and even the burden of an awkward name may be borne in consideration of the money. Possibly, the donor may relent about the name. A charitable man like the Hon'ble Parsee would not like to inflict unnecessary torture on his fellowmen.

Not is that his only great farwell charity. Sir Dinshaw has given Rs. 25,000 to the Poojapole, the asylum for the rescue and maintenance of our inferior dumb brethren.

FOR the better counting of passengers, the local Government had proposed the compulsory use of the landing-stage at Chundpal Ghat by passenger steamers plying between Calcutta and Chundpal Ghat by the Stearn Navigation Companies engaged in the service—the India General, the Rivers, and the Orissa Companies—alop, owed the innovation as calculated to injure their trade and to inconvenience the passengers. All the steamers of the three Companies now leave and arrive at Calcutta the same day. They do not use any landing stage, receiving and landing their human freight in midstream. To confine them to one landing stage is to make them forego the rivalry of trade, and to run the risk of being detained in the Hooghly beyond Wednesday—the day they all start. Indeed, the Commissioner of Police suggested different dates for different steamers. The objections have been summarised thus:—

(1.) Steamers of the three competing Companies leave on Wednesday at the same hour, and it would be hopeless to expect the representatives of the Companies to agree to the sub-division of the sailing days, as whosoever was fortunate enough to secure Wednesday, would obtain a great advantage over the others.

(2.) The passengers embark on Tuesday night; the first steamer going along-side the stage would therefore receive her passengers and leave early on Wednesday morning. But the other steamers would not be able to load their passengers until Wednesday, the last vessel probably not being away until late in the day, in which case it would be useless for her to start, as at present the vessels leave early on Wednesday, and land their passengers the same evening. The object is to keep the passengers on board as long a time as possible, as their caste prejudices forbid them to eat or drink whilst on the vessel.

(3.) The delay caused in starting would render it impossible for steamers to arrive at Chundpal the same evening, and pilgrims would thus be two days without food.

(4.) There would be great delay in the departure of the steamer according to the rate of the tide.

(5.) During the night it would be dangerous for vessels of the size engaged in the trade to approach Chundpal Ghat, between buoys and shipping, if the present position of the buoys be maintained.

(6.) The proposed system would be an unjustifiable interference with private enterprise.

The Port Commissioners accept these objections and are not prepared to accept the proposed compulsory rule.

The Port Commissioners did not come out with such flying colours in the late discussion that they are entitled to command submission to their wisdom. The Companies ought certainly to know their own business, but inasmuch as recent events have shown that their present methods facilitate the loss of lives, they ought to show less confidence in their own judgment and a disposition to come to reasonable terms. It seems to be an idle superstition that all the three steamers should start on every Wednesday at the same time. So far as we can judge, we see no substantial objection to the suggestion of the Police Commissioners. Its adoption would, we believe, be a greater convenience to the passengers, all round, and reduce the risk of loss, while each Company would have equal chance—good, bad or indifferent—of serving the public. For the first few weeks, the Wednesday night drive would have some little advantage over the others, but matters would soon settle down to an equilibrium. At any rate, the Companies must be brought under stricter control than they obtain. The existing arrangement must be better supervised. In their eagerness to get to land, the passengers run every risk of being thrown into the river.

As might be expected, the popular Commission inquiry has lifted up the veil from that mystery the *Times* property and management. But the mystery has not been entirely dispelled. The world has been more tactful than candid. It has had just a glimpse of the truth. What we have had only increases our desire to know more. The information given on the cardinal subject of ownership itself is not clear. Mr. Walter, long popularly known as the chief proprietor, himself stated that the *Times* is owned by a numerous body of shareholders and that he has a rather small share. Running counter to popular belief as it did, this was incredible. It was with a sense of relief that the public received the explanation that was offered—not by Mr. Walter—but that Mr. Walter tacitly admitted that he was owner of a half and a certain share, that is, in full partnership, nine annas share. But proportion seems more in accord with the place he occupies in the popular imagination as the leading man of the *Times* property, and indeed actively all as the principal personality on the great journal. But it is singular that the hereditary Lord of the printed opinion should be so wholly wanting in the power to express, in a Court, in English, his more than a human concern! Here is our daily account which we take over from the *Hypocrite of R. & L.* After saying that the interpretation that Mr. Walter has of the *Times* is a half and a share besides, is fallacious, the *Times* proceeds:

"His wealth is derived not from the *Times* itself, but from the contract to produce and print it. The printing is done according to schedule. The copyright of the *Times* is not his. All the machinery and all the organisation, by which the *Times* is made a great paper, are in his hands. The proprietors of the *Times* can neither appoint nor dismiss either editor, leader-writer or correspondent. If the contract were broken, the *Times* might appear next day under a new name exactly as it did the previous day, whereas the proprietors would have to issue a new paper under the old name. Mr. Walter is therefore master of the situation. One can understand that he feels the responsibility of his position, and that he shrinks from throwing upon his fellow proprietors a ruinous burden, which they have done nothing to create, and he has assisted to pile up."

The last remark refers to the statement, made in some quarters, that Mr. Walter will take upon himself the heavy costs of the *Times* in the inquiry, and will sell his Zemindari of Bowwood, if required, rather than let the expenses fall on the rest of the shareholders, many of whom are poor, women and orphans, and so forth. We do not know what

authority there is for the rumour. It seems to us not the least of the many startling things in connection with this inquiry. If it is true, Mr. Walter's chivalrous generosity will be among the noblest traditions of the *Times* management, so famous for liberality.

We are glad to learn that—

"A movement is already taking place in influential circles of raising a fund to indemnify the London *Times* for the heavy expenses incurred in connection with the Patell Commission. Our well known and worthy Scotchman has declared his readiness to subscribe £10,000."

Mr. Walter deserves sympathy.

A LITERARY nuisance is laying down South. The death of President White has been the signal to all the seniors *in vice* and *in prose* to be at the subject, with the result of the production of a prodigious deal of prose. It *are* alone is competent to save and sublimate the spectacle might be reckoned salutary. It would be difficult to find anywhere such a cumulation of literary dung. But White! What a fate is thine! to be the victim of the enthusiasm of friends. Mr. Whitmore has, by one stroke of pen and, brought himself and his subject down with an epigram hardly distinguishable from bathos. Says this admirer—

"At any rate whatever of Mr. White has done, or did not do, he has achieved immortality."

This notable example of the Art of Sinking—doubtless deeply stirred kindred spirits, and the public had better look out for the forthcoming bales of magnificent eulogy. Mr. M Tindale is the first of such spirits, who has already taken the helm. He is great in verse as well as prose. His feelings find expression in both. He has paraphrased Mr. Whitmore's striking sentiment in prose at length and then plunged into poetry. His song, however, is neither rhyme nor reason. At the best, it is sounding commonplace, dressed in metrical prose, divided into lines of different lengths. The poem is called "Who are Immortal?" "In Memory of beloved David White," and thus opens—

"Who are immortal?

Not the proud tyrant, nor vain

Men of untold wealth and influence

O'er whom stand stately marble monuments,

Immortality dwells not in hyacinth-trifles,

Tablets soon perish, monuments decay;

The waiting on the Roll of Fame

Grows cold with age. The note

Of many-tongued applause, soon

Discreets in faint uncertain murmurs,

You must awake the Echoes of an time

To be immortal—echoes in the hearts

Of generations which are yet unborn,

Echoes that will repeat the story o'er and o'er

And carry it above the claims of petty interest.

Of course, the implication is, that the late Mr. White achieved the anachronism of awaking the Echoes of all time—echoes in the hearts of generations yet unborn. The reader will remark Mr. Tindale's pyramidal method of building his story rhyme—from the apex down-wards. The first line has 5 syllables, the 2nd 7, the 3rd 9, the 4th 12, the 5th 14, then there is a sudden revolution, the number going down to 10 syllables, next to 8, and finally to a few as 6 syllables. Mr. Whitmore continues in the same strain, quite innocent of self-indulgence.

"A man may live in sculptured stone,

In sweetest song?—On wall and page

Or flattering history, and yet not be immortal!

The name imperishable, the power to act

A magic spell o'er coming ages,

To cause a ripple on his side, which

Will widen till it reaches the Eternal Shore,

To lift the fallen, cause Deceit to sing

Place bread before the hungry for all time,

Teach hearts to throb in unison,

Point to a path that leads from want and woe

To national prosperity."

There are some expressions beyond us. For instance—

"The Canteens have rolled away, and strangers

Ask how came this great prosperity," &c.

Is "Canteens" the word intended? It is rather an ominous word. The Anglo-Indians may well see an imputation on their sobriety, if it is hinted that the canteens and canteenism, in every shape and under

every designation, must be abolished before there is hope of prosperity among the poor Whites.

THE bards are not only a Bohemian brotherhood, but veritable Gipseys to the backbone—not only in their fortune-telling proclivity, prophesying the fates of men and nations but down to the vulgar propensity to pilfering. No chance of kidnapping children comes amiss to any of the fraternity however exalted. If the *Iliad* or the *Odyssey* was the production of one mind, as appears too probable from the unity prevailing, it may be taken for granted that the Father of Poetry drew largely upon his recollection of the Minneangers' ballads and songs of the Heroic Age. Certainly, all the great poets who have had opportunities have been bold robbers of their brethren's bauns of the brain. What wonder that "poor Goldy" should turn a penny by a little sharp practice? He is a charming writer whose works are all popular. Perhaps none of his compositions is so wellknown and appreciated as the little song in the comedy of *She stoops to conquer, to wit—*

When lovely woman stoops to folly,  
And finds too late that men betray;  
What charm can sooth her melancholy—  
What art can wash her guilt away?

The only art her guilt to cover,  
To hide her shame from every eye,  
To give repentance to her lover  
And wring his bosom—is to die.

That is not a great literary feat to draw down deafening applause. But the sentiment is amiable and true, and it is expressed with point, and through the whole pervades an atmosphere of tranquil beauty. The credit of the piece does not belong to the gifted simpleton except as a translator. The original was the work of a forgotten French poet of the beginning of the 18th century, named Segur, who, in 1719, published in Paris a collection of his pieces containing the following stanzas.

Lorsqu'une femme, après trop de tendresse  
D'un homme sent la trahison,  
Comment, pour cette si douce faiblesse,  
Peut-elle trouver une guérison?

Le seul remède qu'elle peut ressentir,  
La seule revanche pour son tort,  
Pour faire trop tard l'aveu repentir,  
Heus! trop tard—est le mort.

Nor is this the only instance. The tender poem of the *Hermit*, is founded upon the old ballad of the "Nuthroan Maid."

THE expiring Municipal Corporation met for the last time on Thursday. The Commissioners were called on to consider the Budget for the next year and to fix the rates. The Budget was passed as framed by the Budget Committee consisting of members of both the Calcutta and Suburban Municipalities. The questions which chiefly occupied the attention of the Commissioners were the retention of the services of the Secretary and the Collector of the Suburban Corporation. It must be gratifying to his friends to know that almost every hand was lifted up in favour of Mr. Owen as Personal Assistant to the Chairs, or rather the Chan and the stool of the Vice-man. Baboo Oghoremath Mohorjee was continued to collect the rates in the Suburbs. The rates were fixed as under—

General Rate 9½ per cent.  
Water Rate 6 per cent.  
Lighting Rate 2 per cent.  
Sewage Rate 2 per cent.

All these rates are to be recovered in advance as a consolidated rate, half being payable by the owners and half by the occupiers of houses and lands. The consolidated rate on bustee land and the huts built thereon will be recovered from the owner of the land, but he will be allowed a deduction of one-eighth as a set off against collection charges and as a commutation of all refunds for huts on account of vacancy or non-existence. Two quarters' House rate is thus payable in the quarter commencing in April 1889. The town has been granted relief of the Police Rate, and for fees for the night-soil service—levied on those who used it—an indiscriminate rate on all, under the name of the Sewage Rate, has been fixed at 2 per cent. Speaking



generally, the House rate has been increased by 1 per cent, while there will be no call for the Police Rate at all. But for the accident of five quarters' collection falling during the next year, it would have been necessary to raise the General Rate, to, say, 10 per cent, a figure which may be expected to be reached in subsequent years. The suburbs will pay only 3 per cent. Water Rate, for, under the law, "houses and lands, no part of which is within 150 yards of the nearest stand-pipe or other supply of filtered water available to the public, shall pay 3 per cent. less than houses otherwise situated."

The new corporation commencing on Monday next, holds its first meeting on Thursday the 4th April. The first in the List of Business is the appointment of a General Committee, the ruling Committee of the Corporation. The number has been limited by law to 18, namely, 12 from the 50 elected and 6 from the remaining 25 *quasi*-elected and nominated Commissioners. These appointments must be made under rules made by the Commissioners in meeting for the 12 and by the local Government for the 6. But we do not observe that they have been yet made or published.

Of late, there has been a tendency to centralize the power of the Corporation in the General Committee, and for the Chairman to monopolize all power. The new law expressly sanctions these usurpations. The late Sir Ashley Eden held the Corporation as a whole too unwieldy for real practical work, and always recommended a select minority for the business of the town. The present Government adopted the recommendation and has legislatively fixed the number of the Committee and empowered the Chairman to give effect to the deliberations of the Committee independent of the general body of Commissioners. The law provides that "when the Chairman and the majority of the General Committee are in accord and inconvenience is likely to result from delay, it shall not be necessary before action is taken to wait for the confirmation of the Commissioners in meeting, but if the Commissioners in meeting do not confirm the action of the General Committee, such steps shall be taken to carry out the orders of the Commissioners as may still be practicable."

As an evidence of how it is proposed to work this new power, the Chairman last week issued an advertisement inviting tenders for printing work of the Corporation, without so much as even the knowledge of the Town Council or the General Committee which sit every week to advise the Chairman. That supposes the abolition of the present printing staff of the Corporation—about 50 souls. If the new law is worked in this spirit, at its next revision, we may reasonably expect the abolition of the large corporate body and the vesting of the entire control in half a dozen hands.

HAVING, with others in the press, had occasion to notice the indecent family selection of examiners for the sole candidate this year for Doctoral honours, we ought to record that the candidate has failed in the ordeal. We have received the news with mixed feelings. We regret the disappointment to Master Jogendra Chunder Ghose, whom we personally like and whose first appearance as the editor of the works of a great Indian we cordially encouraged. He is a promising young man, capable of industry, and his disappointment can be only temporary.

MUCH nonsense has been talked in society in connection with this examination, by men who are constitutionally or from defect of education, incapable of appreciating the sacred duty of journalists, and by none so much as by the precious old fogey who, to its shame, is the head of the vakel bar. This man, who, in the Dark Age of the old Sudder Court, obtained the right to wear the vakel's turban, with no more than the education of a Kerani, has never improved during all the ages. By force of a barren longevity and a superb capacity to be all things to all men and the smiling instrument of the mean in power in particular, he has come to be somebody. Of course, this is exactly the sort of person to anticipate and exaggerate the good will or bad will of his patrons. And this honourable gentleman has, in his latter days, taken to criticise the proprieties of *Reis & Rayyet*! We have no space to devote to him this week, or we could give many particulars which would have amused the reader. We will only mention that there is on record, in the printed proceedings of a suburban public meeting, a complaint against him which shows of what moral calibre he is made of. *Ne sutor ultra crepidum.*

THE latest and last sitting of the Calcutta session of the Legislative Council of India yesterday, was occupied with discussion on the Budget. The debate was wound up with a speech from the Chair, in which the Viceroy announced the decision of the Secretary of State that the Budget will be every year presented for discussion, not by accident, but of system—not by favour, but of right. This had been anticipated, but his Excellency added something of even more importance and which was scarcely hoped for. He said that, subject to certain necessary restrictions, the right of interpellation will be granted. We will notice the debate hereafter. This notable installment of reform we owe to Lord Dufferin's initiative.

THE *Bombay Gazette* reminds the public of a previous dangerous flight in the air from the Western Capital. In 1853, one Fitzherbert Knight, after a previous failure, ascended, in a balloon, on the 18th December, to the height of 8,000 to 10,000 feet, and was carried far out into the sea, and was rescued from death by the humane Captain Fox of the *Lady & Family* steamer, who ran a race for many miles in the direction of the balloon as he saw it drifting in the air for the purpose and took up Knight who, clinging to the netting of his apparatus, was slowly sinking and was half under water. At Bombay, however, he was given up for lost. The Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy, Sir Henry Leeke, who was at Breach Candy, himself galloped to the Dock Yard, had a boat placed on a truck and carried across to Breach Candy and sent after in search, but it returned after midnight without any information. Next day, the Bombay press said that Mr. Knight had recovered his credit at the cost of his life. This impression remained until four days after a letter from Surat announced that the aeronaut had been rescued ten miles out in the sea the very night of his ascent.

About the same time, Mr. Knight visited Bengal and twice performed before the public at the late Raja Baddy Nath's wellknown seat at Cossipore. As usual, the first attempt was disappointing, the balloon would not be persuaded to rise, but it rose at last, not higher than the loftier trees in the neighbourhood, and immediately collapsed and sank down to the ground. Soon, however, the aeronaut redeemed his credit. The next demonstration was quite a success. Mr. Knight rose to a decent height and sailed in the air due east and descended in safety in a field adjoining a poor hamlet beyond the cantonment of Dum-Dum.

Whatever the case in Bombay, Mr. Knight was not the first aeronaut in Bengal. Many years before him, a man of the name of Reade had strayed to this country who "attracted the natives" by his offer to ride in his own car in the sky. The greatest sensation was caused by the announcement. The whole country crowded to Garden Reach to witness the phenomenon. He was as good as his word. He rose in his balloon and soon descended in the same place. In his descent, the balloon struck against a lofty chimney, and he received an injury, we believe, in reaching from his car.

Up to the late letters on which the Maharaja of Cashmere is being built, most of his late government regarded by the Government of India to be of any serious import, nor, at the worst, a serious matter, affecting the sovereign. Colonel Henderson has been deputed to take up the inquiry. Meanwhile, the poor Maharaja has been fighting one of his wars. If he has asked to abdicate or to be given a British minister, it must be under a pain. What would not native powers give to avoid the cruelty of Mulhar Rao, that victim of British intrigue and official perversity! The Government of India has not, however, acceded to the motion proposed to appoint one of our European officers as Dewan of Cashmere. So low has the Maharaja fallen, that he had, according to a correspondent of the *Pioneer*, gone *inveig*, to British territory, to fall at the feet of his hereditary servant Lachman Das.

THE Calcutta University is a very beggar on horseback, and it is justifying to the letter the proverb in regard to its prototype. Heedless of praise or blame, it is riding valiantly to the precincts of the unmentionable regions. Whatever reputation it once possessed had, in course of time, particularly of late years, been sacrificed. Since the appointment of a stupid Registrar and the ascendancy of a not over scrupulous native party, its very respectability has come in question. To-day again comes the melancholy news of another step in the "progress" in *not* heavenward enterprise on which it seems to have set its

heart. There was a meeting of the Faculty of Arts to elect five representatives to the Syndicate. Eight gentlemen were proposed, of whom the five who stood at the head of the poll were of course elected. We give the names and the number of votes received by each.

1. Sir Alfred Croft	...	...	...	38
2. Mr. Justice Gurusdas Banerjee	...	...	...	31
3. Dr. Mahendralal Sircar	...	...	...	29
4. Mr. Pedler	...	...	...	26
5. Babu Ashutosh Mookerjee	...	...	...	24
6. Mr. Tawney	...	...	...	22
7. Principal Mahr Chunder Nyayamatra	...	...	...	14
8. The Rev. Mr. MacDonall	...	...	...	11

So all the Baboos got in at the expense of the Sahibs. The English-speaking Baboos were preferred to the scholarly English and Scotch gentlemen and practical educationists as representatives of the Arts Faculty of what is essentially an English and European University situated in India. Of course, as an Indian University, the Calcutta looks after the higher education in Sanskrit, and yet there is no room for the only Pandit proposed, though all three English-speaking Baboos could be provided for. The more rational course would have been to send the Pandit and all the Europeans—all picked men. We blush for this result. It was due to the votes of the unlettered natives who form the majority in the University.

The worst feature in to-day's election is the supersession of Principal in favour of his pupil of last year or so, Baboo Ashutosh Mookerjee, Junior. It is an outrage and a crying shame. It is the effect of hard canvassing, doubtless. Mr. Mookerjee is a clever young man who does not understand the beauty of being his light under a bushel. He is making frantic efforts to push himself to the front. He has drawn on himself a snub at the Asiatic Society, we believe. If he has the true Indian modesty, he will yet withdraw to make room for his old master.

WE have delayed our issue to give the latest news of the Chief Justice. He is still in full consciousness and bravely struggling on. It has been decided to perform an operation on him by electricity tomorrow.

Two or three days ago, Sir Comer was received by Father Lafont into the Church of Rome and received the Sacrament.

He had made his will before, and has now only added a codicil appointing Mr. Justice Norris as an executor.

WE do hope the operation will set our suffering Chief up. In any case, he cannot resume his duties for some time to come. The question of an Acting Chief has been before the Government. Unfortunately, at this moment, the senior Puisne Baboo Romesh Chunder Mitter too is suffering. The Law Member visited him and inquired, but the Judge referred him to his physician. Dr. Sircar, being asked, positively set his face against risking such a valuable life. According to him, Mr. Mitter needs rest.

We suppose we are safe in congratulating Mr. Pinsep as the Chief Justice *in prospectu*, pending the appointment of the *factum* man.

LORD LANSDOWNE paid a visit to Burrabazar, to ascertain for himself the desirability or otherwise of the proposed Central Road from the Howrah bridge to Scalda. A walk over the portions to be traversed by the new road is enough to convince one of the necessity of such an opening for ventilation of that portion of the town. But what about the Funds? That is the question. The desirability of the project is a matter of course.

THE defeated candidate in Ward No. 10, at the municipal election, objected to several of the votes of the candidate immediately before him, on the ground that persons who were not members of such bodies had voted on behalf of companies or joint families. The Chairman over-ruled the objections as too late. Thereupon, Baboo Surendra Nath Das obtained a rule from the High Court calling on the Chairman and the other candidate to shew cause why those votes should not be cancelled. The rule was argued to-day and discharged. The Chairman's ruling is maintained.

THE issues have been fixed in the Burdwan adoption case—namely, whether the late Maharani had the power to adopt, and whether the adoption if made was valid.

THE Resident has left for Hyderabad—a sadder if not wiser man than he came. He has been snubbed for his hostility to the Minister. The Mehdi Hassan scheme has survived the criticism of Messrs. Mehdi Ali and Howell. The Government of India do not care to interfere. They are ready to give Hyderabad any length of rope.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1889.

### THE LATE JOHN BRIGHT.

ON Wednesday the 27th instant, from his home in England, left the earth for his Maker a plain undecorated Englishman of no birth, nor vast estates, nor academic renown, nor high classical attainments, who will be mourned, as never Prince was, throughout the civilised globe. With the death, at the mature age of 78, of John Bright, England has lost her greatest orator and the world its most upright—perhaps its sole upright—statesman. It is true, he has recently been neglected and under a cloud, in consequence of his inability to admire the boycotting and bloody policy of the Irish Home Rulers and their Gladstonian allies, but there has never been so much as a whisper of reproach against his good faith. His courage and consistency were the more resplendent from his painful separation from his leader and former associates. This Tribune of the People was no vulgar demagogue, living upon the breath of the populace. He was on need prepared to estrange democracy as to lish aristocracy or defy royalty. Submitting to the arbitrament of his own soul only, he never cared to conciliate parties or persons. Throughout a long career, he repeatedly found himself alone, without a sigh as without a blush. Though sharing to the full the heat and burden of the angry strife of party politics, he managed to preserve his simple Quaker soul in its pristine purity. His career had a statuesque unity which does not belong to the times. Its moral grandeur is almost unique in British history.

With every part well acted—life enjoy'd,  
And every talent to the last employ'd,  
Here good John Bright is laid; a people's grief  
Consigns to memory their regretted chief.

### HOW TO PACIFY BURMA.

THE continued fighting and prolonged disturbed state of Upper Burma, is a strange commentary on the official and semi-official assurances in regard to the situation in that unhappy country. The public have been systematically gulled by statements, constantly made through official reports and newspaper correspondence, of progress rapidly being attained in the various districts, towards pacifying Upper Burma. A reference to almost every other issue of the *Englishman*, the *Indian Daily News* or the *Statesman*, will corroborate me.

The encounter with "Dacoits" in February last, reported in the *Statesman* of the 12th of that month, resulting in the death of Lieutenant Stoddard, two sepoys of the 17th B. I. and two men of the Hampshire, is said to have been the sharpest

we had. The writer unhesitatingly asserts, without fear of contradiction, by other than officially cooked up reports, that it is not true the encounter referred to was the sharpest. The statement is simply an official fiction, to delude the people of India, and misguide public feeling at home. Before and since the writer left Upper Burma, there have been both sharper and more disastrous contests with the Burmans.

Many, more particularly officials, object to a spade being called a spade. They say it is unparliamentary and vulgar to call an untruth a lie. To avoid hurting the soft-skinned official whose eye may fall on this article, the writer will be as near parliamentary in language as possible. All the same, the writer agrees with Johnson and Webster that, that which is untrue is a lie.

Any writer undertaking to lay the naked truth before the public on the subject of the Burmese or any other question, stands a good chance of being misjudged, his statements set aside as ill timed or exaggerated, and he set down as a disappointed man, an unsuccessful office-seeker. Such is almost invariably the case when the delinquencies of Government officials are shown up, by a writer who would not bow to their views. In this instance, at any rate, no such trick is possible. The author of this article is neither a disappointed man, nor an unsuccessful office-seeker; he is alike free, independent, and unprejudiced. He was an active eye witness of the glorious 11 days' campaign, for deposing King Theebaw and wresting unjustly from him his territory, said to be larger than France. The whole process, according to Sir Charles Bernard speaking in London on the 20th February last, was accomplished with the loss only of 11 men. This statement is so palpably incorrect, that it can not go unchallenged. In a future article, the writer will deal with the lecture of the late Chief Commissioner of Burma, delivered in London at Falcon-square Chapel, on "Burma and its People."

Burma has almost ceased to be the absorbing political topic of the day, its annexation being a pronounced fact which there can be no revoking. If this construction is correct, what must Burma look forward to, other than a reign of Terror, the country washed in blood of the sons of her soil, of men who have every right, as we ourselves, to repel invasion! What an ignominious display of weakness to say French intrigues compelled us to annex Burma, knowing so well that France had no means of access to Burma to protect interests of any magnitude she might secure for herself! The writer has said before, it is not true that war was declared or Burma annexed to checkmate French intrigues. That Mons. Haas did start a scare at Mandalay, cannot be denied; but that France entertained the purpose Mons. Haas succeeded in deluding Theebaw to believe, is as false as it was impossible. Few know outside the circle of those who were in Burma some years before its annexation and were present at the occupation of Mandalay as the writer was, how this scare on the part of Mons. Haas came to light.

It has nowhere yet been said that Mons. Haas intrigued in any way. His arrival in Mandalay at the time things were becoming hot for Theebaw, was made stock of, and his every footstep watched and dogged.

It was not till Mons. Haas put in writing what he intended proposing to his Government, the heads of a scheme, nothing short of a man who should have

been in a lunatic asylum, in place of being at large, would do, that the chance for ruining the poor King came. How the particulars of this wild Frenchman's insane scheme came to the knowledge of Government, was long a mystery, the truth is that Mr. Andriano, Italian Consul at Mandalay, who pretended to play into the hands of Theebaw through the Kenwoon Mencee, soon ascertained what was in the wind. The Kenwoon, who has the credit of selling his Royal Master, furnished Mr. Andriano with a draft copy of the proposals. Of course, once in the hands of a man who knew what use to make of it, and did not scruple to do so, and it naturally found its way to Rangoon, to enlighten Sir C. Bernard. For this business, Mr. Andriano received Rs. 5,000, and, in the presence of the writer, on the evening of Lord and Lady Dufferin's embarkation for Rangoon, was, together with his wife, congratulated that Theebaw had not made away with them! In further writings of the author, the Italian Consul's name will be read with interest, showing his connection with the Bombay Trading Corporation, Limited, and the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company. It may not be out of place here, however, to mention the Italian Government did not approve of his conduct as accredited Consul to a sovereign with whom Italy was on friendly terms.

The author has already said he is free, untrammelled, independent and unprejudiced. He by no means arrogates to himself the proud rôle of a champion of right against might, but only claims to be a judge of what is right and what is wrong. The Almighty he believes has endowed all men with the same power, if used in the right direction. He has an equal right to exercise it with the highest-born. He has no interests to serve, beyond his effort to induce those who persist in wholesale plunder, rapine, murder and bloodshed in the name of Government, to restore to the Burmans, Burma conditionally. It has sometime since become an exploded idea, that we are fighting dacoits. They are not so, they are patriots fighting to preserve their own traditional and hereditary rights. No one who knew anything of Burma or the Burmese, after our cowardly and dishonorable capture and deportation of Theebaw, looked forward to anything but a continuation of guerilla warfare, such as has taken place and will continue, until our eyes are opened to the enormity of our errors, and we proceed seriously to reconcile to us, so far as lies in our power, the people we have causelessly converted into our bitterest enemies.

On the occupation of Mandalay in November, 1885, Colonel Sir Edward Sladen, Political officer, and many others including the writer, were opposed to annexation, as unjust, uncalled for and cruel in the most terrible degree. It is fresh in the writer's memory that political officer's remark, "if annexation is the outcome of our being in Mandalay to day, I resign the service and go home." For sometime after Sir Charles Bernard's first proclamation, there was some conflict of opinion as to whether the proclamation meant annexation pure and simple, or if we were only for a time intending to assist materially in administering the government of the country.

Lord Dufferin, however, had reserved to himself the right, to set the matter at rest, and on the night of the Banquet at Mandalay in February 1886, His Excellency's speech removed any doubt that had been entertained through the bungling proclamation made by Sir Charles Bernard, as the Viceroy's voice, clear as a bell, announced, that Upper Burma had become part and parcel of Her

Majesty's dominions. Upon many this announcement fell like a thunderbolt, and crushed the last hope.

Many still hoped against hope that Her Majesty the Queen-Empress would not carry out the whole tale of murder and dacoity that were being perpetrated in her name. But how clear did the Viceroy make it to all, that the murder, rapine, and robbery, begun, and then going on, under His Excellency's own eyes, were to be continued, as they still are being continued to this day! An hour after those words fell from the lips of the Viceroy, Colonel Sir Edward Sladen, resting his hand on the writer's shoulder, said, briefly and sadly, "I resign." And he did so. The incident requires no comment from the writer.

It is not in egotism that these reminiscences are obtruded. The object of diverging from the subject heading of this article, has been to show, that by his presence on the day of occupation of Mandalay by our Forces and his continued residence for over two years after in Mandalay, etc., and perfect knowledge of all that transpired officially and unofficially, his intimacy with the old officials of Theebaw, entitle the writer to some position as an authority on matters affecting the good of Burma.

Some readers will probably be amused and tickled by the assurance of the writer. Others may wonder at his boldness in introducing what they may consider glaring fiction into a serious article of facts; or they may smile, and then dismiss it from mind.

But the public at home for whose information this article is more specially written, on coming across the lines, will take, no doubt, quite a different view, and accept the statement of one who knows. The fact will yet be recognised in Great Britain that no more monstrous wrong could have been inflicted than robbing the Burmese of Burma in the interests of a body of merchants, who had robbed Theebaw, solacing themselves in their ill gotten gain, and the ruin of the king.

The writer's object is to bring about amity, and not embitter the continued and determined enmity now paramount in Upper Burma. The public of India are still ill informed of the state of affairs in Burma. The confused and muddled idea of Parliament and England regarding Burmese affairs requires to be dispelled, and the extraordinary ignorance displayed from time to time removed, and statesmen rise equal to the situation of affairs as they now exist in Upper Burma.

The pacification of Burma as we are now trying to bring it about, is absurd and cruel in the extreme. It never will be pacified, and it will only be held at an immense cost of coin, and endless loss of life. As in Egypt and the Soudan, we have burnt our fingers, so also in Burma. Restore nominally the House of Alompra, and we will in six months have peace in Burma and a law-abiding people. Give Burma a constitutional form of

*Holloway's Pills and Ointment.*—Some occupations tend to the development of certain diseases, and those who toil as miners are peculiarly liable to rheumatism, lumbago, and other allied complaints. In the goldfields and copper mines Holloway's remedies have been largely patronized by the workers to their very great advantage, and they can be confidently recommended as invaluable remedies for inward congestions, spasms and cramps in the bowels, and all those conditions of the lungs and liver to which those who work underground or in impure atmospheres are so peculiarly liable. For cuts, bruises, sprains and stiffened joints, the action of Holloway's Ointment is eminently healing and soothing, and a supply should always be at hand in case of need.

Government, place a minor at Mandalay, with a strong-minded Resident. Let them know they have a Burmese King if he be but a puppet, they will be satisfied. We in no way by such an act of grace affect our status as a powerful nation, in no way diminish our prestige or national pride: Constitutions have been constantly on the change from time immemorial and to the end of the chapter will continue. Let the immense amount of treasure we have spent in opening up the country for them, be recouped as indemnity. To do this there are no difficulties in the way which cannot be overcome. Until we do this or something closely approaching it, there will be as now a cry of Peace! Peace! where there is no Peace.

ZITO.

## ENGLISH POLITICS.

BY A HINDU IN ENGLAND.

London, March 3, 1889.

A few hours after I posted my letter to you, last Friday, Richard Pigott had blown out his brains in a room at the Hotel de los Embajados in Madrid. From here he went over to France, spent a day in Paris, and then went to Madrid where he passed off as Roland Ponsonby. There were two warrants issued against him, one by Sir James Hannen, the President of the Royal Commission, and the other by Mr. Vaughan, the Bow-street Police Magistrate, before whom Mr. Parnell had preferred a charge of forgery. The British Embassy at Madrid had received from Scotland Yard and from the Foreign Office, and had communicated to the Spanish civil authorities, a full description of the fugitive, and requested them to look out for him. An inspector accordingly went to the hotel and made inquiries of the landlord and servants which soon convinced him that the so-called Ponsonby was the man wanted by the British Embassy. The inspector sent for the interpreter of the hotel La German. He was the only person who had conversed with Pigott, and had been constantly with him since his arrival in the thorough express from Paris on Thursday morning. Pigott was in his room when the police arrived to arrest him. Till then he had spent most of his time going about Madrid with the interpreter. The inspector, in order to avoid alarming Pigott, went up to his room with the German, asking the latter to tell the Englishman to follow him to the office of the Civil Governor, who would communicate to him some news which concerned him. Pigott without any sign of emotion put on his overcoat, took his hat and umbrella, and left his room and went as far as the stairs with the inspector and the interpreter. Then he quickly turned his steps to the bed-room calling out to the interpreter that he was going for his cards. The others did not follow him into the bed room, and actually waited for him in the corridor outside. Pigott went into the alcove of his room, took a revolver from the only small leather bag he had brought with him and shot himself dead. He must have fired the shot into his mouth, as it shattered the skull and the upper part of the mouth. The inspector and the interpreter, together with some other persons, entered the bed room only to find all assistance useless.

The Pigott incident has evoked curious comments from the American and Continental Press. The *San* announces gravely that Parnell has, it is understood, offered Mr. MacDonald, of the *London Times*, £150 a week to lecture in the United States on some peculiarities of English journalism. Mr. Walter and Mr. Bockle have received similar offers, but have declined, "owing to an engagement to prepare an obituary notice of the property of the Thunderer." Now that Pigott has gone to his last home, one word before I have done with him. A cowardly forger as he was, clever by half in working in the dark the ruin of some of the greatest men of the day, and a nation's cause along with it, this last act of the suicide must be held to have relived to a certain extent the uniform gloom of a life long villany, inasmuch as he bade adieu to life to avoid "a dishonoured old age to be passed in shameful slavery."

Last Friday the debate on Mr. Morley's amendment to the Address came to a close. The motion was lost by 79 votes, the ayes being 260 and the noes 339. Mr. Gladstone was at his best. "Time is nothing," said Disraeli's Vivian Grey; and those who heard the Grand Old Man last Friday night thundering against the iniquities of the present Administration were constrained to echo that sentiment. "Come to the country," was the defiant challenge of the veteran octogenarian, and he repeated it more than once.

The former music of his voice has been restored to a considerable extent. The same marshalling of facts, undisputed and undisputable, the same force of logic, and last though not least, a magnificent peroration kept the House well-bound for more than an hour and a half. The Chancellor of the Exchequer who had sat at the feet of Mr. Gladstone to learn his art, in rising to reply to his former leader, could not help referring to the magic of the ex-premier's speech. "I trust," said Mr. Goschen, "I trust that the House, though still under the spell of the eloquence of the right hon'ble gentleman would permit me to follow him through the main portions of his speech." The last speaker on the Liberal side was Mr. Parnell. When he rose to speak at 11 O'clock, the House presented a scene almost unique. Amid a scene of extraordinary outburst of enthusiasm Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Morley, Sir William Harcourt and all the members of the Liberal party took their places to cheer the "uncrowned king" of Ireland. Such a reception has never been given to one who is not in office or has not been in office.

Last Monday the installation of President Harrison in the *White House* of the United States passed off amidst pouring rain. The inaugural Address is not much thought of in this country, and is generally characterised as commonplace. An uncompromising advocate of Protection, the increase of the Navy, the repudiation of the monopoly of the Panama canal by the French or any other European power, the plethora in the National Treasury and the restlessness and uneasiness consequent thereon, these were the main points touched in the speech.

### THE NEW CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

#### CALCUTTA MUNICIPALITY.

FIRST GENERAL ELECTION UNDER ACT II (B.C.) OF 1888, ON THE 15TH MARCH 1889.

*Declaration of the Result of the Election under Section 19 of the Act and Rule 18 of the Rules prescribed by Government for the Election of Commissioners.*

Names.	Number of valid votes.	Remarks.
<b>WARD NO. 1.</b>		
Kumar Binoy Krishna ...	...	No poll.
Baboo Behary Lal Mitter ...	...	poll. } Elected.
Mr. R. Mitra ...	...	Withdrew before poll.
<b>WARD NO. 2.</b>		
Mr. N. N. Ghose ...	586	Elected.
Baboo Hurry Protnomo Sen ...	456	Elected.
Dr. U. K. Dutt ...	291	Not elected.
Baboo Buddy Nauth Dutt ...	53	Ditto.
<b>WARD NO. 3.</b>		
Baboo Kally Nauth Mitter ...	299	Elected.
Kunwar Shubul Krishna ...	243	Elected.
Baboo Omerto Lal Bose ...	131	Not elected.
" Mohney Mohun Chatterjee ...	79	Not elected.
<b>WARD NO. 4.</b>		
Baboo Nolin Behari Sircar ...	449	Elected.
" Surjit Chunder Mitter ...	375	Elected.
" Omritto Nauth Mitter ...	175	Withdrew from the contest at 5.30 P.M.
<b>WARD NO. 5.</b>		
Baboo Lal Behary Bysack ...	...	No poll.
Kumar Durgachandra Narayan Roy ...	...	Withdrew before poll.
Dr. Lal Madhub Mukerjee ...	...	...
<b>WARD NO. 6.</b>		
Dr. Bhuban Mohun Sircar ...	411	Elected.
Baboo Umachant Sen ...	371	Elected.
" Probodh Chunder Mitter ...	153	Not elected.
<b>WARD NO. 7.</b>		
Baboo Juggunnath Khanna ...	...	No contest.
" Sewbux Borka ...	...	Elected.
<b>WARD NO. 8.</b>		
Moulvie Budhudeen Hyder ...	763	Elected.
Baboo Sree Nath Dutt ...	516	Elected.
" Gobind Chunder Bhur ...	105	Not elected.
<b>WARD NO. 9.</b>		
Dr. Zahiruddeen Ahmed ...	387	Elected.
Baboo Narendra Nath Sen ...	290	Elected.
<b>WARD NO. 10.</b>		
Baboo Gonesh Chunder Chunder ...	230	Elected.
" Rash Behary Doss ...	207	Elected.
" Sootendro Nath Doss ...	197	Not elected.
<b>WARD NO. 11.</b>		
Baboo Jogesh Chunder Dutt ...	384	Elected.
Hon'ble Dr. Mahendralal Sircar, C.I.E. ...	383	Elected.
Baboo Bepindro Nauth Chatterjee ...	88	Not elected.
" Preo Nauth Paulit ...	68	Not elected.

<b>WARD NO. 12.</b>		
Baboo Nobin Chand Boral ...	316	Elected.
Mr. H. W. Hubert ...	309	Elected.
" W. E. S. Jefferson ...	223	Not elected.
<b>WARD NO. 13.</b>		
Moulvie Fazlur Rohomon Khan ...	336	Elected.
Mr. D. O. B. C. Moore ...	273	Elected.
Baboo Preo Nauth Dutt ...	209	Not elected.
<b>WARD NO. 14.</b>		
Moulvie Ahmad ...	330	Elected.
Baboo Sootendro Nath Banerjee ...	290	Elected.
" Pran Nauth Paul ...	8	Withdrew shortly after the commencement of the poll.
<b>WARD NO. 15.</b>		
Moulvie S. Lalit ...	233	Elected.
Mr. H. E. Menzies ...	83	Elected.
Moulvie A. I. Mohamed Mehdi ...	...	Not elected.
" Aga Mohamed Musa ...	1	Not elected.
<b>WARD NO. 16.</b>		
Mr. H. J. S. Cotton ...	...	No contest.
Dr. R. C. Sanders ...	...	Elected.
<b>WARD NO. 17.</b>		
Mr. G. T. Doucet ...	132	Elected.
" J. Ghosh ...	115	Elected.
Moulvie A. I. Mohamed Mehdi ...	71	Not elected.
" Aga Mohamed Musa ...	0	Not elected.
<b>WARD NO. 18.</b>		
Mr. J. G. Apur ...	...	No contest.
" W. Colford ...	...	Elected.
<b>WARD NO. 19.</b>		
Baboo Omerto Lal Ghose ...	...	No contest.
" Sootendro Nath Roy ...	...	Elected.
" Dwarka Nath Sen ...	0	Withdrew before poll.
<b>WARD NO. 20.</b>		
Baboo Ashu P. B. B. was ...	133	Elected.
Moulvie Abdul Jawad ...	130	Elected.
" Aga Mohamed Musa ...	6	Not elected.
" Aga Mohamed Mehdi ...	0	Not elected.
<b>WARD NO. 21.</b>		
Mr. W. Swinhoe ...	207	Elected.
Baboo Kanti Chunder Banerjee, C.I.E. ...	161	Elected.
Dr. S. Banerjee ...	120	Elected.
Baboo Kanti Mohun Roy ...	51	Not elected.
Mr. H. B. Mendes ...	8	Not elected.
<b>WARD NO. 22.</b>		
Baboo Pran Nauth Pundit ...	412	Elected.
" Kanti Mohun Goswami ...	327	Elected.
" Sootendro Chunder Mitter ...	188	Not elected.
" Preo Nauth Mullick ...	10	Not elected.
<b>WARD NO. 23.</b>		
Baboo Preo Nauth Mullick ...	88	Elected.
" Sham Churn Bose ...	72	Elected.
" Jogesh Chunder Roy ...	51	Not elected.
<b>WARD NO. 24.</b>		
Baboo Amarendra Nath Chatterjee ...	63	Elected.
Kumar Satya Badce Ghosh ...	52	Elected.
Mr. Braumfeld ...	17	Not elected.
<b>WARD NO. 25.</b>		
Baboo Oshid Chunder Mukherjee ...	142	Elected.
" Mony Lal Banerjee ...	131	Elected.
Mr. C. Deholls ...	62	Not elected.

The following gentlemen have been elected to be Commissioners of Calcutta under section 8, clause 2 of Act II (B. C.) of 1888:

Mr. W. J. M. McCaw ...	...	By the Bengal Chamber of Commerce
" C. H. O'Sullivan ...	...	
" J. Dyce Dal ...	...	
" William Wilson ...	...	By the Calcutta Trades Association.
Mr. A. A. ...	...	
" W. H. Phelps ...	...	
" W. M. ...	...	By the Commissioners for making improvements in the Port of Calcutta for the time being.
" M. P. ...	...	
" M. P. ...	...	
The Chairman of the Commissioners for making improvements in the Port of Calcutta for the time being ...	...	By the Commissioners for making improvements in the Port of Calcutta.
Mr. James ...	...	

The following gentlemen are appointed by the Local Government under section 7 of Act II (B. C.) of 1888:

Mr. A. ...; Mr. Elias Gubboy; Mr. J. E. D. ...; Maharajah ...; Nawab Abdul Latif, Bahadur, ...; Surgeon-Major K. McLeod, ...; Prince Jehan ...; Moulvie ...; Surgeon-Major W. H. Gregg, ...; Moulvie ...; Bahadur ...; Baboo Joy Gobind Law; Mr. Har ...; Rastomjee; Baboo Durgagutty Banerjee; Lieutenant Colonel G. F. E. S. Neill, ...; Moulvie Aga Mahomed Mehdi.

### THE NEW SUBURBAN MUNICIPALITIES AND THEIR TERRITORIAL LIMITS.

The following arrangements shall take effect from the 1st April 1889, with regard to the municipal administration of those portions

of the Suburbs which will not be amalgamated with the Town of Calcutta under the provisions of the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act II (B. C.) of 1838.

(1.) The area included within the following boundaries shall be withdrawn from the operation of the Act.

**BOUNDARIES.**

*Part (I).*

*North.*— Canal South road.

*East.*— Pagladanga Canal road till its junction with the Pagladanga road.

*South and West.*— Pagladanga road.

*Part (II).*

*North.*— Chingrihatta road, from its junction with new Tangrah road till it meets the Pagladanga road.

*East.*— The boundary on the east commences from the junction of Chingrihatta road with Pagladanga road, and runs southwards to the Panchanagram iron boundary pillar; thence southwards along the eastern side of an unmetalled road till it meets the municipal tramway line; thence it runs westwards along the southern boundary of the municipal tramway line till it meets the South Tangrah road.

*South.*— South Tangrah road.

*West.*— New Tangrah road till it meets the Chingrihatta lane and then Chingrihatta line till it meets the Chingrihatta road.

(2.) The area included within the following boundaries in the present Wards IV and VI shall be withdrawn from the Suburban Municipality with a view to its being included within the limits of the South Suburban Municipality.

**BOUNDARIES.**

*Excluded area in Ward No. IV, (T. Pygmy).*

*North.*— The Port Commissioners' railway line.

*East.*— Gaurahat road from the railway line crossing to the junction of the said road with Mullahatty road.

*South.*— Mullahatty road.

*West.*— Russa road South, from its junction with Mullahatty road to the railway level-crossing on the said Russa road.

*Excluded area in Ward No. VI (Mudra and M. Chakr).*

*North.*— The river Hooghly.

*East.*— Nemuck Mehal Ghat road till it meets the Circular Garden Reach road.

*South.*— Circular Garden Reach road and Paharpore road till it meets Rameswarpore lane.

*West.*— Rameswarpore lane, till it meets Garden Reach road; then Garden Reach road till its junction with Dum-Duma drain, and then the western edging of the Dum-Duma drain till it meets the River Hooghly.

(3.) The remaining portions of the Municipality, after the withdrawal of the above-mentioned areas shall be subdivided into two municipalities, to be called respectively the "Cossipore and Chitpore Municipality" and the "Maidoolia Municipality." The boundaries of these Municipalities shall be as specified below—

**Cossipore and Chitpore Municipality.**

*North and West.*

Commencing from the north-west angle at Panamuck Ghat on the river Hooghly, the boundary follows the north side of Panamuck Ghat road eastwards to its junction with the Cossipore road, thence northwards along the western side of Cossipore road till its junction with Dhoria Bagin road, thence eastwards along the northern side of the Dhoria Bagin road till it meets the Bariaclpore Trunk road, which it crosses, and thence continues along the northern side of the North-South road, eastward till it meets the Eastern Bengal State Railway line, crossing to the eastern side of the said line at No. 2 bridge north of the Dum-Dum station.

*Eastern Boundary.*

The boundary on the East follows the eastern side of the Eastern Bengal State Railway line, southward till it meets the railway bridge over the new cut canal at Ooldadanga.

*Southern Boundary.*

The boundary on the South is the new cut canal from its junction with the railway bridge of Ooldadanga till it meets the Balaighatta Circular Canal, which runs westwards, meeting the river Hooghly at Bagbazar.

*Western Boundary.*

The western boundary is the river Hooghly.

**Municipality of Maidoolia.**

The boundary on the North and East is the new cut canal and on the South and West the Balaighatta Circular Canal.

The number of the Commissioners for each of the above-mentioned municipalities shall be twelve.

The South Suburban Municipality will be formed in the following manner, with effect from the 1st April 1889:—

The following agricultural villages and lands shall be withdrawn from the operation of the Act:—

*On the West of Tolly's Nullah.*

(1) Thakroon chuck, chuck Kullyan, and Bengal Nullah in Ward No. X (Sodepore).

(2) Janka and Hanspookur in Ward No. VIII (Burisa).

(3) Kulagatchea and the western portion of Sonamooke, and Bigpota in Ward No. IX (Sursona).

(4) Begorekhal, Koorachuck, chuck Kido, chuck Shibrampore, chuck Joynuggur and the western portion of Goragatcha situated beyond the limits of Goragatcha khal and extending from North to South, with Budge-Budge road on the North and Gungatampore road on the South, in Ward No. III (Behala).

*On the East of Tolly's Nullah.*

(5) Aroopatha in Ward No. XII (Tiljulla).

(6) The southern portion of Ward No. II (Dackhuria).

The area included in the following boundaries, which has been withdrawn from the Suburban Municipality by a separate notification of this date, shall be included within the limits of the South Suburban Municipality:—

**BOUNDARIES.**

*Area in Ward No. IV.*

*North.*— The Port Commissioners' railway line.

*East.*— Guricahat road, from the railway line crossing to the junction of the said road with Mullahatty road.

*South.*— Mullahatty road.

*West.*— Russa road, South, from its junction with Mullahatty road to the railway level-crossing on the said Russa road.

*Area in Ward No. VI.*

*North.*— The river Hooghly.

*East.*— Nemuck Mehal Ghat road till it meets the Circular Garden Reach road.

*South.*— Circular Garden Reach road and Paharpore road till it meets Rameswarpore lane.

*West.*— Rameswarpore lane, till it meets Garden Reach road, then Garden Reach road till its junction with Dum-Duma drain, and then the western edging of the Dum-Duma drain till it meets the river Hooghly.

The boundaries of the South Suburban Municipality shall be as follows:—

*Northern Boundary.*— Commences from the north-east corner of Tanga road at Hugatcher, and thence southward along the southern edge of the said Tanga road, where it meets the Topsy road; thence westward along the western edge of the Tiljulla road, thence westward along the eastern edge of the Tiljulla road to its junction with the South Eastern State Railway; thence southward along the eastern edge of the said railway to its junction with the Port Commissioners' new railway embankment; thence westward along the south of the said embankment to Russa road, and thence crossing southward along the eastern edge of the Russa road to the junction of Tallygunge bridge road; thence westward across the bridge over Tolly's Nullah to Tallygunge Circular road, Shapur and Guragatcha road, and thence westward to Taratolla road, where it meets Nemuck Mehal Ghat to the south bank of the river Hooghly and westward up to Gobaria ferry Ghat.

*Southern Boundary.*— Commences from the northern border of Joka, where it is cut by the Bakrahut road; thence eastward till it meets the Diamond Harbour road at Thakurpookur outpost; thence eastward along the northern edge of that road till it meets the south-west limit of Thakroon chuck; thence northward along the western borders of Thakroon chuck, chuck Banban, Kaleepore and Sodepore; thence eastward along the northern border of Sodepore and the Sodepore lane till it meets the Hridaspore lane; thence southward along the western edge of the Kowrapookur road up to the culvert across the Thakurpookur and Kowrapookur roads, a little to the south of the Kowrapookur outpost; thence northward along the western bank of the Kowrapookur khal till it meets Tolly's Nullah; thence eastward along the northern boundary of villages Sodepore, Roypore, Pajih Roypore and Ibrahimpore; thence again to the south commencing from the north-western corner of Guricahat and passing southward along the Guricahat road till it meets the Russa road; thence westward till it meets Tolly's Nullah; thence southward along the said nullah and Ganga Nullah; thence eastward to the south eastern extremity of Barhash.

*Eastern Boundary.*— Commences from the western border of Guricahat; thence northward along the western border of Haltoo Luskur ghât, Noudadanga, Chanbagha, Dhallenda, Bynchtollah and Hargachea.

*Western Boundary.*— Commences from Gobaria ferry ghât; thence southward through Nadial, kismut Satgharia, Kadampur; thence turning eastward passes through kismut Dum-Dum, Maklathee, Ramdashthe, Belpookuria, and Kistopur; thence turning southward through Bharchunna, along the Jemirpool khal, crossing the Budge-Budge road, and thence along Bagir khal till it meets the Gungatampore road; thence turning westward along the southern edge of Gungatampore road, meets the Shibrampore road; thence turning south along the Shibrampore road; thence turning east along the Kastdanga road; thence turning southward along the Kastdanga branch road and the eastern border of villages Bagpatha and Kulagatchea.

The number of Commissioners of the South Suburban Municipality shall be twenty-four.



**AN ORDINARY MEETING**  
of the Commissioners of Calcutta under  
Act II (B. C.) 1888,

WILL BE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL,  
on Thursday, the 4th April 1889, at 3 P.M.  
BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. To appoint a General Committee under Section 63 of the Act.
2. To appoint other Standing and Special Committees under Section 63.
3. To make other arrangements, if necessary, for the management of the business of the new Corporation.
4. To confirm the proceedings of the Town Council at a Meeting held on the 23rd March 1889.
5. To confirm the proceedings of the Buzee and Sanitary Committee at a Meeting held on the 21st March 1889, especially to pass orders under Section 258 in respect of the improvement of Rajah Bagan Buzee excepting the north-west block.
6. To consider the proposed new Pension Rules.
7. To consider the proposed Rules for the protection of wild birds, hares and deer.
8. Vital statistics for the month of February 1889.

JOHN COWIE,  
Secretary to the Corporation.  
March 29, 1889.

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Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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**OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.**

We have received from the office of *Reis*  
and *Rayyet*, one of the leading native news-  
papers of Calcutta, a most readable little *broch-  
ure* written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee,  
once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah,  
Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and  
Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the  
Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tip-  
perah. Written in capital English and evi-  
dently by a gentleman of broad views and  
enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a  
valuable addition to the catalogue of English  
written Bengalee literature. This book of  
travels should be read widely not only by  
English residents out here, but by our country-  
men at home, for it teems with interest and  
teaches us far more about the fine belt of  
unopened country travelled through than any  
work of the sort written by an Englishman  
would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder  
Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen

may well be proud, for he writes throughout  
with the moderate and educated pen of  
a thorough gentleman. -- *The Indian Pioneer's*  
*Gazette & Sporting News*, October 4, 1887

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recog-  
nised as the editor of that able little paper  
the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in  
Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who  
know India and are unable to love her; those  
who love her, and do not know her; those who  
neither know nor love; those who being tired  
of India, take to travelling; foreigners who  
want to know, and Englishmen. The author  
himself is not the least tired of India, though  
he is a traveller by profession, we might almost  
say, and though he puts limits upon journeys,  
never coming to get very far away from  
Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which  
makes the traveller. It is the power to ob-  
serve sympathetically what is going on at  
each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit  
about the minor inconveniences which neces-  
sarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr.  
Mookerjee does. He never loses his good  
humour under any set of circumstances, and  
what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to  
his pages. The reader may take a choice of  
journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah  
or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in  
each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of  
Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the  
English reader will be mainly struck by the  
excellent English style of the writer. The  
author is not ashamed of his nationality; he  
rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same  
time he indulges in prose which has no alien  
trace in it. It is not the English of an edu-  
cated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous  
Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India.  
Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some  
of his journeys, especially to Independent Tip-  
perah, whither he was called to an important  
official position. He was thus assured of  
many attentions, though, in forming accurate  
impressions of a country it is doubtful whether  
it is not better to be untrammelled with con-  
nections which frighten away the simple folk  
and impose reticence on them as a duty. From  
the notes of his journey through East Bengal,  
and to show how genial is his outlook, we take  
the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his  
experiences on the Megna are of a most en-  
livening description. He saw many visions of  
beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no ingard when  
he is describing something he has enjoyed  
seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the  
river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which de-  
lights our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress  
he notes among the boatmen on his course —  
[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been  
contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be fam-  
ilar to our readers. The following description  
of natural effects is not known to them. We  
doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would  
accept it as a final account of the sun rising,  
and setting:—[Extract.] — *The Statesman*,  
October 7, 1887.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1880.

No. 368

## CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

### TO VICTIS.

LISTEN the Hymn of the Conquered, who fell in the battle of life—  
The hymn of the wounded, the beaten, who died overwhelmed in the  
strife;  
Not the jubilant song of the victors, for whom the resounding acclaim  
Of nations was lifted in chorus, whose brows wore the chaplet of fame,—  
But the hymn of the low and the humble, the weary, the broken in  
heart,  
Who strove and who failed, acting bravely a silent and desperate part;  
Whose youth bore no flower on its branches, whose hopes burned in  
ashes away,  
From whose hands slipped the prize they had grasped at, who stood at  
the dying of day  
With the work of their life all around them, unpitied, unheeded, alone,  
With death swooping down o'er their failure, and all but their faith  
overthrown.  
While the voice of the world shouts its chorus, its psalm for those who  
have won  
While the trumpet is sounding triumphant, and high to the breeze and  
the sun  
Gay banners are waving, hands clapping, and hurrying feet  
Thronging after the laurel-crowned victors— I stand on the field of  
defeat  
In the shadow, among those who are fallen, and wounded, and dying  
and there  
Chant a requiem low, place my hand on their pain-knotted brows,  
Breathe a prayer,  
Tola the hand that is helpless, and whisper, "They only the victory win,  
Who have fought the good fight and have vanquished the demon that  
tempts us within,  
Who have held to their faith unrelaxed by the price that the world  
holds on high;  
Who have dared for a high cause to suffer, resist, fight, if need be, to  
die."  
Speak, History! who are life's victors? Unroll thy long annals and say  
Are they those whom the world called the victors, who won the success  
of a day?  
The Martyrs, or Nero? The Spartans who fell at Thermopylae's trust,  
Or the Persians and Nixes? His judges, or Socrates? Pilate, or  
Christ?

W. W. S.

*Holloway's Pills.*—With darkening days and changing temperatures the digestion becomes impaired, the liver disordered, and the mind despondent, unless the cause of the irregularity be expelled from the blood and body by such an alternative as these Pills. They directly attack the source of the evil, thrust out all impurities from the circulation, restore the distempered organs to their natural state, and correct all defective or contaminated secretions. Such an easy means of instituting health, strength, and cheerfulness should be applied by all whose stomachs are weak, whose minds are much harassed, or whose brains are overworked. Holloway's is essentially a blood-tempering medicine, whereby its influence reaches the remotest fibre of the frame and effects a universal good.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

**AFTER** a visit to San Sebastian and to the Queen of Spain, our Queen has returned from Biarritz to Wind or Castle.

**A TERRIBLE** hurricane has passed over Spain leaving its trace in immense damage both on land and sea. The German men-of-war *Adler*, *Olga*, and *Eber* in port were totally wrecked, and 9 officers and 87 men drowned. The United States men-of-war *Trenton*, *Vandalia* and *Nipsic* shared the same fate with loss of 4 officers and 46 men. The only man-of-war which escaped was Her Majesty's ship *Calliope*. She went out to sea to avoid the storm.

THE Viceroy with the Marchioness of Lin Downe left Calcutta for the Seamer ship on Tuesday the 2nd. There was a halt at Allahabad. On the 4th Lord Lin Downe paid a visit to the Mun Central College and received a deputation of the Anglo-Indian and Eurasian Association. In the evening, in honor of the visit, the Lieutenant-Governor of the N. W. Provinces gave a Garden Party. At midnight, His Excellency left for Lucknow.

**AFTER** the Sovereign or the Viceroy, the next notability is the Clown.

WHILE others are on the wing to the cool Hill, the devout man of wisdom and of the hot sun by a trip to the sandy beach of Orissa.

THE Editor of the *Lancet* and President of the Bengal Theosophical Society, has gone on a pilgrimage to the shrine of Jagannath at Poores. Those who know will recognize the names of things here in the meeting of the god and the man. There is an obvious affinity between the worshipper and the object of worship.

FOR a private entertainment during the official mourning for the death of the late Maharaja of Cochin, an official has been fined one month's pay. He ought to have known better.

ELECTRICITY is being utilized in the Gudian forest for felling trees. The machines were lately driven by steam power.

THE new United States Minister in London is Robert Lincoln, son of the President Abraham Lincoln.

LAST year, Prince Oscar of Sweden renounced his right of succession to the throne and joined hand and heart with Mrs Ebba Munck. The first fruit of the union is thus announced:—Birth, a Daughter, Carlacrona, end March, 1879, Oscar and Ebba Bernadotte.

IN renovating a pucca well disused for the last 20 years, on the roadside between Bhurwangola and Jeagunge, as many as 17 human skeletons were brought up. Doubtless, this excavation was a handy till for deposit for the use of the good things and highwaymen of the neighbourhood, once so notorious for insecurity.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

A TRAIN on the Transasian Railway, while passing through a tunnel, was derailed and the seventeen carriages composing it were smashed to atoms and fifty passengers killed or seriously injured. It was the work of robbers who wanted to plunder the passengers, but all the passengers were not dead and some of these captured the desperadoes. This great iron highway is destined to work wonders in one of the darkest corners of the globe.

THE firm of Schichau are engaged on a new ocean-going torpedo-boats for the German Navy.

THE New World is being burdened with the disabilities of the Old. Since 1776 the United States have doubled their population. The number of the band and the thence since times longer than 30 years ago. The dear have quadrupled, while the means are six times as great.

THE trade in teeth is the largest in the whole of America. About twenty millions are made every year, of different lines. The Canadians prefer snow-white teeth. In South America, the cry is for yellow. The Chinese, however, will order none but black.

THE new Methodist University has improved upon the older Universities of the other Province. It has introduced the *visu voce* examination. We only hope the examiners will not come to the massacre of the names commenced with long and elaborate written questions of exceptional difficulty, like a modern Judge of the Calcutta High Court at a law examination for the emolument of pleaders.

THEY have agreed upon a Customs Union between Cape Colony and the Orange Free States. There was a banquet in honor of the occasion in which the Premier Sir John Gordon Sprigg spoke hopefully of the foundation of an African fraternity. The Natal Government, however, keeps away from the Union.

THE Belgian Mail Steamer *Courtesy de l'Amir* has sunk off Dunkirk. She collided with another Mail Steamer. The captain, first officer, chief engineer and twelve of the crew and passengers are reported to have perished.

AFTER an adjournment of a fortnight, the Patroll Commission resumed sittings on the 2nd. Sir Charles Russell opened the case for the defence.

BOUTANER is still the cynosure of the French Government. The Republican party demanded his arrest and imprisonment as also the trial of several Deputies for the trial to be held by the League of Patriots protesting against the bombardment of Michioff. Levee was obtained of the Chamber to prosecute, but the Public Prosecutor M. Roulez hesitated to enroll him in this business and declined to go against the General. For this reason he has been ordered and superseded by M. Guey. The trial of M. Dorende, three Deputies and one Senator has already commenced as being members of a secret Society. The General has been charged with treason. He, however, prefers to keep himself out of French territory and the hands of his prosecutors in Belgium, where he means to remain till the next general election. He refuses to submit to a trial for treason by the Senate.

THE Hon'ble Syed Ameer Hassan having obtained leave and resigned the Coronership of Calcutta, Moaxie Abdul Jubbar acts both as the Northern Division Magistrate and Coroner.

MR. H. J. S. Cotton goes on 3 months' leave from the 17th instant.

MR. P. Nolan has been appointed a member of the Bengal Legislative Council in place of the Hon'ble H. J. Reynolds, C.S.I., now retiring from India. Mr. Nolan has surprised everybody into good humour with him. When he first came to Calcutta, he was regarded with suspicion but he quickly dissipated it.

UNDER an order of the Bengal Government, during the year 1889, all public offices and Revenue and Magisterial Courts in Bengal, with the exception of the offices of Collector of Customs, Shipping Master, the

Registrar of Assurances, Calcutta, the Collector of Stamp Revenue, Calcutta, the Stamping Department of the office of the Superintendent of Stamps, Calcutta, and the Salt Rowannah and Opium Sale Departments of the Board of Revenue, shall be closed for—

8 Eed-ul-fitr, which falls on the 1st June, or, if the moon be not visible on the 31st May, on the 2nd June.

Eed-az-za, which falls on the 8th August, or, if the moon be not visible on the 29th July, on the 9th August.

Moharrum, the last two days of which fall on the 6th and 7th September, or, if the moon be visible on the 27th August, on the 5th and 6th September.

Fard-e-doo-dahann, which falls on the 7th November, or, if the moon be visible on the 15th October, on the 6th November.

THE *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is not often tempted to literary criticism of English productions. Providence may bring a man luck even in the desert. The Sub-divisional Officer of Basirhat in the wilderness of the Sunderbunds awoke one morning and found himself famous—by no act or omission of his, but by the mere accident of Percival Spencer descending on him. And now he is having a run of luck. He has just charmed our contemporary. The *Patrika* is in raptures over his account of the balloonist, comparing it with the best Special correspondence of Dr. W. H. Russell, Mr. G. A. Sida, Mr. Alex. Forbes and the rest. Tastes differ, however. With all deference to our contemporary, we would back the Naib of the Jhau against Trolukho Nath Sen and all the Deputies. Here is

#### "THE NAIB'S STORY"

A little after sunset some men brought me news that some big white thing was passing aloft over the village. I had never before seen anything like it. No one could make any conjecture as to what it was. Raj Krishna Motta, who is credited with more intelligence than the rest, gave us to understand that it was some *ba-fa-rah* or

#### A MESSENGER FROM THE SKIES

Passing along on his way, and wanted us to be off from his course I had sense enough not to be of the same view, but I could not make out what it was. About half an hour after, men came running to me and shouting out that some *shah* had come there. I soon found him, followed by a number of men, coming in the direction of the *catcher's* hut. The *shah* did not know a bit of Bengali, and I did not know a bit of English. So free communication was out of the question. The *shah* broke out in an unintelligible strain out of which I could pick out only the words "English" and "balloon." I did not know what a "balloon" was! Under the circumstances I did what best suited to my mind—

#### I MADE HIM SEE.

He seemed to be impatient for something, and wanted to run off. The jungle was close by. I got there in about twenty minutes. I wanted him to raise the situation, but he did not understand. So whenever he attempted to run off, I had to stop him by holding him by his arm. I brought some *maiz* (dried rice), a few plantains, and a pot of cow-milk, which I set before him. I did not know that *sahib* were in the habit of taking boiled rice, so I did not offer it. The plantains were taken. He seemed to be so very thirsty that he drank a good deal of water. Even the water was brackish. But that was the best we could procure. Even that water we have to bring from a distance of 4 miles. The *vahan* seems to take the cow's milk for goat's milk. Being an orthodox Hindu I could not give a milk within the room as that would mean pollution. But I tried to make him as comfortable as I could, and placed men around him to attend upon his wants. In the morning, not knowing

#### WHAT TO DO IN THE DILEMMA?

I thought the best thing I could do was to take him to the police station. The words "police station" fascinated him, and from that time he began to give them out at intervals "police station, police station, police station." At noon I offered him the same food as I did at night. At eleven we started for Hossehabad thana. As we were about to start we saw something floating down in our direction.

#### I TOOK IT FOR THE DEAD BODY OF A COW.

Soon after it came distinctly to our view. It soon reached the eyes of the *vahan*. He wanted to jump after it in the river. We had again to catch hold of him by the arm to prevent him. The odds were that he would have been a prey to the *mongers*. We dug the "thing" up and our boat. [The "thing" proved to be the truant balloon.] We reached Hossehabad in the afternoon. I made over my charge to the police sub-inspector who was an English-knowing man.

#### THE SAHIB GAVE ME A WATCH.

I did not take it, as I knew I did not really could do nothing for him. What little I did, I did from a sense of duty. But the *sahib* pressed me to take it, and the police inspector made me to understand that the *sahib* would be very sorry if I did not accept it. I therefore could not refuse acceptance any more. The *sahib* also made a present of three rupees to my boatmen. From my experience in the watch episode, I did not think of returning the money again, as it would have been a futile attempt. Thus ended an interview in which neither understood what the other was talking about.

That is the best thing that has yet appeared in the prolific literature of the Balloon boldness, not excepting the *Khat's* Spencerian prose.

IN evidence of the extraordinary interest roused by the Flying Man, we read in the morning press—

"During the past day or two various Native gentlemen have displayed a keen interest in Mr. Spencer's welfare. By invitation, the

neronaut visited the house of Babu Peary Mohun Roy, who introduced him into his zenana, and presented him with a handsome gold and general ring. Another visit was to the house of Ryt. India Chandra Singh; and a third to that of Babu Juggadmand Mookerjee, who also presented him within the zenana, and bestowed upon him a gold chain, and an old gold mohur of very considerable value. The last named gentleman entertained a party of European ladies and gentlemen to meet the aeronaut.

Baboo Juggadmand as the famous introducer of hons to Pinda ladies was in his rôle. He has now other respectable men to keep him in countenance.

WHILE the poor Maharaja is plunged in profound anxiety at the powerful European intrigue going on against his throne and his very personal safety, it is announced that

"The Cashmere Durbar has undertaken to station three Regiments of Infantry and one Mountain Battery permanently at Gilgit."

In a little time, the whole Cashmere army will be practically British.

THE judicial administrators, appointed by the Government of India, having reported that the directors of the bank had accepted the Paris represented the affairs of the bank to be in a satisfactory condition, and declared an increased dividend. As the position of the bank was shaking, the Government had decided to make an enquiry to be made. Such is the telegraphic news. But why did not the Tribunal of Commerce take action on the matter?

ON the 26th March, at the suit of the Oriental Loan Association, the High Court gave a decree for Rs. 13,274 against Mr. Arthur, being Rs. 10,750 of two bonds with interest at 12 per cent.

THE withheld judgment in the sensational Patna Mission case has been pronounced, Mr. Justice Macpherson being the spokesman. The court held that the girl Lachmima was unlawfully detained in the Zenana Mission-house, but that the detention was not for an unlawful purpose within the meaning of Section 551 of the Criminal Procedure Code: hence the Magistrate had no power under that section to make her over to her lawful guardian. If, however, he had the power, which he supposed he had, on the facts before him he exercised it properly. The evidence of marriage which all the parties concerned believed to be valid, was ample and satisfactory. The charges of immorality against the mother were not therefore established. Therefore reversing the Magistrate's order made without authority, the Court declined to remove Lachmima from her husband or mother, either of whom was her proper or lawful guardian, to be made over to a stranger whose detention of the girl against the wishes of the guardian would be unlawful. Nothing, in the opinion of the Bench, was established in these proceedings of a character which could warrant the High Court in depriving the husband or mother of the charge of the girl.

WITH Mr. Pratt as District Judge and Mr. Lee as Magistrate and Collector, Midnapore will again enjoy "pleasure unmingled and without thorn the rose." An earnest worker and endowed with superior powers of observation, Mr. Lee is accessible to respectable and well-informed natives and gives them every reasonable facility of communication with him. It is therefore hoped that he will find it but easy work to restore good feeling between all classes of the people, although it is changed much for the worse since he was last in the district.

The present Magistrate of the district, who relieves Mr. Quinn at Patna, is an impartial and hard-working officer, but he is led by his physical and mental constitution to rely too much on sub-District officers of all shades and grades and in matters wherein they can not give correct information or unbiassed opinion.

The last Gazette, we find, cancels the appointment of the Joint Magistrate Mr. Lee as Magistrate and Collector of Midnapore, and transfers him to the Sudder station of the 24 Pergunnahs.

To qualify themselves as staff officers, German Cavalry officers will be henceforth required to go through a course of steeplechase-riding in Hanover. The cadets are to be pitted.

WE congratulate the coach-makers and horse-dealers on the good time coming. Lady Lansdowne is fond of driving. The head of the sex having been found rein in hand leading her own team, it is calculated that the next season in Calcutta will see an invasion of charming Jehus in petticoats.

THIS is the latest pronouncement of the Lord Chief Justice Coleridge on indictments for libel:—

"Mr. Charsley, formerly coroner for South Bucks, had indicted a Mr. W. Devenill for libel arising out of a letter which appeared in the *Windsor and Eton Express* on the subject of altering the name of Slough. Mr. Charsley had now left Slough, and his lordship remarked that he discharged a parting shot at Slough in the shape of a large handful, in which he fell foul of a gentleman named Ellman. This does not mean Mr. Devenill the letter complained of. Lord Coleridge said he was bound to tell the jury that the question of libel had been very carefully considered of late, and he did not believe there was a judge on the bench who was not of the opinion he himself held it very strongly— that the practice of indicting for libel had grown to a very mischievous extent. If they looked back to the old law books, when there was not particularly favour for the liberty of the Press, and when many a thing now passed over would have been made the subject of *ex officio* and other information, they would find that all the great authorities laid it down strongly, and, as he believed, with good sound reason, that while everyone might bring an action for libel there ought to be something of a public nature about it to justify the interfering of the Crown as representing the public by proceeding by indictment. The Crown was the prosecutor in a case of indictment, and therefore an indictment for libel ought to be something which interested the Crown, something which concerned the general interests of the public, and likely to create a breach of the peace. If a libel was repeated and was infamous, and was liable to create the effect he had indicated, the person should be indicted; but where there was nothing of the sort, when it was clearly an individual squabble between two persons, he trusted they would agree with him that, in his judgment, it was well established law that it ought not to be, and was not, in point of law, a proper subject of indictment. The person libelled had his remedy by bringing an action. Blackstone had said a jury ought not to find a bill, nor ought one to be presented where there was no matter of a public nature involved. The grand jury threw out the bill."

A LIMITED number of Members of the Covenanted Civil Service will be permitted to present themselves for examination in the Russian language while on furlough, under Regulations published in to-day's *Gazette of India*.

IN cancellation of previous notification on the subject No. 690 of the 1st February 1884, Department Finance and Commerce—the Governor-General in Council, by order No. 1746, dated 4th April 1889, is now pleased to direct that, when a part of an estate paying annual revenue to Government under a settlement which is not permanent is recorded in the Collector's register as separately assessed with such revenue, the value of the subject-matter of a suit for the possession of, or to enforce a right of pre-emption in respect of, a fractional share of that part shall, for the purposes of the computation of the amount of the fee payable under the Court Fees Act, 1870, in the suit, be deemed not to exceed five times such portion of the revenue separately assessed on that part as may be rateably payable in respect of the share.

ERRATA.—P. 146, Col. 2, l. 17, (for *She stoops to Conquer* read) *The Year of Wakefield*.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE latest news from Paris is that the Boulanger sitting of the Chamber was a stormy one, but the Government carried, by a majority of 152 votes, their proposal to prosecute the General for treasonable designs against the Republic.

The General has retired to the nearest free country with a people a great proportion of whom are ethnically, certainly linguistically, one with the French, as the most convenient base of operations. Therein he has been mocked with the fate of Tantalus. A telegram of yesterday reports that sober practical Brussels would have none of him. Popular demonstrations have been held against the distinguished refugee, and a demand has been made upon Government for his expulsion from the territory. It is said that several Boulangist Deputies have arrived from Paris, doubtless to concert plans in concert with their chief. All the more reason for the impatience of the Belgians of the new connection imposed upon them. They may well be afraid of the consequences to their country from the presence of the firebrand—of the reflex action on the institutions of a propaganda by foreigners from their midst in favour of Caesarism or—Anarchy. The people of Belgium, notwithstanding many things in common with the French, are substantially a different people. They were Brabantians





THE Budget in Council is certainly a welcome concession, for which we all have so long been praying, and whose value will be enhanced by the more important boon to follow. But there is a tendency to exaggerate the practical benefits of the Government laying the papers before the Chamber. The *Pioneer* well takes the *Times of India* to task for talking like uneducated native papers. Says the Allahabad journal:—

"Nor is there much force in saying that 'this year Lord Lansdowne has determined to inaugurate a reform' in presenting the Budget in Council. Have the discussions on the Petroleum Bill last year and on the Income Tax Bill the year before been forgotten? On both occasions the situation was expounded to the Council by the Finance Member for all purposes of discussion as fully as if it had been the actual statement. When so far back as 1883 the Finance Minister is found expressly declaring his regret that the rules do not permit him to present his Statement to the Council, there being no question of legislation, it is nonsense to talk as though a popular victory had been gained over a secretive Government. The announcement that Lord Lansdowne was able to make yesterday that he will in future be regularly placed before Council will be a popular one: and no one will have better cause for rejoicing than the Government of India—among other reasons, because it gives them of taking the measure of the popular opinion. It talks roundly of abuses and extravagances, and receives memorials with the implied suggestion of remedying things, if he were only given the chance. It is a good opportunity for the Council that it is discovered how little the public know of the Yule, for instance, should certainly be put before the Council for some little time."

Just so! And Mr. Hume might be added too. After the dissipation of so many years, he would not be formidable. It is very much like to see some of our noisiest windbags in Council. Their collapse would be quick and enlivening.

THERE seems a screw loose at Dajching—or at least, in the Darjeeling correspondence of the *Statesman*. Our contemporary's scribe at the Himalayan Capital of Bengal, writing on the 1st instant, offers this information, whatever it may mean:—

"There have been several robberies again lately, and yet our district superintendent of police is as good as they make them."

That is indeed a nut to crack for the poor editor or his reader. The grammar is beyond us, for one, at any rate. But though there may be solecism, or fallacy, or anomaly, there is certainly no anachronism. In the cool retreat of the Hills, they are evidently keeping the month's opening day sacred to congenial spouts.—After the momentary diversion, the writer returns to the plains of puny prose and sober sense.

"The fact is our police force is utterly rotten, the men are half-starved, under-fed Nepalees, who are too great fools to get more lucrative work. The pay of the force is too low, and the sooner this fact is recognized the better."

The influence of the hon. mty. still be traced in the hankering for size as a necessary element of Police efficiency. Probably, the writer is not acquainted with the Oriental idea on the subject, according to which a low stature is a positive advantage. At any rate, it can be no valid objection to the particular people in question. The Recruiting Sergeant's Standard would condemn to civil and military disability all the mountain tribes on our Northern and Eastern borders. The Gorkhas are nonetheless prized as soldiers, though "under-sized," big thumping Hindostanis are at sea on the heights of the Himalayas. They would be no match certainly for the nimble Lepcha shoplifter or the desperate Gorkha burglar or highwayman. It is more to the point, to inquire whether the diminutive Nepalese of the Darjeeling Police are starved, half-fed or to the full. What is the pay of the Darjeeling constable? And what the ordinary rate of wages in the locality?

Whatever the case in the hills, the Police in the plains are far from overpaid. We believe they are not adequately paid. Neither constable, head-constable, nor sub-inspector is properly cared for, and this is one of the many causes of the inefficiency and demoralization of the Force. When the public are so ready to come down on the Police for every real or supposed omission or commission, they should in common fairness see that these hard-worked servants of the state have enough to eat, for themselves and their own, and to fall back upon when superannuated. We hope our contemporaries and politicians will give thought to the matter.

WHATEVER may be said of the incapacity of the British in their colonial enterprises and their relations with less advanced tribes,—and the British themselves are the foremost in fussy self-depreciation of the kind—they undoubtedly shine in comparison with the other Western

races in what is confessedly most difficult work. After all due allowances made, for peculiar circumstances, and even that mysterious element called "luck," History depose in their favour. Italians and Germans are nowhere. Portuguese and Spaniards and even the all-conquering Yankees, they leave behind. The accommodating sympathetically French have been shamed by them. What a burden for a long series of years has Algeria proved to France! What a disaster was the Mexican enterprise! What a doubtful boon is the new French Empire in Indo-China! The plodding, sure-footed Hollanders themselves must unhesitatingly yield the palm to Great Britain. Dutch India has, at its best, been a miserable failure. And now then Sumatra, in the face of the smug notions and settlements of the British, is as bad a business as they ever had in the colonial line—an inglorious connection which they dare not wash their hands off—a perpetual harassment. According to the *Pioneer's* Rangoon Correspondent:—

"An Englishman who has just arrived here from Ocheleh, a port in Sumatra, gives a deplorable account of the Dutch position there last February. Ocheleh is a fort which has yet only been visited by vessels carrying food for the troops or coal for the Dutch men-of-war. There is apparently no trade. The Dutch hold with a force of 3,500 men about five miles of sandy coast. They are constantly attacked by the Achinese both by day and night. This desultory warfare has been going on for 16 years, and seems no nearer its end than it was 16 years ago. All the supplies for the troops have to be brought by sea; whilst the Achinese, whenever any advance is attempted, have a secure retreat to their mountain fastnesses, to reappear again when the Dutch troops retreat to the coast. A reinforcement of 3,500 men had been sent for to Batavia, so bad was the outlook for the Dutch in February. The operations seem beyond their power, and yet they are unwilling to cease."

The well-known and much respected Dr. Marks, long the Principal of the Christian College, has lately been lecturing at Rangoon on "Burma, Past and Present." It must have been a most interesting discourse. No one knows the intricacies of both native and European society better than Dr. Marks. His experience dates from the reign of the old King. The clock is ticking, during which, in fact, he came out as a missionary. But has he told all that is the question. We doubt exceedingly, on the whole, if he has heard enough of the good servant of Christ. The whole European society of human concern to the core, and has been so from the beginning, and it could scarcely bear the truth about itself. Even a cautious introduction of a short probe might provoke convulsions. There is little house of any kind in any department. The late sensation in the law courts over the world in the making of matters. The real act against Mr. Meyler, too, was due to the prevailing demoralization. A little computer is the worst possible nuisance to the busy-going White community of *Amoy*.

THE veteran inventor Ericsson has at length pecked out of the world, at the age of 73. A Swede by birth, he joined the Swedish Navy, which he gave up as not affording facilities for his work as a mechanical man. He took up his residence in England. But his lack was by no means equal to his genius. He succeeded well enough in his own laboratory, but his public trials were usually marred by accident. He failed with his "flame engine," and in 1827 he lost the prize offered by the Liverpool and Manchester Railway Company, Mr. George Stephenson being the fortunate winner. His flame engine, too, invented in 1833, did not come up to his expectations. Then he removed to America in 1834, working as a blacksmith in the establishment for building war steamers. It was not till 1837 that he emerged from obscurity, by winning several prizes at the Great Exhibition. He rose to his highest fame by the invention of the *monitor*, on which the principle of revolving muzzles for guns was first employed, which was a god-send to the cause of the North in the American Civil War, then suffering cruelly from the depredations of the *Alabama*, war steamer of the enemy. The *Alabama* had avenged the Federal blockade of the South, by sweeping the sea of Federal commerce, and the *Monitor* now gave the *coup de grace* by insinuating itself into the Northern harbours and running into the Federal vessels and smashing two of the finest frigates of the Federal navy. There was a panic at the appearance and the audacious doings of this naval apparition. Ericsson with his *Monitor* rid his adopted country of its pest, by destroying the formidable Confederate engine of naval warfare.

ON Monday, Sir Henry Harrison held a sort of levee of all the principal officers of the Corporation. It was the day for the commencement of the new Municipal Act. He impressed on his subordinates their new responsibilities under the Act, arising out of the new powers

and territorial aggrandisement. On Thursday, there was the first meeting of the new Corporation, which was very full, nearly all the 75 members being present. The Chairman welcomed them in a happy speech inviting their co-operation in the new municipal measures for the town and in the reclamation of the Suburbs, promising his own loyalty to the Act and the Corporation. He believed the Act workable, and considered opposition unavoidable but desirable and healthy when not originating in self-interest. The good feeling of the Chairman was reciprocated on behalf of the Corporation, by Baboo Kally Nath Mitter and Annamalai Nath Chatterjee. The pleasantness of the first greetings was marred by Mr. Apur, who drew the attention of the assembled Corporation to the imperfections of the Act in the election portion. Pursuant to notice, he put a question to the Chairman, whether as a member of the Bengal Legislative Council he would take the earliest opportunity to move for amendment of the Act. The principal business before the meeting was the election of the General Committee and the formation of other Standing and Special Committees for working the Act. The Government had laid down the *modus operandi* by which six out of the 25 pre-selected and nominated members, are to be selected for the General Committee. Of each of the 25 who might be put out each was to write down the names of six who were willing to serve, those obtaining the highest votes being considered as members of the General Committee. The meeting was for the ballot, instead of open voting in these elections. In fact, the test has been to this direction for some years. This is to be lamented. The Commissioners should be above "eye-name," and fearless to vote according to their conscience in open daylight. It is a clear illegality, besides. The retention of the provision for poll in the Act emphasises the intention of the legislature against secret voting at the meetings of the Commissioners. The meeting directed that 3 members for the General Committee be chosen from the 7 Suburban Wards, and 9 from the 13 town Wards. The elected 50 chose the 12 and the remaining 25 returned the 6 to compose the General Committee. It is to be noted that 49 out of the 50 elected Commissioners expressed their desire to be on the General Committee.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1889.

### SIR CHARLES BERNARD ON BURMA AND ITS PEOPLE.

SIR Charles Bernard, late Chief Commissioner of Burma, like most other Anglo-Indians who failed to make their mark in India as administrators, having no laurels to rest on, has taken to posing as champion of Government, in the character of public lecturer. This is not new, and nothing wonderful. It is not unusual for men, who have proved so utterly a failure, as did Sir Charles while Chief Commissioner of Burma, to enter the arena of politics, and, by exerting all his oratorical or argumentative power, seek to subvert the public at home. It was thus that the late Chief essayed to *sway* the good people in England. It was not that in his official capacity he had been weighed and found terribly wanting, and had left the East under a cloud, neither mourned nor regretted, but that the circumstances attending his retirement were due entirely to the incapacity of the people of Burma to appreciate his administrative abilities. Few men like to admit they have failed, and none more scrupulously guard against such admissions than Anglo-Indians, particularly the members of the great Eastern Bureaucracy.

The downward promotion which awaited Sir Charles Bernard had he elected to return to India, *i. e.*, as Resident at the Court of Mysore, was more than sufficient to extinguish a man of greater calibre. It will be remembered with what readiness the Chief Commissioner threw him self body and soul into the annexationist arms, how he despatched in all haste the

Irrawaddy Flotilla Company's steamer *Ashley Eden* with an ultimatum, while troops were under orders at Calcutta and Madras for immediate embarkation, how, in fine, he carried out in its entirety the annexation of the province, made wholly and solely in England's interests, together with that of the Bombay Burma Trading Corporation Co., Limited, of Bombay. All this Sir Charles Bernard performed, in the very teeth of, and in fearless opposition to, the vehement and passionate protestations of the unanimous voice of the people of India. And for all his zeal and activity, he was awarded an empty title and downward promotion. When we keep in view that Mr. Andriano, the Italian Consul, received £5,000 sterling for services, as mentioned in our last issue,) for the late Chief Commissioner with a draft of £10,000. Sir Charles' proposed treaty, certainly Sir Charles has a right to look for and expect better hands of those he had served, not too well. Putting aside, Sir Charles' as to the practice of giving compensation in coin, the Indian is well rid of Sir Charles Bernard. His reckless haste in pressing upon Lord Dufferin the measures he counselled in regard to the annexation of Upper Burma, and which he knew too well the Home Government would make no hesitation in accepting, has, with poetic justice, recoiled on himself.

It could not be unknown to Government officials holding the position the late Chief Commissioner of Burma held, that he lived under the piercing eye of publicity and that his every action would be subjected to criticism, and every trifling incident in connection with the part he played in the annexation of Upper Burma ultimately brought to light. Not by the aid of any secret society or the aid of a magnifying glass, but by men capable of criticising and passing judgment on his actions. The writer very willingly makes allowance, in that, the clamouring at Rangoon for annexation, supported by his Lieutenant Mr. Thirkel White, carried Sir Charles entirely away in his weakness. It is, to say the least, a lamentable weakness to see men holding the position Sir Charles Bernard held, listening to appeals and suggestions of agitators, who had everything to gain and nothing to lose. Such was the advocacy and agency by which Mr. Thirkel White, his Secretary, succeeded in leading, by the nose, the late Chief Commissioner. A little common sense, a dash of human nature, and the eliciting of facts for himself, would have enabled Sir Charles to rise equal to the situation. But he chose to listen to a man, whose lust of aggrandisement is proverbial, of lofty, insolent deportment, and Burma's enemy, and he now reaps the benefit of his folly.

It is a most unpleasant comment the writer will have to make upon our dealings with the Burmese, during the campaign of 1885-86. To begin at the beginning, with the character and popularity of the ex-King. Was there ever such a gratuitous blackening of a poor neighbour and ally's reputation? In respect of any assertions to the contrary, by Sir Charles Bernard or Sir Charles Crosthwaite, the writer defies either to produce a jot of evidence of any kind to question the fact that Theebaw was adored as a King by his subjects, one and all, from the highest to the lowest, and respected by all disinterested foreigners who came in contact with him.

On February 20, Sir Charles Bernard delivered a lecture in Falcon-square Chapel, London, on "Burma and its People" illustrated by lime light dissolving

views. After describing the extent of Burma, and comparing it proportionately with the United Kingdom, Sir Charles communicated to his hearers a knowledge of the ancient prowess of the Burmese and their success in repelling attacks and invasion by the Chinese. The recitation must doubtless have proved highly edifying to his audience, at least to that portion which belonged to the missionary community. The lecturer rapidly advances to the year 1824, when the first Anglo-Burman war broke out, and, as Sir Charles puts it, terminated favorably to the two countries. The late Chief Commissioner, the writer not unreasonably thinks, might have been less reserved in his language, and acquainted his audience with the precise degree of advantage obtained by either country. Gauging by the modicum of our favors to those who have had the courage to resist our insatiable thieving propensities in the last 50 years, the advantages must have been, if not wholly so. Again in 1855, Sir Charles says the Burmese became troublesome to the British, necessitating active measures to bring the King to his senses, and terms were again arranged, as in 1824, presumably also favorable to both countries. In 1855, the writer was in the Crimea, and now has neither time nor desire, to question whether at this period the Burmese were or were not at fault.

The lecturer now brings his hearers down to the year 1878. It may be presumed Sir Charles in speaking of the King who died then, alludes to King Mindon Min, as he says Theebaw succeeded him. It is quite true that Mindon Min left a large number of children behind him. That Theebaw, on his accession to the Throne, caused a number of them to be put to death, is also true. With the exception perhaps of King Mindon Min, King Theebaw did no more than his ancestors had done for centuries before him. Why Mindon Min did not do so, it is not so difficult to say, seeing that, on his accession, he was left the only legitimate successor to the Throne; at least he foresaw no danger of intrigue or revolution; hence relief by slaying a number of relatives to suppress any probable revolt was unnecessary.

The lamentable weakness of the then Resident, the late Mr. St. Barbe, and his want of firmness in such an emergency when the edict went forth to put to death the Princes on Theebaw's accession, is a sad illustration of our ignorance, in selecting men of untried ability to fill offices of the very highest importance. The writer has the authority of Ministers of the ex-King for saying, it is not true that Mr. St. Barbe received at the hands of Theebaw insulting treatment. But the Resident was seized with an unaccountable panic, and not only by his ignominious flight did he leave European and British subjects behind him, but by showing how little of the firebrand he possessed, commonly called British pluck, he left Mandalay in a perfect state of chaos. From this date England ceased to be represented at the Court of Mandalay. The law sometime after sought the friendship of Italy, through Mr. Andriano, without success. Failing with his own countrymen, the Italian Consul found a ready market for his wares with Sir Charles Bernard.

At a later date Mons. Hass entered the field, making promises of all sorts, without the authority of his Government to do so. This is seized upon, and a scare is started. Sir Charles indeed informs his audience, that Theebaw also attacked traders in the sea

coast and threatened to drive the British into the sea! Is it possible the English public are so ignorant of the map of Burma, and so credulous as to place any belief in a conglomeration of such monstrous nonsense?

Upper Burma has no sea coast, and the nearest point of Upper Burma to the sea coast before annexation, *i.e.*, just above Allammyo, is not less than 500 miles distant from the open sea.

It is correct, as Sir Charles Bernard said on the 20th February at London, that in 10 days (it was a little more) the King agreed to the terms demanded by General Sir Harry Prendergast, namely, the Burmese to lay down their arms, and Theebaw to give himself up. At this point Sir Charles does not complete the information. At Ava, where the disarmament took place, General Sir Harry Prendergast gave the Burmese officers and men, to understand that their King would remain in Burma. This incident will be fully commented on in "The Fall of Mandalay."

It is true King Theebaw and Queen Soopyalat were the day following our occupation of Mandalay, transported in a commonplace bullock cart to the foreshore, placed on board the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company's steamer *Theorch*, (since wrecked and now lying in the bed of the river at Minboo) sent down to Rangoon and reshipped for I. M. S. *Cher* to Madras. It is not true this was accomplished, as the lecturer said, with a loss only of 11 killed, twice that number and more were laid low within the 11 days we occupied in reaching Mandalay. The lecturer goes on to say, Lord Dufferin then held a conference with the chief men of Burma. The writer denies there was any such thing as a conference held in the true acceptance of the term. There was a convention which all the ministers were obliged to attend, they had no voice in anything, and every man of them signed away his birth-right, not even getting in lieu the scriptural lines of pottage.

The lecturer's figures of encounters is much below the mark, and the casualties distorted and wilfully made incorrect. As a rule, the people of Upper Burma are healthy, but when Sir Charles Bernard announced to his audience they are very happy, he knew it was not the case, and that he was misrepresenting fact, goes without saying. During our 4 years' occupation of Burma, we have caused more misery, greater loss of life, more bloodshed and rapine than had been in the former 30 years in Upper Burma. It is not true that in our advance on Mandalay we were welcomed and received with open arms, and our advent hailed with delight, as of deliverers of the oppressed from the oppressor and tyrant.

It would be useless to deny there were isolated cases of supplies solicited and given, but it is monstrously misleading to say they were given in the same official reports would have us believe. The very few exceptions where supplies were so obtained were granted with the very worst grace; they were given out of absolute fear, certainly not love; almost at every landing we effected, the villages were entirely deserted, every soul having fled to the jungle, leaving behind only pigs and pariah dogs, in some cases not these even. At Myingyan, one of the largest if not the greatest trading centres in Upper Burma, where a primitive attempt was made at a defence, on landing not a soul was found or to be seen in the village, the trenches only just deserted, and the antiquated guns of Theebaw toppled over the bank into the river. Even at Mandalay, our landing was not witnessed by more than 50 natives, 45 of which were Poongyees. The writer marched with Colonel

Budgeon at the head of the Madras Pioneers, Siege train, and Madras Infantry to the Palace, a distance of 4 miles, on the whole line of march not meeting half a dozen Burmans, and not a European until well into Mandalay, the night that Theebaw and Soopayalat were made secure. The writer slept within the Palace the same night.

On reading the account of the late Chief Commissioner's lecture, the writer was much struck with the lecturer's idea of line light illustrations. What the subject of those illustrations were, we in India are not enlightened on. But it may fairly be presumed the following were not amongst the illustrations.

1st.—The wholesale slaying of Burmans at Mandalay, summarily tried by Major Adamson and condemned to be shot by a Military firing party, daily detailed for this purpose.

2nd.—Colonel Hooper's photographing by an instantaneous lens the Burmans being shot.

3rd.—The bodies after execution suspended to a bamboo by their hands and feet in the manner live pigs are, and carried, bleeding and disfigured, through the public streets and Bazar.

4th.—The disastrous Flood in Mandalay in August 1886, covering an area of some 35 square miles, carrying away in its fierce and destructive swiftness lies in value of property and between 700 and 1,000 human beings, officially reported to have caused a loss of 35 lives only. The weird-like apparition of such illustrations would probably prove too much for even a sensation-mongering London audience. The writer would only here remark, there was less to reprove in Colonel Hooper's action than there would be in Mr. Villiers of the *London Graphic*, or Mr. Prior of the *Illustrated News*, sketching a condemned criminal on the scaffold just preparatory to the bolt being drawn and the culprit disappearing below. Surely, Sir Charles Bernard, K. C. S. I., is not so friendless as to be allowed to drift into the public lecturer's groove! It would be a real act of kindness if some friend would warn him against this petty conceit. The whole lecture delivered at Falcon-square Chapel, from first to last, was an interesting tissue of monstrous blunders, and fencing with the truth. Notwithstanding anything either the late or the present Chief Commissioner of Burma may choose to say to the contrary, there is no doubt that Theebaw was respected, and, but for his excessive weakness, would probably have made as good a ruler as any of his predecessors. As at all Native Courts, so it was at Mandalay, intrigue, vice and immorality reigned supreme.

The writer in conclusion now only adds his own conviction, that, but for Lord Ripon's pusillanimity, and Mr. St. Barbe's cowardly scuttling out of Mandalay, King Theebaw, instead of vegetating at Ratnaghiri, would be ruling at Mandalay to-day.

ZITO.

## THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

### IX.

#### Miscellaneous—Resolutions.

From words to deeds is a natural transition! What if, having disposed of the speeches and the speakers, I took up their work? If words are women, deeds are men! Indeed, I have the authority of Shakespeare, when I say that

"T is deeds (not words) must win the prize.

And of deeds again, quality rather than quantity should be sought. Now it is no secret that the last Congress excelled the previous ones in quantity more than in quality. And if there was more work, there was also less time to do it. The result was, as indeed it could not fail to be, that business had to be pushed through, with indecent haste; and hurry we know never makes good curry. There

was a universal complaint last year, which was echoed and re-echoed, that the speeches generally were very commonplace and stale even as a twice-told tale. The Resolutions this year were too many in number, seventeen, I believe, in all. To be sure, Lord Lansdowne was frightened out of his wits to read the strings of the nation's grievances! Now, to say the least of it, this is most unbusiness-like. There was, however, a distinct departure made. The Resolutions also embraced social questions. And here at least Lord Dufferin scored a distinct triumph! Pray, do not understand me to say that Lord Dufferin was not ill-advised or hasty in inditing his diatribe against the Congress; but, on the other hand, it is not so that his parting shot had no redeeming feature in it. I hold with Lord Dufferin that there are social topics which can very well be brought within the arena of discussion in the Congress. Your Congressswallah must be prepared to make sacrifices when he is called upon, from time to time, to do so. A nation's regeneration cannot be effected by mere 'tall talk.' By your words, rather than by your deeds, you must shew yourself deserving of higher honors and greater privileges. Reformers must shew such stuffs as compose your ubiquitous Congress. You must move if you would have the Congress move. You should be prepared to move more than half way. Nothing perfects a man more than position and its responsibilities. Position debilitates the weak, but sobers the strong-limbed. It would not do for one aspiring for precious boons to say,

I am Sir Oracle;

And when I open my lips, let no dog bark.

There will spring into existence greater Oracles, who will not be dumb. So let no one in the Congress fold be impatient of criticism, be it good, bad, or indifferent. There is a tendency abroad, a mischievous one, to assume that the moment one criticises anything of the Congress, he is motives ever so high and his objects ever so noble, he is damned. In Bengal, I have found this feeling more rampant than anywhere else, and "Tis true, 'tis pity, and pity 'tis true." Other Provinces have begun to catch the contagion. Every Congress man must be a party man, pledging his honour, and honesty and soul and all to his party; or he must be consigned to eternal damnation. There were not persons wanting who, in the exuberance of patriotism and in the plenitude of their wisdom, of which God seems to have vouchsafed to them more than the ordinary amount, their vision Diomed-like purged off, could see through, as an object behind a transparent screen, the motives of the *Reis and Rayyet*, the *Indian Nation*, and *Hope*, in assuming an attitude which these have thought fit to do. This spirit of dogmatism is the bane of progress and reform. Mistrustfulness destroys confidence, and begets evils. Believe, O thou Sceptic! when any one of these say,

I would only repress them to secure.

Perhaps, the most noticeable feature of the last Congress was the sending of the two letters of condolence and congratulation to Mr. Bright and Mr. Gladstone respectively.

From—George Yule, President, Indian National Congress, Allahabad.

To—John Albert Bright, Rochdale.

"The Congress, consisting of fourteen hundred delegates from all parts of India, join in expressing their high appreciation of your father's services to India, their sorrow at his illness, their sympathy with him and his family in his suffering, and their earnest hope for his complete recovery." This was on the 27th December 1888. The next one was despatched on the 29th December. "To William Ewart Gladstone, Hawarden Castle, Chester.

"Congress assembled from all parts of India, fourteen hundred delegates present, congratulates you upon your birthday, and prays that by the blessing of God, you may have many happy returns of the day."

Now this is all very well so far as it goes. But if we dive a little deeper into the matter, what do we find? We find not an individual delegate here or an individual delegate there showing an inclination for the Liberal party, but an entire body professing to represent the most conservative nation on the face of the earth who had met in solemn conclave, committed, and most seriously committed. As it was, it was bad enough in all conscience. This is the climax of—imprudence. In the first place, it is opposed to historical truth to declare that we have derived no benefit from Conservative

Ministry; perhaps, the truth lies quite the other way. Indeed, once in the course of an interesting controversy, Mr. Robert Knight, who is himself a staunch Liberal, proved, by reference to concrete examples, that we are indebted to the Conservatives for some of the greatest charters of human freedom. It is plain then that our *soi-disant* leaders of liberal proclivities have taken advantage of this popular superstition to commit a whole nation. But will this tactics, for I cannot characterise it otherwise, hold water? It is on the face of it preposterous, not to say preternatural, to assume that the world will be credulous enough to credit that all these fourteen hundred and odd delegates are all Liberals, true and loyal. It will only give a poor idea of the intelligence and, shall I add, of the honesty?—of the delegates, that they suffered themselves to be thus played upon. O shade of Socrates! Come to the rescue of thy Truth which is in jeopardy! Nor does it bode any good in the future. To plunge into the vortex of party politics is like sacrificing truth at the altar of personal gain. When the next appeal to the entire British nation will be preferred, who will have the heart to make it without a compunction? Truly speaking, the appeal shall not be to the entire British nation, but only to that section of it which rejoices in the name of Liberals, which at present is a house divided against itself. I have often heard it argued that unless you identify yourself with one party, unless you throw yourself into the whirlwind of party politics, there is no hope for your case, being ever so much as heard. Now, I can understand there is at least some plausibility in this kind of argument; but is it honest and straightforward dealing? Whoever else may be, I am not one of those who follow. The end justifies the means policy; for, it does not take long for a man who stoops to bad means to resort to questionable ends—and then his own end is not far off, I mean, morally. Addison, though himself a Liberal, had always had the wisdom to steer clear of the two “strange animals”—Whigs and Tories. The adhesion to any particular party would never permanently improve matters, although it assuredly does serious injury.

That the Congress is counted for something even in England, will be evident from the fact that such appeals (quoted below) have been found necessary to be made to it. This is an earnest of its future success. Indeed, from private sources, I learn that already the air of England is thick with rumours—of early changes and reforms, on a large scale, in the constitution and policy of the Government of India. You must not be taken by surprise to find a committee of the House of Commons sitting early in winter to enquire into the grievances of the Congress and the press. It is hoped its result will be that there will be great shuffling of cards.

“HOUSE OF COMMONS.  
15th November, 1888.”

To—The General Secretary, Indian National Congress, Allahabad.  
Sir,

You are doubtless aware of the resolution passed by the House of Commons on the 5th of June last:—

“That in the opinion of this House any mere suspension of measures for the compulsory examination of women and for licensing and regulating prostitution in India is insufficient, and the legislation which enjoin, authorises, or permits such measures ought to be repealed.”

Our special experience in this country has taught us the necessity of extreme care to make such repealing legislation reliable and complete, and the need of strengthening the hands and the purpose of a willing Government by the expression and the help of an awakened public opinion.

We venture, therefore, to suggest to you that the subject is one which might fittingly be brought before the Congress at Allahabad.

We have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

(Sd.) JAMES STANFELD.  
(Sd.) JAMES STUART.”

“From—The Executive Committee of the Ladies’ National Association for the Abolition of Government Regulation of Vice.”

To—The Members of the Indian National Congress, meeting at Allahabad, on December 27th, 1888, and succeeding days.

Gentlemen,—We address you in the name of thousands of women banded together to oppose all laws for the Regulation of Vice by the State.

After nearly twenty years of persistent struggle, we have had the reward of seeing Great Britain and Ireland freed from such laws.

But our sympathies are not limited to our own country or race, and our hearts are deeply moved at the thought of our fellow-subjects in India, who are still under the bondage of a system even worse than that which we have successfully opposed in our own land.

We ask your earnest co-operation with us in seeing that the Resolution passed last spring in the House of commons, to promote the

repeal of the Indian Contagious Diseases Ordinances of 1868, and the vice-regulating clauses of the cantonment Acts, is strenuously and sincerely acted upon in India.

We make the remark without any desire to give offence to any one, but it is matter of common knowledge that men in official administrative positions need the support of public opinion to enable them to fully carry out such changes as the one in question. Such support an active public opinion affords to administration in this country. We would fain hope that your Congress, through its various Committees, will make it a part of their business to see that infamous arrangements which have been so strongly denounced, alike in India and in England, are swept away, and that nothing however colourably innocent it may seem, be allowed to take their place.

The Indian Acts and Ordinances have not only been condemned by Parliament, but by the English people, who have been roused to a deep sense of responsibility in having allowed them to be imposed on our people. We rejoice in the belief that the enlightened public opinion of India is on our side, and we lay our views before your Congress with the confident hope, not only of your appreciation and support, but also of your cordial co-operation in the efforts we are making to render the State regulation of vice in India impossible.

Signed for the Committee,

(Sd.) JOSEPHINE E. BUTLER,

Honorary Secretary.

November 1888.”

Now the above appeals practically inspired the Resolution XII which was placed in the hands of Captains Hearsey and Banon. It is a moral plague-spot, and ought to find no place in the Statute Book.

At another time, I shall take up the resolutions one by one. Much, it is true, has been said and written upon them; but much yet remains to be added.

B.

## ENGLISH POLITICS.

BY A HINDU IN ENGLAND.

London, March 15, 1889.

The event of the week, as every Englishman but a Pigottist will tell you, was the monster meeting held at St. James’ Hall last Wednesday evening when “The National Protest” of the United Kingdom found a spokesman in the best abused man of the day, Charles Stuart Parnell, Mr. John Morley being in the chair. Since the historic gathering at Bingley Hall last November when 25,000 representative men of our section of politics met together to demonstrate their enthusiastic loyalty and affection for Mr. Gladstone, such a sight has not been seen from Land’s End to John o’Groat. Every possible interest was represented. Every difference was sunk and every effort was made to emulate as to who should do the greatest honour to the hero of the day. I read somewhere no animal is more dangerous than a maddened sheep. Still John Bull like Brutus is cold as flint, emits a spark only when very hardly knocked, and becomes cool again. Some idea of the universal excitement will be formed when I tell you that in less than three weeks more than a quarter of a million of people have signed their solemn protest against “Brave Balfour” and his government by batoning and bludgeoning, and from Mr. Morley’s remarks before putting the resolution before the meeting, namely, that since he had been in the chair, he has had about sixty telegrams from every point of the compass, congratulating those who held this meeting and wishing them and the cause well. I need not say not a syllable came from India, either of sympathy or antipathy. We have not got that sympathy, we have not got that vitality as yet to throb and respond to the progressive stages of another people’s nationhood, though in this case we bear the greatest resemblance to that people, morally and mentally. India the poor India the poor safe and sound under Ghorian’s mutual winking, but so does the victim of the vampire bat.

The Government is at bay. Mr. Morley’s speech was as telling as incisive. “I think that the publication of this tale and malicious libel on the very day on which the division was to be taken on the Coercion Bill, with the avowed object of influencing that division—I say that that constitutes an aggravation of the offence which even this Parliament will be bound to notice and to punish. There will be other forms of retribution—but the *Vimes*, after all, that great Jupiter that does in led forge its thunderbolts, that great Jupiter is much less important than her Majesty’s Government.” The present move is to do away with the Attorney General of the Government, and then to kick out that Government itself. The proof of a criminal conspiracy is being thrust home with a force of logic which would not take long to open the eyes of the British electorate. The Government have allowed the Attorney General, their chief law officer, to devote week and months as counsel for the accusers. The *Times* itself vouched for the Attorney General in July last. They said, “These charges against Mr. Parnell had been formulated in open Court by the head of the English bar, a man whose eminence—legal, personal, professional, and official—offers an absolute guarantee that in his learned judgment he has the means of proving what he asserts. The Attorney General having access to official knowledge, as he has admitted it

himself, leads the public over all these months to think that *The Times* has taken all reasonable precaution, even unto the comparing of the handwriting. It is the old story. If the first law officer of the Crown neglected at the first instance to test the genuineness of the documents on which rested his whole case, a folly which the veriest junior holding his first brief would not be guilty of, then he is a fool.\* If on the other hand he knew—a situation from which he has now no possible means of escaping—that Pigott's letters were forged, then he is the greatest knave that has ever dishonoured his silk. Angry challenges are thrown out to Government from all sides to come out from behind the petticoats of *The Times*, as Mr. Parnell quaintly put it and to face the country; and no sooner the electors have a chance than this false image, with its front of Fairy brass and its feet of Dissentient clay will be trampled in the dust under the feet of all honest citizens of the United Kingdom.

In our cheap country we manage everything cheaply, sometimes paying not more than one Rupee four annas for a wife. But we have not yet come to woo with brickbats and criminal prosecutions and even a *Bat* cannot be hooked so summarily as in Patland. A young man named Huggins was indicted at the Mayo Assizes yesterday for assaulting Bridget Swift. He pleaded not guilty. The Lord Chief Justice consented to the case standing over for an hour, and allowed the prisoner out on bail during that time. When the case was again called on the prisoner produced a certificate of his marriage with the prosecutrix, the ceremony having taken place in the meanwhile. Under these circumstances the prosecution was abandoned, and the parties left the court arm in arm.

The following will give you some idea of how Zemindary is carried on in Ireland, the Zemindar in this case being no less a personage than your Vice-Emperor, the constitutional autocrat of India. The Press Association states that writs of ejectment have been served upon the Bishop of Kildare and the Revd. Thomas Kelsoe, Parish Priest of Luggerecurran, on behalf of the Marquis of Lansdowne, in respect of ten acres of land held by them on the Luggerecurran estate. Father Kelsoe has taken an active part in the promotion of the plan of campaign in connection with this estate, and he has permitted the erection on the plot of land in question of twenty huts, which are at present occupied by evicted tenants. Father Cummins, the predecessor of Father Kelsoe, interested himself in clearing the estate of Ribbonmen and White boys in the time of the first Lord Lansdowne, and in recognition of his services in this connection ten acres of land were granted to him at a rental of £10 a year. Writs have also been served on the whole of the occupants of the huts.

#### TRUE CAUSE OF THE MAHOMEDAN DECLINE.

The picture your able correspondent "Old Moslem" has drawn of the England returned Mahomedans, is natural and impressive. Throughout his long article, he has tried to prove the mistake of the ambitious Mahomedans in going to England in search of education, without passing the F. A. examination at least. He also tries to repudiate the idea of the present system of education being defective. He further adds that those who go to England in the hope of receiving sound education are generally the plucked candidates of the university examinations. He attributes their "irregular habits," "laziness," and "want of perseverance" to their unsuccessfulness in academical attainments. In fact, he finds fault with the candidates and not with the system of education and their indolent parents and guardians. I now beg with your permission to point out something to the contrary which does injury not only to the individuals but also to the community and to the Mahomedan nation at large.

To begin with, the Mahomedans are not in any way inferior to either the Christians or the Hindus. Mahomedan boys never get proper and methodical training like the Hindu and the Christian lads. Therefore, it is impossible for them to display their hereditary ability as a race, and it is also unjust and premature to impute to them inability and want of energy. Their present degraded social position is chiefly due to the defective education they receive through the indifference and negligence of their parents. The university is not solely to blame but the parents themselves.

The poverty of the Mahomedans is always put forth as a plea for not giving proper education to the young. It is absurd to repudiate this in toto. But I shall state a few words regarding the rich and well-to-do middle class men, who can well afford to spend thousands of rupees in giving parties and in immoral amusements, and who can also subscribe hundreds to innumerable funds at the request of the officials and in the hope of winning empty titles. Of course, this class of men cannot be called poverty-stricken. It is the sons of these men who generally go to England for better education. Now, Sir, do these men pay regular and proper attention to the education of their children? I, without the fear of being contradicted, say that they do not. They never take any personal interest in the education of their children, and even do not care to hear the quarterly reports of their progress. In supplying ne-

cessary funds for proper education, they are niggard and parsimonious. To save a few rupees, they employ incompetent tutors to instruct their children at home, and thus lay the foundation of the mental culture of the boys with third-rate materials. Is it possible to build a castle on a foundation made of mud and rubbish? By sowing seeds of weed these parents and their friends expect to reap paddy at the time of harvest. The failure of the children of these men in the University Examinations is principally due to this rotten foundation, the outcome of which is "irregular habits!" "laziness" and "want of perseverance." Knowing full well the training they receive, I do not find much to blame the Mahomedan youth.

The following are the causes which led the upper and middle class young Mahomedans to go to England for the sake of education. As soon as "the enlightened" among them appreciate their miserable position in society and find out the true cause of their unsuccessfulness in the University Examinations, they, as rational beings, naturally want to better their social position by going to England and coming out as Barristers. They have much confidence in their own ability and their ultimate success there; for they know that they will be able to get the help of competent teachers who know the method of training perfectly and who can prepare a candidate for any examination with success. As soon as a Mahomedan aspirant reaches England he begins to work and study with one of those teachers and passes every examination during the "term." Is it not possible for him to get the assistance of one of the educationists and pass university examinations in India? Yes, it is possible; and there are able men too in India. But the parsimonious and indifferent parents would not engage the services of any such men to coach their children.

The failure of the Mahomedan Barristers at the Bar, and their not giving satisfaction to their parents, friends, and community, cannot justly be attributed to their education received in England. It is to be remembered that they go to England at an advanced age full of demerits, and their parents do not allow them to stay there for more than a couple of years or so. The education they receive there during that short period is not and cannot be sufficient to put them on an equal footing with those who have received sound education from their childhood; but it is more than what they could have ever obtained in India during their whole life. It is praiseworthy on the part of the sons of those parents, who do not take personal interest and do not spare sufficient money in giving them proper education in India, to leave their sweet home and compel the unthoughtful and irresponsible parents to pay the expenses of education in England.

The indifference of the parents to the education of their children is very detrimental to the interest of the Mahomedan society and highly injurious to the nation. Hundreds of cases are to be found in which the negligence of the parents and want of proper training ruined the prospects of the young Mahomedans and made them the curs of society.

Your correspondent asserts that "generally these young men (the Barristers) are too apt to borrow foreign tastes and habits, forgetting in 3 or 4 years everything they had learnt in all their previous lives." Now, let us see what this "everything" means. Had they ever read their national history "in all their previous lives?" Had they any conception of the usefulness and soundness of their social customs and habits? Had they any knowledge of what the Mahomedan taste is? Had they ever been taught any book on social etiquette of their community? The answer is no on every point, except that they had instinctively followed the example of their parents in their early days. No wonder then if these enlightened men after making themselves acquainted with the usefulness and benefits of the Western customs, habits and tastes adopt the same in preference to those of their own, and thereby shake off the little outward show they had of Mahomedanism and thus turn out perfect *Sabibs* at the great chagrin of those who were responsible for their practical and useful education. Had they been acquainted with their national history, social customs and etiquette, they would have never transgressed from the path of their forefathers, like the Englishmen who are well versed in theirs and are the faithful followers of their ancestors. Is not this state of affair due to the defective system of education? Are the youth to blame for their present social position or their parents? As regards these young men's bad habits, here they do not imitate the Europeans but follow the example set to them by their parents and friends at home. Their education in England has given them one great advantage over the members of their own circle in this matter, and that is moderation which is now unknown in oriental society.

In conclusion, I would advise "Old Moslem" to try his able pen to make the Moslems of the old school understand their responsibility in the education of their children, and to bring about the required change in the system of education, and then if not satisfied with the social and mental progress of the Mahomedan youth he will be quite justified in upbraiding and finding fault with them in any shape he pleases.

KHAJA KHEZER,

\* Oh!—ED. R. & R.

† Oh! oh! Ed.



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Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who, being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeying, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. Thus Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether

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CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1889.

No. 369

CONTEMPORARY VERSE.

THE EXORDIUM OF SADI'S *BUSTAN*.

Translated from the Persian  
By Edward Stachey.

IN THE NAME OF GOD, THE MERCIFUL, THE COMPASSIONATE!

IN the Lord's name! Who did all life create;  
The Wise! Who taught man speech articulate.  
The Lord, the Giver, the Help in time of need!  
The Merciful! Who hears when sinners plead!  
The Great! From Him whose shall turn away,  
Greatness shall seek in vain, seek where he may;  
Kings, who lift up their heads in pride of place,  
Bowed down before His throne themselves abase;  
Not even the stiff-necked doth He take in wrath,  
Nor from His presence drive them, unheard, forth.  
The Sea of Knowledge, infinite, divine,  
Doth in each drop two elements combine:  
Justice and Mercy,—neither of these can fail;  
He sees the sin, and, pitying, draws the veil.  
Though evil deeds bring down the wrath of Heaven,  
He who turns back, repentant, is forgiven.  
Against his father should a son rebel,  
Unmeasured wrath the father's breast will swell.  
Displeased, the kinsman owns his kin no more,  
And drives him like a stranger from his door:  
If to thy friend thou should'st unfriendly be,  
He breaks the fellowship, and flies from thee:  
The servant slothful in his daily tasks,  
Promotion of his master vainly asks:  
And if the soldier in his duty fail,  
No plea will with his king and chief avail:—  
But He, Lord of the noble and the base,  
Against no rebel shuts the door of grace.  
The fair earth is His table, duly spread;  
He asks not, "Friend, or foe?" Welcomed are all, and fed.  
If He were quick to mark iniquity,  
Who from His anger could in safety be?  
His nature knows no change: His kingdom stands  
Needing no help from man's or angel's hands.  
All things, all persons, serve His kingly state;  
Man, beast, fowl, ant, and fly, upon Him wait.  
For them His bounteous table He prepares;  
Where even the lonely, far off, Simurgh\* shares.  
That bounteous love in all His works He shows;  
He grasps the world, and all its secrets knows.  
His Will is law, His greatness all things own,  
Whose kingdom is of old, with rivals none.  
On one man's head he sets a monarch's crown,  
One from a throne He to the dust brings down.

\* The Phoenix or Griffin of Oriental legend, dwelling alone at the end of the world.—*Translator*.

From Him the cap of fortune *this* receives,  
To *that* the beggar's garb of rags He gives.  
If He should bid unsheath the avenging sword,  
The Cherubim, silent, obey His word:  
Should He proclaim the fullness of His grace,  
The Lost One cries, "I, too, have there a place!"

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

WE offer our condolence to the Duke of Cambridge and the Royal Family for the death, announced this week, of the Duchess of Cambridge.

LEAVING Allahabad on Friday, last week, the Viceroy reached Lucknow the same morning, and staying there the same and two succeeding days, His Excellency left it for Simla on Monday afternoon.

HER Majesty's Secretary of State for India has expressed "approval of the excellent manner in which General Graham conducted the Sikkim operations, which resulted in the complete defeat of the enemy with but little loss on our side." Lord Cross has further, in appreciation of the services of our troops, "approved of the grant of a gratuity to the troops employed in the operations, the units being fixed at Rs. 24 and Rs. 12 for Europeans and Natives respectively."

THE "Lansdowne" Railway bridge over the river Indus at Sukkur, opened on the 27th March by Lord Reay, is of the cantilever order—consisting of two cantilevers, each 310 feet long, with an ordinary girder of 200 feet connecting them, the whole giving a clear span of 790 feet, the largest in India. The girders are partly of steel and partly of iron. The roadway for ordinary traffic is on the same level with the rails. The bridge crosses the river where the Indus is divided into the Rahri and Sukkur Channels by the island of Bhukkur. The work was commenced in April 1883. The revised estimate for the entire project comes up to Rs. 4,10,755, including Rs. 90,316 for block-houses on the abutments of the bridge. The Superintending Engineer in charge, Mr. F. E. Robertson, has been awarded special thanks in the Gazette by the Governor-General in Council.

RUSSIAN telegraphs from London, on the authority of the *Daily News*, that Persia has ceded to Russia Kelat-e-Nadir—the fortress built by Nadir Shah to overawe the Turcomans, and the most important stronghold in Khorassan.

THE Chief Justice is recruiting his health in Barrackpore, from where he is supposed to do his judicial and other duties. It is the privilege of our High Court Judges to be absent from the Court on full pay without leave of any kind.

MR. HOWELL must bid farewell to Hyderabad and retire to his own obscurity in the Service. Mr. D. Fitzpatrick, C.S.I., Chief Commissioner of Assam, has been prevailed upon to accept the Residency of

*Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.*

intriguing Hyderabad which has wrecked the reputation of so many. He had refused the appointment. And well that he did so, for Assam offers a good field for administrative distinction.

SENHOR DE CAMARA, Governor of Din, is under suspension under an order of the Portuguese Governor-General. A Court of Inquiry has also been ordered on his conduct at Simbon.

WITH the retirement of Mr. H. J. Reynolds, C. S. I., from the 17th instant, the Hon'ble F. M. Hilday has been appointed Chairman of the Calcutta Port Commission and confirmed a Member of the Board of Revenue, L. P. Mr. J. Beames, Commissioner, Bhagalpur Division, officiates as the second member for Mr. F. B. Peacock still on furlough. This transfer not only disturbs the public mind but other Commissionerships. Mr. C. C. Stevens, from Chota Nagpore, comes to the Bhagalpore Commission, Mr. W. H. D'Oyly, Magistrate and Collector, Mozufferpore, temporarily taking up that duty. Mr. W. H. Grimley, Magistrate and Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, becomes Commissioner of the Chota Nagpore Division, and Mr. C. W. Bolton, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Mozufferpore, acting as Magistrate and Collector of the 24-Pergunnahs, on being relieved of his present appointment by Mr. W. H. D'Oyly. Mr. H. Lee, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy-Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, acts temporarily as Magistrate and Collector of that District till relieved by Mr. Bolton.

BABOO JADU NATH ROY again acts as the Fourth Judge of the Court of Small Causes, Calcutta, Baboo Krishna Mohun Mookerjee, Subordinate Judge of Khowda, acting as Judge of the Small Cause Court. Baboo Jadu Nath is a lucky man. On the last occasion, he was appointed to act in the Calcutta Court for six weeks as the nearest officer, it being considered inexpedient to bring in another from a distance for such a short period. And now he has been called to officiate for a larger term, probably on the strength of his previous acting incumbency there. We hope this does not mean that Baboo Ananta Lal Chatterjee, Sub-Judge of the 24-Pergunnahs at Alipore, is permanently to be left to pine in unmerited neglect.

BABOO TARINI KUMAR GHOSH, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, has been taken in by the Presidency Commissioner as his First Personal Assistant, and Baboo Obinash Churn Mullick, Deputy-Magistrate and Deputy-Collector, Baraset, as the Second in place of Baboo Ananta Nath Chatterjee who goes on 3 months' leave. The new comers are both gentlemen of family and education, which is more than can be said of most native officials. Does the out-gone go out in chagrin and sorrow at repeated supersession, or is he required by his friends of Hathkhol?

SIR Syed Ahmed of Aligarh has secured for himself, through his friend Principal Sir William Muir, the honorary degree of Doctor of Law of the Edinburgh University.

ON the publication of the Rules for the guidance of Benchers of Magistrates in the town of Calcutta, we commented, among others, on their incompleteness. The Government has now added one more Rule to remedy the defect. It runs thus:

"Rule 14. The Chief Magistrate may at any time delegate any or all powers conferred on him under these rules to the Junior Specially Magistrate."

We hope Mr. Marsden will more formally than now record his orders under these Rules, for they are a part of the law.

THE "Bengali Journalist" in the *Indian Spectator* is one of the Elect. He gives here a specimen of his charity:—

"Should a magistrate who has been convicted of a criminal offence be allowed to hold his situation as a dispenser of justice? A case has just occurred here which leads me to ask this question. Jnanendra Nath Pal, a young Deputy Magistrate, assaulted a poor Brahmin without justifiable provocation. The native Presidency Magistrate in Calcutta, before whom the case was tried, found the prisoner guilty of assault and fined him eight rupees. Jnanendra Nath Pal is now, in fact, a dismissed criminal. How can a dismissed criminal dispense justice? As far as I can see, it is inconsistent to allow a dismissed criminal to try criminals. It is something like asking the blind to lead the blind. Jnanendra Nath Pal ought to be dismissed from the service to which he is now a discredit."

Of course, the Journalist lives in a steel house and can afford to pelt stones freely at others who are not so fortunate. This indeed is being

unco-righteous with a vengeance. It is something to know that there is at least one man who never lost his temper, but he might have some kindness for the weak. If a man is to lose his appointment for a single lapse of the sort, the majority of offices will remain frequently unfilled. For the Elect are few.

We like his protest against the reintroduction of the infamous C. D. Act better.

Here is how one side of the Brahmo Church depicts another:—

"There was a time when the late Keshub Chunder Sen was looked upon as the man to root out idolatry from the land and replace it by a simple theism, which was the pristine religion of India and was upheld by some of the highest Hindu Shastras. It is sad to see that instead of such a sound and highly desirable result being attained, the religion preached by Keshub Chunder himself has now dwindled into a form of man worship. The Church which Keshub Chunder dedicated to the worship of the one God is now filled with men who *practically* assign a higher position to their departed spiritual teacher than to God himself. The pulpit in Keshub Chunder Sen's Church is considered to symbolize his teachings and to emphasize the continuance of his ministrations. None is allowed to preach from this pulpit. It has been decided that it shall ever remain vacant. It is believed by the followers of Mr. Sen that the pulpit is the last visible symbol of their late teacher. This would fairly indicate to what is the Brahmoism of the Church of the New Dispensation, as Keshub Chunder Sen's Church is called, gradually drifting."

The writer concludes with the consolatory reflection that at least his sectional Brahmoism is above reproach. Just so! The mote is a disfigurement always confined to another's eye.

THE Joint-Magistrate of Chittagong is engaged on the following case:

"A man named Rakimuddin went to Mecca some 13 years ago. He had been leading the life of a fakir during all that time, and had in a manner given up the idea of returning home. In the meantime another man of the same name went to Mecca and made his acquaintance. The second Rakimuddin managed to learn the antecedents of the fakir Rakimuddin and, on returning from his pilgrimage, contrived to get the fakir's home, his wife, and all. The mother and wife at first hesitated to acknowledge him, but they gave way before his cunning persuasions. The fakir Rakimuddin was of a fair complexion and the false Rakim of a dark hue, and when pressed for an explanation accounted for it to his having submitted to the painful ceremony of *Ten sikh*. He had lived with the family for a period of three months without any molestation, when he went away to visit his would-be-father-in-law's house. In the meantime the real Rakimuddin returned home and wanted to be admitted to his own house. He was refused admission by his mother, wife, and brother. Great confusion followed; the villagers and the neighbours gathered, and he was at last recognised. The trick played upon the poor mother and wife was now brought to light. The impostor was sent for, on the plea of his mother's illness; and was instantly arrested and handed over to the police. The wife's position is the most deplorable of all, as she shortly expects to become a mother."

This is as singular a romance of real life as we ever remember. It would be the fortune of a novelist.

THE potato disease has appeared on the Nilgiris. The whole of the Nilgiri seed is infected with the fungus known as the *Botrytis Infestans*. The growers are all natives, and it has been suggested that Government should import good seed and sell it to local cultivators at cost price.

A COVILATION is reported of the head, Rungtao, of the Khaoggi treasury at Imphal, by the local Subler Court for misappropriation of funds. He has been ordered 5 years' imprisonment and refund of the amounts. The prisoner, claiming to be a British subject, claims a fresh trial in any British Court.

SADANUND ESSAYIA, cashier to the Bombay Small Cause Court, has been sentenced by the Sessions Court—Mr. Justice Bayley—to six years' rigorous imprisonment, for criminal breach of trust in respect of Rs. 15,000. The small fry are easily caught, while the whales always manage to break through your nets.

THE Lord Chancellor Halsbury refused to join a dinner party to which Mr. Labouchere had been invited, on the ground that "really one cannot be expected to sit at the same dinner table with a man who has accused you of nepotism, and designated you the Lord High Jobber of England."

As a prevention against fires so frequent at Travancore, the Maharaja Bahadur is willing to assist in the conversion of thatched into tiled buildings, and has therefore set apart for the purpose Rs. 20,000.

WHAT is the disease king Otho of Bavaria is suffering from? His hair turned gray in a single night while his physical power has entirely left him. He is quite unable to walk without the support of two servants.

THE *South of India Observer* has been cast in Rs. 200 damages with costs by the Sub-Judge, in the suit of Mr. Wapshare, Secretary of the Nilgiri Game Association, for Rs. 2,000, for libel.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

OUR surmise about General Boulanger has come true to the letter. The ink of our last week's leaderette was scarcely dry before news arrived by telegraph that the Belgian Government had yielded to the demand of the Belgian press and public and expelled the General from Belgium, who was, in consequence, expected to cross over to England. The news was since modified, and it was announced that Boulanger had not been expelled but warned that no agitation in his behalf would be allowed in Belgian territory. It will come to the same thing, after all, we suspect. Belgian pride has avoided a humiliating inhospitality to a distinguished foreigner who has taken refuge in Belgian soil, which might have the appearance of a truckling to a powerful neighbour. All the same, Boulangerism has been practically snuffed out in Belgium. It may not suit the General to sink into genuine retirement, and in that case he shall have to shift his quarters. Meanwhile, in France, he is to be impeached, in his absence, for high crimes against the State. As Warren Hastings was tried by the High Court of the House of Peers, so Boulanger will be tried by the Senate. On Monday the 8th April, a decree constituting the Senate into a High Court for the nonce for the trial was read. It was the signal for an angry debate. One after another, the partisans of the General rose in protest against the proposal and in condemnation of the entire conduct of Government, with regard to the illustrious Frenchman, driven by a contemptible cabal from his country. The Government, however, was too strong for the malcontents. The latter were outvoted. So the Bill for regulating the procedure of the Senate as the High Court of Justice was passed by a large majority. The court was to have commenced its sitting yesterday.

THE most important event at home in England, is the motion brought forward in the House of Commons, on Wednesday, by Dr. Clark, member for Caithnessshire, for granting legislative independence to Scotland. Dr. Clark represented, not without some show of truth, that the ministry did not give sufficient attention to Scotch legislation. There was some discussion, in which Mr. Gladstone joined, saying that the question was not yet ripe enough to be dealt with, and then the motion, being put to the vote, was rejected by a majority of 111 votes.

That is all that we learn by telegraph. The daily press seems to be satisfied with it. But it is an insult to the intelligence of the Indian community to expect it to be content with crumbs like these. Reuter is neither a very appreciative politician nor an impartial reporter, having been found wanting at several notable junctures. But perhaps he never displayed such utter incapacity for the service he has undertaken, as the enlightener of the public mind, by quick information of all that transpires at the chief centres of the world. His agency has only proved its calibre by not furnishing details of the discussion on the 10th. It has entirely failed to take the measure of the incident in the House of Commons. It was more than an incident—an event, if Reuter's man could only see it. Not seeing it, he has dismissed the subject with a notice of half a dozen lines. Since Mr. Gladstone turned his back on the Empire, to become the patron of Parnellism and disruption and revolution, no more important motion has been made in the British Parliament than the one introduced by Dr. Clark. It is the beginning of the end, we are afraid. Mr. Gladstone, who is responsible for all the mischief, must himself have been taken aback by the proposal of the ardent Scot: we are loath to believe that he incited the member for Caithnessshire. The motion was almost an impertinence, in the face of the comprehensive scheme of Local Self-Government for Scotland introduced by the Government, and which was read a first time two days before, on Monday. There is clearly something rotten in the state of Denmark. A grave crisis seems to threaten England from within, which will require all her patriotism and wisdom to overcome. The danger seems imminent. It is a terrible prospect for our poor country. We can only

pray in all sincerity and humbleness to God, to avert a calamity common to England and India.

THERE is severe distress in certain parts of the country, notably in the Diamond Harbour Sub-division. The District Board had opened small relief works which have enabled many of the poor to tide through the season so far, and now ample measures are required, as the distress not only continues but is steadily progressing from bad to worse, specially in the villages of the Mathurapore and Bankipore Police-stations. Much time has already been wasted, it is to be feared, and we hope there will now be no more delay. We are a long suffering people, and, although we have a considerable beggar-population—encouraged no doubt by our charity itself—the ordinary poor are above supplicating for food relief. Accordingly, they pine in silence with remarkable patience and fortitude. They exhaust all their resources and consume their vitality, never very high, before they descend to the street to beg. When they arrive at this critical stage, there is no more margin left for dilly-dally. Help must come at once or it might be too late. Such seems to be the condition of the rural population of many villages in the Diamond Harbour Sub-division. A man of the name of Nilambar Das, of Mathurapore, is reported to have died of starvation three weeks ago. After passing two consecutive days without nourishment, he went out to beg and fell senseless on the way and died soon after. It is said that he has left a starving wife and children.

A GREAT and disastrous fire has consumed Surat. Originating in the premises of a Parsee timber merchant, in the afternoon of Saturday, it spread round, favoured by a strong breeze, and raged all night. The municipal authorities were paralysed before the strength of the enemy. Five thousand houses have been destroyed, including those that had to be pulled down to prevent the fire from spreading. The loss is estimated at nearly a quarter million sterling. This for a country town or port in India means little short of ruin. Surat is not Chicago, any more than India is the United States.

ON Wednesday, they held a meeting of sympathy and relief at Bombay, at Sir Dinshaw Manockjee Petit's house. Lord Reay, who had been to the scene of the wreck, returned by special train on purpose to attend the meeting, and drove direct from the Railway station to Sir Dinshaw's. He was given the chair. His Lordship described the sad state of things he had just witnessed. After recording their sympathy and their sense of the immediate necessity of taking measures for giving relief, they at once commenced action with opening a subscription. The Governor offered the goodly sum of Rs. 1,000. Rs. 28,000 were subscribed on the spot.

THIS is not the business of Bombay alone, however, but of the whole country. Other cities ought to show their sympathy to poor humbled Surat. Calcutta above all should justify her precedence as the capital of India, by being prompt to relieve her Western sister. We have great pleasure, therefore, in announcing that Mr. Manockjee Rustomjee and Sir Alexander Wilson are astir in the matter, and have formed a Committee for the purpose.

AT Thursday's meeting of the Calcutta Corporation, specially convened for the purpose, the Commissioners, finally considered the project of the new central road from the Hooghly bridge to Sealdah, and resolved to construct the road, provided the Government lent them without interest the two lacs of Rupees offered. The matter, in some shape or other, had been under discussion for the last 5 years, and for the last two years Mr. Cotton had taken it up in right earnest. He wanted to signalize his Chairmanship of the Corporation by this highway across a most crowded part of the town. The cost has been estimated at nearly half-a-crore of rupees, and the Commissioners have in hand only five lacs—the sale proceeds of the Dharm'alla market. They must borrow the balance, paying interest on the loan. The Commissioners, however, rely upon the new powers secured to them by the new law to recoup a large proportion of the cost by sale of the surplus land. For the Commissioners in meeting may—

(a) acquire any land required for the purpose of opening, widening, extending, or otherwise improving any public street, or of making any new public street, and the buildings, if any, standing upon such land; (b) acquire, in addition to the said land and the buildings, if any, standing thereupon, all such land with the buildings, if any, standing thereupon, as it shall seem expedient for the Commissioners to acquire outside of the regular line of such street, provided that, without the

special sanction of the Local Government, not more than one hundred feet shall be acquired on either side of the regular line of the street ;  
(c) lease or sell or otherwise dispose of any land or building purchased under clause (b)."

Whatever the proprieties of the law, the Commissioners have here a source of income for the improvement of the town, and they mean to utilize it in the present instance. In fact, the Legislature has granted the power for this express purpose. It is proposed to acquire about 100 biggas of land and to resell 55 biggahs at a valuation estimated at about 29 lacs. Government had been applied to for a subsidy. It was even at one time announced that Government had sanctioned a grant of two lacs from the surplus funds of the Howrah Bridge. That offer was withdrawn and the project of the new road seemed to fall through. It was again revived and after rather a protracted correspondence Government at last offered to advance 2 lacs for 3 years without interest. Armed with this offer, both the Chairman and Mr. Cotton renewed the agitation for the new road and received the final sanction of the Commissioners last Thursday. The 2 lacs is intended for the interest on the loan during the acquisition and construction of the road. That saves the raising of the House Rate for the interest. There was a feeble protest against this "big jump into the unknown." Baboo Kally Nath Mitter moved an amendment admitting the desirability of the improvement but advising cautiousness in such an expensive project. He advised taking up the work by piecemeal, limiting the first year's outlay to five lacs. But the Chairman's resolution for the entire work at once was adopted. The critics of the Corporation may take heart at the zeal displayed by the Baboo Corporators in favor of the new road and for similar reforms. On Thursday, member after member of the Corporation rose to defend and recommend the Harrison-Cotton scheme. The enthusiasm was so great that three Native Commissioners were on their legs simultaneously to second the Chairman's proposition, immediately after he had resumed his seat. It was evident from the commencement that the Chairman would carry the day.

So sanguine is Sir Henry Harrison of the financial prospect of the scheme, that he believes the new road will ultimately cost the Commissioners next to nothing. We hope the Commissioners will not prostitute their new power of extra acquisition. But we cannot pretend to be easy on this head. One Commissioner was heard to say, in defence of the measure, that, whatever the immorality of the law, the Commissioners would be absolved of all blame as soon as the declaration would appear under the hand of a Secretary of Government. The responsibility would be transferred, for under the Land Acquisition Act such a declaration is proof conclusive that the land declared was required for a public purpose.

TWICE during the week, Mr. Percival Spencer regaled Calcutta and its suburbs with his aerial navigation—on Wednesday and Friday. The first was a private ascent, at 3-30 in the afternoon, from the grounds of the Oriental Gas Company, in Narkuldanga. For a consideration of Rs. 500 paid him, Mr. Spencer took with him a Bengali, Ram Chunder Chatterjee, of the Indian Circus Company and an assistant in the License Department of the Calcutta Municipality, who hopes to take to ballooning as his profession. They rose to a height of from 3,000 to 4,000 feet. The balloon—the "Viceroy"—was provided with two valves to allow of the escape of gas, an anchor, ropes, and other usual appliances. The "Viceroy" took a northerly direction. It was plain sailing, and the descent safe on level ground. The valves were opened a short distance beyond Dum Dum, and both the Master and tyro, after careering through bright and cloudless sky for about an hour, alighted in "unfractured integrity of limb" close to a station next to Baraset on the Central Bengal Railway, in time to catch the train reaching Sealdah at 8-5 P.M. According to Spencer, the Babu passed the initiation well. The Friday's was a public exhibition. The site selected was the Cossipore Tramway Grounds, Gun Foundry Road. Time 5 P.M. It was the closing day of the Bengali year and a public holiday, and the fame of the London aeronaut drew a large crowd to witness his Drop from the Clouds. Warned by previous experience, the arrangements all round were much better than at Ballygunge, and Mr. Spencer went through the performance in his usual felicitous style. At a height of one mile, he took to his parachute, when immediately the balloon turned round, vomiting out the gas enclosed, and fell headlong to the ground—we mean the balloon. Mr. Spencer was not so abrupt. For the first 100 feet his descent was a drop indeed. He shot down

through the sky like a stone by force of gravitation. Then his parachute opened and moderated his pace. He came circling down gradually. In fine, he descended successfully with his umbrella and touched with his feet the solid earth at a distance of half a mile from his start, in a paddy field. The crowd dispersed pleased with the feat accomplished.

WE have received several communications on matters municipal, which are under consideration and inquiry. With respect to our remarks on municipal factions, we are asked, by more than one Correspondent, if we could name any municipality to which official sympathy has not been extended but has worked most successfully. In education, experience, and social position, a non-official Chairman in the Mofussilis, often, superior to his predecessor—the average Deputy—but his orders are transgressed with impunity, while the latter, though personally commanding less respect in high native circles, is supported by the whole Civil Service in exacting obedience to any requisition that he issues orally or in writing. Again, the treatment which not only Beauracracy but also individual official magnates accord to a Chairman not in Government service, goes very much to lower him in the estimation of the common run of people. In one of his last year's tours, Sir Stuart Bayley himself was made by district officers to speak most courteously to a young and inexperienced member of the Subordinate Executive Service, while the Chairman of a Municipality, who is of excellent birth and education and who had worked all night to make suitable arrangements for His Honor's reception, was not even introduced to him.

The following suggestions occur to us as calculated to lead to the satisfactory working of Local Self-Government.

- (1). The appointment to the chair of experienced and efficient sub-district Officers where elective municipalities have been established.
- (2). These officers should be transferred like Munsiffs, every three years or so.
- (3). The Government should allow no inferior officer nor any member of the Subordinate Executive Service to take precedence over a non-official Chairman within the limits of his own municipality.

THE Petits of Bombay are in bad odour among their neighbours as a purse-proud family. The vanity of wealth is, however, the besetting vice of parvenus, and it were vain to expect within at least three generations the true aristocratic dignity. At the same time, it is but fair to recognise that these Parsee Barings of Bombay have made ample amends for the weakness in question. Charity covers a multitude of sins, and surely a little unreasonable brag or foolishness of bearing may be passed over in a family which habitually enjoys the luxury of doing good. Indeed, if ever there was a house which could legitimately boast of their possessions, it is that of the Petits. For they know the right use of money.

SIR DINSHAW MANOCKJEE PETIT is one of the most charitable men of the age. He has distinguished himself and taken the lead in liberality in a city remarkable for its liberality. There has probably been no race with a capacity for giving like the Parsees, and he is the Doyen of the great givers among the Parsees. He has a consort fully worthy of him. We have lately had to record several of their large benefactions in Calcutta, Bombay, and elsewhere. The whole family takes a delight in giving away, on a large scale, for the public good. We have now to announce a princely benefaction, for the benefit of education, by another member of the family. Mr. Framjee Dinshaw Petit has just placed the sum of Rs. 75,000 at the disposal of his Excellency the Governor for the purpose of erecting and fitting a laboratory for Scientific Medical Research, on a site which has been approved by the donor, in the immediate vicinity of the Grant Medical College. Of course, the Governor in Council has much pleasure in accepting the offer, and, in doing so, desires to publicly thank Mr. Framjee Dinshaw Petit for his munificence in supplying an institution, the want of which has long been felt by those most interested in promoting the cause of higher medical education in that Presidency.

Also the Governor in Council is pleased to direct that the institution shall be called "The Framjee Dinshaw Petit Laboratory for Scientific Medical Research."

THE *Dacca Gazette* reports that Babu Rajani Kant Ganguli, B. A., Headmaster of the High School at Debrughar, Assam, has invented



a spinning machine. We hope he teaches well. It would have been more to the purpose if he had mastered the Arts of humanity before devoting his mind to, or trying his hand at, the mechanical Arts. One would suppose that the principal of the chief educational institution at an important centre, in the virgin Province of Assam, had too much occupation of an absorbing, and by no means unattractive, kind, among new and interesting races, to leave any room for serious inquiries into the processes of the industrial arts with a view to their improvement. As a Brahman he did not start with any fund of early observation. Is he a priest of the profession ennobled by the genius of William Thom? Jestings apart, it is true enough that Dominie Sampson in the East does show a strong turn for handicraft—an absolute genius for mechanical invention—in the weaving line. Some years ago, the then headmaster of the Dacca Normal School invented a spinning or weaving machine. He was showered with congratulations and encomia by a patriotic press, and great were the expectations of the regeneration of the country from the introduction of the new machine. The inventor himself was sanguine and applied himself with characteristic energy to the practical working of his new method. But at the end of some years, all we heard about it was that he had paid dearly for his whistle. We hope better luck may attend Baboo Ganguli. But he had better consult his predecessor of Dacca in the line. The Native Press would be kind to him by not tempting him.

THE new Bombay Municipality consists of 72 members, namely, 23 Parsis, 20 Hindus, 18 Europeans, 8 Mahomedans and 3 Portuguese. The Calcutta Corporation as just reconstructed gives 35 Bengalis, 21 Europeans and Eurasians, 11 Mahomedans, 2 Armenians, 2 Jews, 2 Hindustanis, 1 Cashmere, and 1 Parsee, or a total of 75. The Christian element is the same in both the Municipalities, and yet the Calcutta is stigmatized as a Baboo Corporation. The strictly called Baboos number less than half of the total strength and are outnumbered by the other nationalities taken together. There is less chance of the Baboos taking in others than for the Europeans overwhelming the Baboos with non-Baboo votes. So the *Englishman* may be consoled.

WE are afraid there is no immediate prospect of the abolition of "Volapuk." If the poor Swiss dominie who invented the universal tongue is dead, he has left a few demented but determined disciples who stifle the hobby and air it out on every likely opportunity. And now Wealth that knows not what to do with itself, hungering for occupation and possibly "sensation" too, has joined their camp. Somebody, unknown to fame but whose name the Volapukists will not willingly let die, has left a considerable sum for the prosecution of the craze.

THE new Parisian fashion is for ladies to smoke cigarettes after dinner. Why do not the dear creatures go the whole hog and patronise the Oriental luxury of the chibouk and the snake-pipe? It would be a great step in refinement. The perfection of smoking is to draw through water the fumes of tobacco seasoned with rose petals and saturated with molasses or honey and perfumed with all the spices of Araby the blest and of Taprobaue and Thibet.

THE following expression of opinion, drawn from Mr. Gladstone by Nawab Mehdi Ali Khan, of the Hyderabad ministry, is worth preserving:

"Hawarden Castle, Chester, December 10, 1888—Dear Sir—To reply in full to your interesting letter would require a much larger and closer examination of many questions respecting India than it is in my power to institute. The representative system of government has played a great, and may yet play a greater, part in the history of mankind. It is of Aryan and mainly Western origin, and in the opinion of many it has grown out of the internal arrangements of the Christian Church. As it is capable of yielding such great benefits, I desire its extension. I have not heard that the combination of Mahomedan with Christian Bulgarians has worked ill. But it would be a great mistake to carry it 'per saltum' into countries where the conditions of its application would be novel, and therefore quite uncertain. Long consideration and tentative effort seem best adapted for such cases. While leaving the question itself thus open, I should be strongly predisposed against forcibly suppressing any opinion in regard to it which might be expressed in a loyal and peaceful manner.—Faithfully yours, W. E. Gladstone.—The Nawab Mehdi Ali, Hyderabad."

That has naturally proved rather a stiff dose to our ultra-congressists. It is most guardedly worded, but it is substantially the St. Andrew's Dinner oration of Lord Dufferin over again, in a nutshell. Had it proceeded from any other man, there would have been a howl of indigna-

tion against it, from one end of India to the other. But our politicians have neither independence nor impartiality. Mr. Gladstone, like Lord Ripon, may do anything with them with impunity. For ourselves, we are at one with the illustrious leader of the Opposition that the time is not yet for a large measure of representative government in India. The vanity of our patriots has quite turned their heads, and they think they are up to anything. They are not. Even admitting their pretensions to the full, they are yet but a handful—a drop in the Indian Ocean.

WE are not only deluged with bogus firms, but these firms themselves are venturing on novel and irritating experiments on the patience of the public. Once we had only the pest of advertising quacks who vended infallible cures and electric charms, and publishing adventurers who, for moderate cash, offered you sun, moon and stars. Then we had the watch and jewellery swindle. Other and less savoury features have been added since. The *Indian Daily News* lately reproduced in its editorial columns the following letter signed "Engineer" from an up-country paper:—

"Is there no relief from the following, *in re* Messrs. Alex. Anderson and Co., Agents, Calcutta? On the 13th February, my camp was 13 miles from the post office. My Harkara paid one rupee four annas for a V. P. Post parcel containing that book *Fanny's Hyle*, and a lot of old rubbish and advertisements. I did not order that book, and returned it to the post office, but the post-master refused to receive it. I then on the 17th wrote to Messrs. Anderson and Co. for the return of my money, and asked how to return their book, &c.; but adding insult to injury they, instead of honestly returning my money, sent me another copy of this *Fanny's Hyle*, and more rubbish, but this time charging annas ten only. I was expecting a parcel from a respectable Calcutta firm, and my harkara had orders to that effect, and in good faith paid ten annas to the post office. I mean to try and recover my money through the Court, but in the meantime I wish to warn the public."

Here is something a good deal worse than a bogus firm—a regular pandering trade in open day. We are not sure, however, whether this correspondent would not have done better to suffer in patience. If he was so bent on reform, he could have sent the case up to the Chief of the Police of Calcutta, and at most added a letter to his editor, but not for publication. By appealing to the press and washing his stinking linen in public, he has done only harm. Indeed, from his neglect of obvious prudence, he has almost laid himself under suspicion. He reminds one of the nice lady who congratulated Dr. Johnson on the absence of indecent words in his Dictionary, and drew from the formidable lexicographer—a hater of all forms of cant and humbug as he was—the crushing response that she must have been searching for smut.

So much for "Engineer." But what shall we say of the editors? What a pass has the Anglo-Indian press come to, when such a letter could be published, whole and entire, unexpurgated, in respectable newspapers! Have manners changed so far that it is now allowable to mention by name the most notorious productions of Holywell Street?

With respect to the bogus concern and its trade in vice, we hope Mr. Lambert will do his duty sternly.

THE *Hindoo Patriot* had, for some time, been on its last legs, and now it has written itself down an ass. Its opinion has long ceased to be of any account. It evidently goes begging for favours. It certainly lives on the charity of the community—on the public respect for the great names once connected with it. It might get on decently enough by prudent husbanding of that capital, but it has neither talent enough nor character enough for even that humble existence. In its extremity, it has constituted itself the apologist of every wrong—the ready butterman to everybody whom it conceives to be somebody, either in the present or in the future.

God help the man, condemn'd by cruel fate  
To court the seeming, or the real great!  
Much sorrow shall he feel, and suffer more  
Than any slave who labours at the oar!

It is the humble servant of not the great only but the fiftieth cousins german of men of power, position or pelf. It does not omit to make its obeisance to the very lackeys. Of course, the art of literature it chiefly cultivates is the art of blarney. Its favorite part of speech is the adjective—of the stinking oleaginous kind—which it applies with such reckless profusion as to make the objects of its attentions cry for mercy.

Thus it has come to cover, with the whole length and breadth of both its ears, the superannuated lawyer whose impertinence towards us we

chastised last week. We can understand, and even pardon, the fellow-feeling which makes one blockhead wondrous kind to another. But this phenomenal journalist shows an enthusiasm of dulness—a zeal in the cause of darkness—that is startling at the far end of the enlightened Nineteenth Century. At a time when even India and the Indians boast of girl-graduates, the cult of garrulous seasoned incompetence, without a shred of dignity of bearing, is surely an anachronism.

Not content with making such defence as was possible in such a case, and abusing the plaintiff's attorney, this rash literary hack actually assumes canonicals, and pronounces a funeral oration on the old. That gentleman will hardly recognise his own face on the canvas of the flattering artist. He is "the Nestor of the native Bar." Is he? Ask Manomohan Ghose, ask W. C. Bonnerjee, ask T. Palit, ask R. Mitter, ask K. M. Chatterjee, ask N. Haldar, ask Abdur Rahman, ask P. L. Roy, ask Dutt and Bose, ask any of the numerous gentlemen of the long robe bearing pure Indian patronymics! Does *he* pretend to be so? Then, he is not only old, but something more grievous besides. The Nestor! Fine word that, to be sure, but, pray, where did you steal it from? No! we forget. It belongs to the establishment. We remember how the former editor be-Nestored a respectable member of the Tagore tribe into a Maharaja. The present staff seems to have inherited his famous Book of Phrases, without his brains to use it. The phrases accumulate in geometric progression. Soon the Nestor is turned to "the Gamaliel." That is finer still! And suggests the same inquiry, the more so that it is no part of the regular office furniture, like the Homeric allusion. Thou art, indeed, an ancient little rogue thou Vitellius!

This sort of playing with epithets at random is not without its dangers. We strongly suspect the writer got it second-hand. We can lay a bet that the poor object of the adulation does not know where on earth it comes from. If any man of character will privately assure us to the contrary, we promise to pay into his hands Rs. 20, for any charitable use he may like to spend the sum in. All the same, the sounding polysyllable has on the poor gentleman so-called an effect similar to that of "Mesopotamia" on the old lady. And then, this "Gamaliel" during the last thirty years has presided at the tribunal of public opinion which daily holds its meeting at the Bar Library. This awful sentence is not yet ended, but we better take breath here; the half of it gives enough news of a prodigious kind to ponder upon. In fact, the poor Gamaliel is already dispersed in thin air. Who is *this* Gamaliel who has been a fixture in the Bar Library for the last thirty years? It cannot be Sir Charles Paul, who has not been half as many years Advocate-General. It is not of course Mr. Evans or Mr. Woodroffe. We know no such monster. Is it possible that this intelligent writer and master of phrases is thinking of the comfortless apartment in the High Court in which the *vakils en masse* jabber and screech at the top of their voices, to show the wisdom and manners they have learnt at the feet of their precious old maid of a Senior Government Pleader? If so, he does not know the situation of the Bar Library! In fact, he plainly shows that he does not know anything—not even the meaning of the word. Of course, he has no idea of what the institution is like. In fact, many pleaders are not aware that the barristers' club in the High Court is a different thing from the damp floor or low shed or foot of umbrageous tree or long table in the High Court at which the *vakils* are wont to congregate. It is useless to spend breath on such a pretender.

THE death of John Bright has been mourned throughout India. The whole native Press, English and vernacular, has paid the tribute of just admiration to the deceased, and noticed with gratitude his sympathetic interest in the welfare of our people.

THE *Rast Goftar* and *Satya Prakash*, of Bombay, has signalled the occasion by appearing with an opening article *In Memoriam*, accompanied by a woodcut from a *carte de visite* photograph of the deceased.

WE see that the writer in *R. G. and S. P.* speaking of John Bright, says—"He was not a patriot of the type mentioned by Dr. Johnson in his dictionary." Misquotation is a common fault, because we quote not always first-hand, and are too vain to confess our obligations. It is enough to avoid being too specific in our references. There is danger *there*. The above citation is, to all appearance, a slip. What is the patriotic type defined by Johnson in his great Lexicon? Patriot-

ism is not one of the words on which the great lexicographer exhibited his idiosyncrasy. He defines Patriot

"1. One whose ruling passion is the love of his country.

*Patriots* who for sacred freedom stood. *Ticks!*

The firm *patriot* there,

Who made the welfare of mankind his care,

Shall know he conquer'd. *Addison.*

Here tears shall flow from a more gen'rous cause.

Such tears as *patriots* shed for dying laws. *Pope.*

2. It is sometimes used for a factious disturber of the government."

The Doctor hardly shows his usual discrimination on this word. That example from Addison is unfortunate. According to it, *patriot* and *philanthropist* would be convertible terms. The second meaning given of *patriot* is an idle surplusage. It is only by an irony that "the word is sometimes used for a factious disturber of the government." But irony thus inverts the meaning of every word, and his work would have swelled to nearly twice its size, had the Doctor incorporated the ironical signification of all the words. Perhaps, we should modify our remark that his treatment of the word *patriot* does not exhibit his personality in the same way as some others. It does to this extent that, but for his political bias, he would not have given the sneering sense of the word *patriot*. Throughout his life, he never concealed his scorn for the so called patriots—a scorn which latterly turned into horror. He kept himself out of his own Club for fear of their contact with him, and got up another of a more exclusive *personnel*.

The writer in the *Rast Goftar* had doubtless in his mind the Doctor's famous remark to Boswell, that "patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel."

THE financial difficulties of the hour will attack many snug sinecures, and be the death of some idols. The shears are about to be applied to the department of Public Instruction. It is, we believe, in contemplation to abolish the Hindu School. It will tax the Director's utmost tact and prestige to demolish this venerable relic of the past. There are legal, or at any rate political difficulties in the way.

MON. MARTHIVET, Director de l'Interieur, Pondicherry, arrived at Chandernagore early in the week. He is just now at Darjeeling. One of the objects of the visit is to enquire into the present state of education in the French Settlement in Bengal, a memorial having gone up from there for a change in the system. M. Marthivet is, next to the Governor-General of French India, the leading official.

THE *Prajabandhu* people have not succeeded in their appeal to Pondicherry from their conviction in the Chandernagore Court, at the instance of the Bandel curate. The superior court held that the curate was no public functionary, and that his conduct was not, therefore, open to public criticism.

So there is yet hope for the Calcutta University. The son-in-law has gone out, and Mr. Tawney has come in, as Registrar. There was a move to bring in the Revd. Lal Behari De, but his Reverence, for all the pains and penalties of an active canvassing, could not score more than four votes. He made up for the paucity of his supporters and admirers as much as he could, by adding his own spare presence. Before the claims of number one, delicacy is an idle word. If he was not a host in himself, he hoped to draw by his magnetic charm—his glittering eye. He was certainly his chief supporter and greatest admirer. He defended his own cause with zeal, and fell fighting—neither like Lucifer nor like a hero.

SHAKESPEARE has paid to the full the penalty of his great fame, by being the victim of all sorts of fanatics and mountebanks. If seven cities clamoured over the question of Homer's nativity, three times seven professions and pursuits have claimed Shakespeare as their own respectively. Not a little ingenuity or even research has been lavished upon the production of evidence to support each of the different views. His works and the writings of his times have been overhauled to supply the slightest ground for surmise, if not belief. The unfortunate reader is overwhelmed with the mass of references. Thus the game has proceeded all through this century in particular, ever since England learned from the critical Continent to appreciate her greatest genius. Thus from a saint to a publican and sinner, all through the Church, the Army, the Navy, &c., he has been everything by fits and nothing long! One enthusiast would make him out

a bobby—another a beak. At third sees in him a Sawbones—a fourth a veritable Sangrado. Thus has our poor Poet been persecuted, and his reputation compromised, until his very identity became completely confused. The wrong having reached its worst, there naturally came a pause. When a great limb of the law proved to his own satisfaction that the great Poet was or had been a pettifogger, there was an end of the matter, one would suppose, and his poor ghost would thenceforward be let alone. Vain thought! The frivolity is still going on, without any signs of abatement.

We are accordingly glad to see that an Indian newspaper—and strange to say one hailing from what is usually regarded as the Benighted Province—has done itself and the Press of this Empire honour, by entering a trenchant protest against the silliness. The writer shows up the prevailing folly, by pretending to enter the lists of competition himself. Following their method with scarcely any exaggeration, he effectually laughs to scorn these biographical speculators in Shakespearian study. He propounds the idea that Shakespeare was a racing man, and he makes out that he was an Indian book-maker, jockey, better, abetter, and what not, and familiar with Gymkhana slang?

If wit could shame a demoralising literary fashion, this *jeu d'Esprit* in the *Madras Times* would tell.

ERRATUM.—P. 172, Col. 1, last line, *for* 100 *read* 350 ( )

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1889.

### THE PERSONNEL OF THE NEW CORPORATION.

As might be expected, most of the Commissioners of the Town Corporation under the old Act offered themselves for re-election under the new, and most of them have been returned. Nor is this matter for regret. The necessary continuity of policy might otherwise have been placed in jeopardy. It would have been unwise to deprive the town of the experience of the former members. New blood too has been infused. It is not always of the best, perhaps, but the very newness of it has an advantage. And a portion of it is very good, unquestionably. There is, besides, a collateral benefit to the country from the zeal to sit on the board, of the scions of wealth or of commerce who cannot possibly lend any assistance to the deliberations of the Corporation. We hail Kumar Binay Krishna Bahadur out of the dissipation of Congress day-dreams to the discipline of work-day existence. There may be a pang in the process of disillusion, but the end is worth the cost. For one accustomed to nourish the soul on the ambrosia and nectar of the enfranchisement of India,

the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world, it is not easy to place himself on the small beer of Bustee improvement and the Great Sewage Question. It is a descent from Olympus to a dunghill. But a bird in hand is worth two in the bush, and a municipal Chamber *in esse* may be preferred to a National Assembly *in posse*. We hope the Kumar will not be content with the empty honour of a seat, but take his share of the work and show the stuff that is in him. We believe there is stuff in him. Shobhabazar has sent up probably its best young man in him. It ought to have been content with him. Mr. Sew Bux may not be a brilliant acquisition, but the corporation will be found strengthened by the interest of the great Marwari community which his presence in it implies. In fine, the old *personnel* has been served up, spiced with new ingredients. On the whole, there is a distinct advance in respectability and strength.

If closely judged, several of the Wards of the Town

can hardly be congratulated upon the new men sent up by them, the new electorates, formed of the European Chamber of Commerce, the Trades Association, and the Port Commissioners, have done well. The Government, which had to choose a diminished number, has sent down to sit on the board a miscellaneous lot of nominees. This was unavoidable. It is easy to criticise the list, but we think it represents a very fair selection. There is a reason, and usually a fair reason, for each choice. The Government has to look to many considerations which escape the ordinary observers, and to satisfy many interests not ordinarily thought of. Some deference to wealth and rank is incumbent on it. With paternal impartiality, it has to satisfy aspirations which have no chance except in its watchful kindness. Above all, it has to redress the balance of representation and lend voice to minorities. It is thus, we have the Mahomedan Aga Mahomed Mehdi and the Parsee Manickjee Rustumji Junior, the Oudh Prince Mirza Jehan Kadr and the Mysore Prince Buktiyar Shah, the Jewish millionaires Messrs. Gubboy and Ezra, the Sobhabazar Raja Sir Narendra Krishna, and, last not least, the Hindu millionaire Mr. Joy Gobind Law, who is also an accomplished man of business. The other appointments are unexceptionable. The nominees still represent important sections of the public, they are men of experience and proved merit, who would be an acquisition to any body. Most of them are experts, some in medicine, some in engineering, and others in administrative work. We were particularly pleased with the Government choice of Baboo Doorgagutty Banerjee. The Collector of Calcutta has a natural claim to sit on the Municipality. But there was room for only a few, while the candidates were numerous and the field of selection very wide indeed. And, after all, Doorgagutty is but a servant of the state, who could not be expected to press his claims with sufficient force or the required pertinacity. In the hot scramble of solicitation, there was every likelihood of his claim being overlooked and himself left in the lurch. Besides the small chances in a competition for a few prizes between a host, he had to encounter prejudices and positive hostilities. It is an open secret in town that Sir Henry Harrison and Mr. Cotton do not like him, to speak mildly. He, a native official, had had the rashness to have an opinion of his own—opinion, which, to his misfortune, happened to run counter to those entertained by those *Sahiblogues*—the Coryphæus and the Doyen of the Corporation. Nor is he a patriot of "New India." Still less an orator or a journalist who can make or mar an official reputation. So the thoroughly respectable native gentleman, grown gray in the service of the state, who joins independence of judgment to experience and had the courage to express his opinion, was voted an obstructive. Complaint to that effect reached the fountain head, it is said—to the imminent risk of the accused's general prospects in the service. Luckily for him, the influence of Secretariat and departmental cliques is not paramount in the present régime, as in previous administrations, and the intended victim escaped. The Lieutenant-Governor had the penetration to see the usefulness of a zealous official native member on the board, who could assist it with his experienced judgment, but who would never be a factious oppositionist.

Great efforts were made, by his native friends and official patrons, to get Baboo Amrita Nath Mitter appointed by Government, after his "stampede" from the "hustings." It is even said that he was offered a

seat and had accepted it. But his sanguine patrons had reckoned without the host. The inexorable Lord of Belvedere spoiled the game of partition of Turkey—or Ceylon, as we say in Indian parlance. Providence preserved to him the Sick Man's rightful possession. The hasty gentleman forgot the Lieutenant-Governor's rule of action in such cases. Sir Stuart Bayley acted according to the principle on which he declined to appoint Baboo Ananda Chunder Roy of Dacca. The man who appeals to the electorate must take his chance with them. Without very exceptional reasons, the Government would not choose the rejected of the people. Such was Amrita Nath Mitter.

We think Sir Stuart Bayley's principle is sound, and its application correct. With regard to Baboo Amrita Nath's merits, a great deal too much has been made of him by his fussy friends. The Municipality will surely survive its loss, and the public has no reason to break its heart at his absence. He is very far from a popular man. His very unamiableness gave him an advantage—made him a good watch-dog over expenditure. But the talk of his independence and public spirit is all nonsense. He is practically responsible for one of the biggest scandals in the Corporation.

The amalgamation with the suburbs, strengthens the Corporation by the addition of some seasoned members. We are glad to see our friends Baboos Prya Nath Mullick and Pran Nath Pandit elected. Baboo Kanty Chunder Banerjee brings to the board professional knowledge. The new representative Baboo Gossamy is well spoken of. We only hope the Suburban patriots will not carry to the town all their Suburban practices. Perhaps, the greatest acquisition will be found in the Vice-Chairman of the Suburbs. Baboo Ashutosh is a successful lawyer, a journalist of repute, and a practised speaker. Above all, he brings to the deliberations of the metropolitan municipality all the experience of successful municipal administration in its immediate neighbourhood, now incorporated with the Town itself. Non-official heads of Municipalities have great difficulties to contend with, and Baboo Ashutosh is not the only one who has succeeded. But geographically as well as sociologically, the Suburbs were an exceptionally hard nut, and he cracked it, to the wonder of everybody.

#### A HINDOO PUBLISHING HERO.

NOTHING shows the pettiness and inaptitude of our people—nothing proves their primitive poverty of conception—than the criticism which has been evoked by the new title which Her Majesty has granted to Baboo Pratap Chandra Roy. One would suppose that titles were granted with extraordinary care and intelligence. It is notorious, however, that they are usually given away at random, sometimes for doubtful services, at other times for little services, and occasionally for no services whatever. The objection to Roy is that he has risen from the ranks!—just the reason for glorifying him!

Is he not learned enough? Neither Runjeet nor Mahomet could sign their names. He ought to have left literature alone? Why, then, do you all idolise David Hare, a poor watch-maker, who had not even made money? The learned or the wealthy are not the only salt of the earth. It is not they who have *done* most valiantly and to the best purpose. The Panjabi founded a great kingdom, and the Arab established one of the chief and best religions of the world. The uneducated English mechanic was the father of modern education in Bengal. Here, again, is the poor Bengali *colporteur* or pedlar in books who, having conquered the disadvantages of early life and supplied the defects of early education, established a good thriving business, but, instead of retiring on its profits, was fired with the ambition of doing something for his country and the world, and, working on a

plan of his conceiving, has been one of the greatest disseminators of literature in India. If Socrates brought philosophy down from the academy to the streets and the market-place, Roy has brought the most venerated literary treasures of the Indian Aryans from the groves of the Rishies to the pecuniary capacity and the understanding of the feeblest and most lowly. He has had collated, edited, translated and printed and published the Ramayan, the Mahabharata and the Harivansa, and has distributed them free and almost free, by thousands, in original and in translations into Bengali and into English. A humble man who succeeds in such a humble colossal enterprise, deserves a statue, and they grudge him a few paltry letters after his name! Perhaps, his crime is that he is one of us. That shows how little we deserve! It proves only the calibre of his critics. They would have no objection to a European or an American—even an outlandish mountebank. They study the lives of foreigners who have risen from nothing to distinction. But directly they see one such among their own people, they fail to recognise him. And these sages think they are fit for a parliament!

The following letter from a White Pandit from the Antipodes may perhaps prove somewhat of an eye-opener to some of our snarling brethren:—

“Hamilton, Canada, Feb. 14.

My dear Mr. Roy,

I will not let a mail pass without expressing to you a measure of the pleasure your favor of the 6th ultimo gives me.

I congratulate you most heartily on your recent honors at the hands of the Imperial authorities. You have honorably earned them. May Providence grant you and yours long to enjoy them. I am proud to know your name will stand with those of Monier Williams, Rajendra Lal Mitter, Hunter and the long list of men of the ‘Order’ whose love for and service to India are known throughout the civilized world. As an Englishman, I am also proud to think your services have met with appreciation at the hands of our gracious sovereign, through the wise discernment of her advisers. I have no idea that the millennium is either here or hereabouts, so far as our times are concerned, but one is glad to think that in this XIXth century the political shepherds have a more genuine regard for their flocks than in the past.

I trust the Karyalaya may indirectly receive some advantage from the marked attention you have received. What pleases me is that it is in sooth *pour le mérite* of establishing so useful an organization that you are singled out for distinction. I am sure the consciousness, that your efforts have not been fruitless to do the work nearest to hand, for India and the Great Empire, to which we belong, will give you a true pleasure without which all honours would be empty. You see I am like the old Scotch-man, *Sandy* in poor Kingsley's *Alton Lock*—always thinking of the Cause, the Cause.

I now wait anxiously to hear how you succeed with His Excellency Lord Lansdowne. From his most excellent reputation here, I expect great things from him and feel confident I shall not be disappointed. My wife and son desire to convey their respectful regards to yourself, your wife and daughter, and you will please to accept these of

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) H. B. WITTON.

Here is another from this side the water:—

“London, 9th March, 1889.

DEAR FRIEND,

I congratulate you most heartily on the deserved honor you have had conferred upon you. The orders of distinctions are too often conferred for services of a political and military character. It is, therefore, a pleasure to find that such valuable peaceful labours as those in which you have long been engaged have met with this recognition to which they are so justly entitled. When your noble patriotic work is completed, you will deserve to be advanced to the rank of Knight Commander and to be remembered in history as Sir Protap Chandra Roy.

It will please you to know that the work to which I have given the last two years will also be crowned with success. I am informed by a high authority that the India Government have resolved to reform the Police Department in India. I have written hundreds of letters and scores of articles on this subject, and the cry for reform can no longer be resisted. Several bad cases of Police corruption have recently occurred and I have not omitted to turn them to account, and to get my friends to do the same. By this means the question has never been allowed to sleep, and a reform is to be the result. I am now endeavouring to get all my friends to publish the best practical remedies which they can think of; so that the Government may be helped as much as possible. It is no good to complain unless one is ready with some reasonable remedy.

I rejoice greatly to note the steady progress of your great work.

Very sincerely yours,  
(Sd.) FREDERIC PINCOTT.”

These are but two of many congratulations which are flowing in from all directions of the compass. Nor is this sort of correspondence the only form in which the worth of the man is acknowledged. Scarcely has a learned man or woman from Europe or America of late visited Bengal, who has not taken care to visit as a pilgrim to a shrine of learning, the now world famous Datavya Bharata Karyalaya.

Truly has it been said, that a prophet is not honoured in his own country.

## ENGLISH POLITICS.

BY A HINDU IN ENGLAND.

*London, March 22.*

Last week some significant answers were elicited by Mr. Bradlaugh and other friends of India in Westminster showing at what rate the values of the lives of the Empress' British Indian subjects are assessed by the present Conservative Ministry. In answer to Mr. Bradlaugh, Sir J. Fergusson said, "It is true that on that part of the coast (of East Africa) which is the scene of disturbances British Indians have suffered great losses from the stoppage of trade and destruction of property, though a large number are still residing and carrying on business within the sphere of German influence, I can not say that the destruction of property of the Indians has been the main result of the action of German ships, although incidentally they have suffered by the state of war. In September an Indian and his wife were unfortunately killed in the firing which followed an attack upon the German Company's people by some natives from the interior. Indians have returned home in destitute condition, but we have no actual account of their numbers. Deeply as the loss of these British subjects is to be regretted, there is no principle of international law on which compensation can be demanded from the German Government."

Mr. Bradlaugh gave notice that in consequence of the exceeding gravity of the facts, and the answer which had just been given, he would at the earliest opportunity raise the question before the House.

Yesterday the same question being pressed by Mr. Maclean, Sir J. Fergusson said a memorial from British Indians in East Africa was received by telegraph on the 12th of October, praying Her Majesty's Government to take early measures to stay further loss upon their trade, and destruction to their property. It contained no request for compensation. There was no correspondence on the subject which could be usefully produced. Mr. Bradlaugh asked whether, in view of the admitted losses of the British subjects, the Government were making any inquiry to ascertain whether any course could be taken to protect them. Sir J. Fergusson replied that what Her Majesty's Government had done was to warn British Indian subjects on the coast of any apprehended events which might render their continuance there dangerous, but the Government could not possibly guard them against acts of war with which they had nothing to do. This flippant answer was justly resented by Mr. W. M. Arthur who asked whether the Government would pursue a similar course with regard to English residents in the Pacific. And all the answer that he got for this his pertinent and inconvenient question was loud cries of "order" from the chair.

As a most pregnant instance of the way in which Her Majesty's ministers shirk such obnoxious questions as are now being pressed by the Indian Congress both on the public at home and in India, the following answer of Sir J. Gorst would be read with interest. Last Monday, in answer to Mr. Bradlaugh, he said that no papers on the constitution and functions of the Legislative Councils in India could, in the opinion of the Secretary of State, be at present laid upon the table with advantage to the public service. Mr. Caine asked the Under-Secretary for India whether Mr. Josiah Whympere who was gazetted as a Companion of the Indian Empire in the recent distribution of honors was the Manager of a brewery company at Murree. If so, what were the services rendered by him to the Indian Empire which induced the Government of India to recommend him to the honor. And whether it was a fact that Sir Frederick Roberts, the Commander-in-Chief of the forces in India, a short time ago, recommended Mr. J. Gelson Gregson, lately Secretary to the Soldiers' Total Abstinence Society, for a similar honor, expressing the opinion that Mr. Gregson's great services had resulted in the increase of sobriety and good conduct among the soldiers stationed in India equal in its results to the addition of a regiment to the forces in India. Sir J. Gorst in answer to the first question said yes. He was recommended for honor by the Viceroy "on account of his public spirit in developing the local resources in the Rawal Pindi district and on account of his services to the military department; (2) the Secretary of State is not aware of any such recommendation having been made by Sir F. Roberts, nor has any such recommendation been made to the Secretary of State by the Viceroy."

Eastern politics must always attach very great importance in the movements of Russia, especially in Persia. The latter has now formally engaged not to grant any railway concessions without previously consulting Russia. The Shah is willing to concede to the Russians the right of navigation in all rivers flowing into the Caspian Sea, but is unwilling to accede to the other demands of Russia. The Shah leaves for Europe in the middle of April and will travel by way of Tabriz and Tiflis. He intends visiting St. Petersburg, Berlin, Paris, and London.

For the relief of the Heathen Chinese from devastations by flood and famine from which his country is suffering, besides that of the Lord Mayor, appeal for aid was preached from every pulpit here both of the Established as well as of the Nonconformist Church. Last Sunday week I was present in a chapel the pastor whereof is the

President of the Baptist Union. The congregation was of a mixed character, and along with the contributions of the wealthy the poor servant girls' copper went in also for this China Relief Fund. The Chinkiang riots which we read of last Wednesday, strikes us therefore simply as inexplicable. Chinkiang is on the mouth of the Yang-tse-kiang and is a treaty port. A quarrel between a Chinaman and a Sikh policeman collected a mob who began by pulling down the police-station and breaking the windows of some dwelling-houses. Finding themselves unchallenged masters of the situation they sacked the British and American consulates, burning the former to the ground. The two Consuls and other foreign residents narrowly escaped, and reached a vessel lying in the Yang-tse-kiang. Chinkiang is the centre of a large port of the famine-stricken district; and Mr. Mansfield, the British Consul, who had to fly for his life, has been very active in collecting funds and in distributing relief.

Japan has turned a new leaf with a vengeance, it seems. The Mikado has granted a new constitution to the country more after the German than the English model, and it is framed so as to leave a considerable power in the hands of the Emperor. There is a House of Peers, in part hereditary, in part elective, in part nominated; and a Lower House of 300 members elected by ballot and paid for their services. "The Commons," we are told, "will be selected by the cities and prefectures from the highest taxpayers, but the election of such persons has to be approved by the Emperor. The nominative portion of the Upper House will consist of persons appointed by the Emperor for their erudition. The latter will be life members, while the elected members will sit for seven years only. The Lower House will have 300 members, elected by ballot. They will sit for four years, and there has to be one session annually of three months' duration." Nine years ago the Mikado promised a Parliament to complete the structure of popular liberties, and on the 11th of last month he was as good as his word.

Busy as the week has been in Parliament, I fear I have encroached too much on your space to give any lengthy account of the unraveling of the skein of that vile conspiracy the first intimation of which, it is nearly a month now, Sir Charles Russell gave before the Royal Commission. The country is rapidly veering round towards the Grand Old Man whose followers in the majority of cases have been returned in bye-elections. Last Friday there was a most stiff contest at Kennington, a metropolitan borough. The Conservatives hitherto held it by a majority of some 400 votes. Mr. Beaufoy the Liberal candidate not only wiped out the Conservative majority but carried 632 additional votes in the bargain to make his triumphant entry in the great Council Hall of the Nation. The cost for warming, ventilating, and lighting the Houses of Parliament in the coming year is estimated at £16,100 or nearly two and half lacs of our money. The warming which Her Majesty's ministers are now having at the hand of the Opposition, they would stipulate to stake their whole fortune to get rid of were it even fifty lacs.

## A NEW MAHOMEDAN MISSIONARY IN EAST BENGAL.

It has been a busy time with us, of both creeds, Hindu and Muslim. The Hindus have had their Barni snan which came off on Sunday last, continuing until Monday. It takes place at a place some three miles from Narainjanj. In the intense desire of the Hindu members of the population of the town and the neighbouring places to have this auspicious and purifying bath, they would hear of no obstacles. Vying with one another, they all flocked early to the sacred spot. The strong instinct of old belief in the efficacy of a bath, at a certain locality, on a particular time of the day, is very powerful within the female heart. It is really surprising how, in the paramount concerns of the spiritual life, our men are still ruled by their female partners and relatives.

While our Hindu fellow subjects were thus engaged in a semi-religious act, the Mahomedan community has been stirred by the preaching of a new missionary. Moulvi Husain Ali of Patna belongs to a new class of preachers. Besides his acquaintance with his native Oordoo and the Mahomedan classical tongues, he knows English and is versed in the secular knowledge of the times. In fact, he chiefly addresses the younger generation brought up in our schools and colleges. He seems well fitted for the rôle he has adopted—that of rousing his hearers to a sense of their higher responsibilities. He is trying to infuse the spirit of religion among the English-educated Mahomedan youth. After lecturing in various parts of India—at Lahore, Lucknow, Monghyr, Pubna, Rungpore and other places, he is now in our midst on this self-imposed mission. On Sunday last, he delivered an excellent lecture in Oordoo on "The Past and Present Condition of the Mussalmans." I need not go into details. He treated his subject from every point of view. The contrast he presented between a Mussalman of the days of the Early Khaliphate and a follower of the Prophet of the 19th century, was most striking. At this time, the solid virtues of the former were nowhere to be found; while the mode of life abhorrent to a Moslem of those days was the very existence of the latter. The lecturer



concluded with an appeal to the parents and guardians of students to make every endeavour to give their children and wards a sound and liberal education,—not only in Persian and Oordoo, but also in English. He begged them to preserve the boys from those temptations which have been the wreck and ruin of many a Mahomedan youth. For corrupt social surroundings, in the midst of which our children are bred up, he held the guardians directly responsible. I sincerely hope that this lecture will bear fruit.

The weather had been very hot, specially for the last few days. We had had no rain. As I am writing however I find the sky becoming cloudy and small drops of grateful rain falling. We may have storm as there are indications all round. The health of the town was not very satisfactory. There have been some cases of cholera in some of the quarters, and it is not to be wondered at.

ALPHA.

Dacca, 9th April.

### SALE OF LIQUOR WITHOUT LICENSE.

(Before Mr. Justice Wilson and Mr. Justice Trevelyan.)

BOISTUB CHURN NAWN & ORS. (Plaintiffs.)  
v. WOOMA CHURN SEN. (Defendant.)

This was a suit brought by Boistub Churn Nawn and Co., of China Bazaar, against the defendant (who carried on business at Meerut), to recover a certain sum of money alleged to be due for a quantity of beer and porter sold and delivered to the defendant. The plaintiffs held no license under the Bengal Excise Act for the sale of fermented liquors.

The defendant, among other matters, pleaded that the contract was void and contrary to the terms of section 23 of the Contract Act, in so far as the plaintiffs had sold the goods without having obtained a license under the Bengal Excise Act of 1878, and that therefore the price of the goods could not be recovered. Section 23 of the Contract Act states that "the consideration or object of an agreement is lawful, unless (1) it is forbidden by law; or (2) is of such a nature that, if permitted, it would defeat the provisions of any law; or (4) the Court regards it as opposed to public policy. In each of these cases the consideration or object of an agreement is said to be unlawful. Every agreement of which the object or consideration is unlawful, is void."

The Chief Judge of the Small Cause Court held that the contention raised by the defendant was sound, that the Excise Act was framed chiefly in the interests of the public, and that the sale by the plaintiffs, having been one made without a license, was contrary to law, and the contract could not therefore be recovered on. The learned Judge therefore dismissed the suit, contingent on the opinion of the High Court, on, among other questions, the question whether the contract was void, having regard to the provisions of the Bengal Excise Act, Act VII of 1878?

Mr. Acworth for the Plaintiffs.

Mr. Hill and Mr. O'Kinealy for the Defendant.

Wilson, J. (Trevelyan, J., concurring): The principal question which has been raised before us in the reference is whether a contract for the sale of fermented liquors by a person who has not obtained a license under Bengal Act VII of 1878 is illegal, and therefore void.

The sections bearing upon the matter are these: Section 4 has defined exciseable articles as including spirituous and fermented liquors. Section 11 says that no person shall sell any exciseable article without a license from the Collector. Section 53 says, whoever manufactures or sells any exciseable article without a license shall be liable to a fine not exceeding Rs. 500 for every such manufacture or sale, and then come the provisoes, with the last of which I shall deal presently.

A number of cases have been cited to us from the English Courts upon the question, in what cases and under what statutes the imposition of a penalty is to be construed as intended to prohibit the act to which the section refers; and in what cases that penalty should be regarded as only a means for protecting the revenue. Two tests have been applied in many of the cases. First, in a number of cases it has been said, and the view has been acted upon, that in an Act intended only for the raising of revenue and the protection of that revenue, a clause imposing a penalty may well be construed, not as prohibiting a transaction in such a sense as to make it illegal and void, but as providing a means of enforcing the liability of the person on whom the penalty is imposed.

If that test be applied in the present case, it seems to me that the conclusion at which the Judge of the Small Cause Court has arrived is correct; because it seems to me clear that the Act with which we are dealing is not, and was never intended to be, a mere Act for the protection of the revenue, but that it is an Act having other objects of public policy in view as well. In the first place, we should be shutting our eyes to what is a matter of common knowledge, that in this country as well as in England for many years past, from a period long before this Act was passed, men have never supposed that the regulation of the traffic in intoxicating liquors is to be dealt with upon considerations of revenue alone. In the second place, when we turn to the Act itself, I think the same thing is apparent

from its express language, in which respect it is unlike the Act of the George IV. chapter 51 under which several other cases cited to us were decided, particularly the case of *Smith v. Mawhard*. The preamble of the Act is a good deal wider than if the object were merely the protection of the revenue; it is this—"whereas it is expedient to consolidate and amend the laws relating to the manufacture, sale, and possession of exciseable articles," and there is another object, "the collection of the revenue derived therefrom," and as we go through the Act, we find that these two objects are kept, side by side, in view to the regulation of the drink traffic in the interests of the public, and the protection of the revenue. This is particularly apparent from certain Sections in the Act. Section 14 was referred to, and it is not without weight. The 29th Section is an important section, because it shows that a license is to be cancelled, not only on grounds affecting the revenue, but on grounds affecting the character of the holder, showing, I think, clearly, that in that section, at any rate, the legislature had in view public morals, as well as the protection of the revenue.

Then section 62 has been referred to, and I think rightly referred to, because it shows that a difference is made between the holding the same article for a purpose connected, and for a purpose not connected with the traffic in intoxicating drinks. Then section 67 expressly deals with cases of misconduct on the part of a person holding a license, and the permission of misconduct by such a person of a character directly connected with public morals, and not with the receipt of revenue. And, again, section 80 is another special provision relating to the case of cantonments. The object of Section 80, I apprehend, can be nothing but the securing of the discipline, the morals, and good conduct of the troops in cantonments. The consequence, then, to my mind is that, both on general principles and the terms of the Act itself, this Act cannot be said to be a mere revenue Act, but it is an Act, having, no doubt, the protection of the revenue in view, but having in view also important objects of public policy. Another test has been applied in various cases in order to determine whether the penalty imposed by an Act was intended to create a prohibition so as to invalidate a specific act of dealing in violation of the law in which the penalty is to be found; and that is to see whether the penalty is imposed in general terms for the carrying on of a trade, or for the omission of some preliminaries which the law imposes to the opening of a trade, or some such general purpose as that, or whether the penalty is imposed on each specific act of dealing. In the latter class of cases the Courts have been prone to construe the penalty as creating a prohibition, and therefore vitiating each transaction.

If that test be applied in this case, it is clear that the penalty is imposed on each specific act. Section 53 of the Act imposes, for selling an exciseable article without a license, a fine of so many rupees for every such sale. Thus what the legislature had in view was not merely the general carrying on of the trade of a trader, but every specific act of sale. This is the more apparent from some of the provisoes which follow the general words in that section. The 3rd proviso says that "nothing contained in the first clause of this section applies to the sale of any imported spirituous or fermented liquors purchased by any person for his private use, and so disposed of upon such person quitting a station or after his decease." That proviso shows that, in the view of the framer of the section, if it had not been for the proviso, any officer who, on being ordered from one station to another in Bengal, sold his stock of wine to his successor, or to anybody else, would be liable to the penalty if he did so without having a license; and that if the executive or any gentleman living in Calcutta were to sell his stock of wine, without taking out a license, he would, but for the proviso, be liable to a penalty. All this shows that the thing which the Legislature had in view was any act of sale; and that, according to the authorities, is strong evidence to show that the penalty is imposed with the view of prohibition.

The result then is, that, according to the authorities, this case falls within the class of those in which the penalty is imposed for the purpose of prohibition, and not of those in which it is imposed solely for the benefit of the revenue. Several cases decided in the Indian Courts have been cited, but they do not throw a very strong light upon this case. They related not to contracts of sale, but contracts of a different character. The result is that, in my opinion, we ought to answer the fourth question referred to us in the affirmative, and as that disposes of the whole case it is unnecessary to answer any of the others.

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## TRAVELS &amp; VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

*Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,*

BY

**SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,***Formerly Minister to the late***NAWAB FARIDOON JAH BAHADOOR,***(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa.)**Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.*

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## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman. *The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. C. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether

it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river: [Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye: [Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course. — [Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting: [Extract.]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious—he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large lustrous eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in. *The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1889.

} No. 370

## CONTEMPORARY SONNETS.

### A BREATHING-SPACE.

A BREATHING-SPACE! We have a respite still.  
The storm is gathering, and the clouds of war,  
Big with their deep-voiced thunder, growl afar  
Portending ruin yet with palsied will,  
As spell-bound dreamers, we are slumbering still,  
Now hot, now cold, like ague: or, with jar  
Irate of rancorous faction, haste to mar  
The slow great work of our forefathers' skill.  
O shame! We cannot, if we will, come down  
From our high place; or leave the abandoned wave  
To rule of others; nor ourselves disown;  
The fall of monarchs lies too near their grave.  
For life, for safety, arm ye then, be bold!  
The envious nations thirst for England's gold.

### "NAI MA TOUS" -

WHEN the Athenian orator of yore  
Would lift his country to its earlier height,  
By Marathon and Salamis he swore,  
And pointed to their glories full in sight.  
So by Trafalgar, and by Waterloo,  
Let us too swear, we will not yield one inch  
For sloth, or weakness. We have work to do  
Greater with greater empire. Shall we flinch  
Degenerate? Nay, with strong embattled host  
Hold we our land, with fleets our subject seas!  
Mistrust the very breakers round our coast  
Lest they be leagued to admit our enemies!  
We have in us the blood of Nelson's men  
Has it grown cold? 'Twas molten lava then.

A. G. B.

*The Spectator.*

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE play upon words is not the most reputable vivacious utterance, and many masters of literature, like Addison and Johnson, have specially heaped their contempt on it. It is mere fastidiousness, however, and many more masters have shown their appreciation of the verbal *bon mot*. Some of them have not been ashamed to perpetrate it. Douglas Jerrold occasionally allowed himself the dissipation. Charles Lamb was fond of it. The elder Hood was a master in the line. Hood was an inveterate sinner. Gilbert Abecket, who was as good a hand at an eloquent leading article in the *Times* as a rollicking ballad in *Punch*, published an elaborate quizziology of the laws of the country made up, for the most part, of verbal quibbling. Under the circumstances, an Indian schoolmaster need not forfeit caste for perpetrating a pun. The thing is that there are puns and puns, and a good pun is better than an

indifferent witticism of the higher order. The Calcutta dons, therefore, may well be proud of a lucky hit, even in the verbal line.

THE schoolmasters' wrangle in their Senate House, on Saturday last, over the appointment of Registrar, was enlivened by some plain speaking and at least one joke. The Patron Saint of the schoolmasters, Sir Alfred Croft, gave the Reverend retired Professor, Mr. Lal Behari Day, a bit of his mind, while Professor Rowe gave the *coup de grâce* to his Eminentus brother's candidature by the pithy and pregnant remark—  
"One hour of Tawney was worth more than a whole Day."

MR. Tawney's appointment is satisfactory on many grounds. Mr. Tawney, after all, only comes back to his own. Then, a wellknown scholar and University administrator replaces a man of proved incompetence—the sham and shame of the Education Department. The spell of family interest is broken. The fortunate son-in-law is relegated to his original obscurity. The waxen wings of Icarus have dropped from the heat and perspiration of a single term. We congratulate the Fellows on their recovery, and the whole University on its relief.

ORIGINAL obscurity, we say advisedly, for we dare not think of deserved insignificance. That would give the full measure of relief to the aggrieved department, but it is now out of the question. Therein the better half is concerned. The same ruin would engulf fair and foul, innocent and innocent, and we should be constrained to cry with poor Lord Ullin,  
"My daughter! Oh my daughter!"

OUR contemporary of the *Indian Daily News* is lucky in nomenclology. For a long period, its management has been entrusted to illustrious names. A great Irish name has just supplanted a heroic Scotch clan.

IN the first general election under the new Local Government Act, two ladies have, not without severe contest, been elected, namely, Lady Sandhurst and Miss Cobden. The defeated candidate in the Brixton division, Mr. C. Beresford Hope, after taking counsel with his lawyers, carried the contest to the law courts. He moved the Queen's Bench to set aside Lady Sandhurst's election as against law, on the ground of her sex. The question of woman's eligibility was purposely left undecided by Parliament, and this gave the lawyers great scope for their ingenuity. At last, Justices Baron Huddleston and Sir James Fitz James Stephen have decided women not admissible. The horrid men! This decision will be the occasion, doubtless, for a great demonstration and agitation in favour of woman's Rights.

CUTE is *Reis & Rayyet* for imagining from the *Phoenix's* account that Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace had been interviewed at Karachi by our contemporary. And for understanding our error and yet having no intention of enlightening us and, indeed, chuckling over our stupidity, the *Phoenix* is, of course, simplicity itself, to say nothing of the refined Sindhian courtesy. Oh cruel man, pitiless as the sands of thine own Deserts! Wilt thou let us burst in ignorance? Thy Beloochee neighbours would have been kinder to a lapse that did not imply moral perversion and proceeded from no mischievousness.

*Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.*

HERE, culled from an English paper, is a pretty  
LESSON IN ARITHMETIC.

"Where do you live, my little maid?"

"I live right here, at No. 4."

"Why, how is that, my little maid,  
For 22 is on the door?"

"The number sir, is number 4."

She slowly said it o'er and o'er:

"Our teacher says, and she should know,  
That 2 and 2 are always 4."

*Native Opinion* is prompt to a fault. "Now that the time of the meeting of the Congress is fast approaching," our contemporary makes some suggestions towards the working and stability of the movement. What, are we not in the middle of April and is not the Congress to take place at the end of December next? Or, are they going to have two or three sessions in the year? They must have strange notions of things down in the West, when they regard a meeting at the far end of the year as already "fast approaching."

CAPTAIN John Page, of the ship *Oceanic*, reports, as a phenomenon, that on the 7th March, in lat. 1-11 S., long. 66-4 E., at 12-30 A.M., during a calm, a small black cloud rose up from the N. E., and when overhead, poured a heavy shower of hailstones, some of a good size. And the Bombay papers make room for the interesting news. One would suppose Captain Page had seen the irrepressible sea serpent.

WE read that the wellknown aeronaut Baldwin has gone to Australia on his parachute business, but his prospect in the Colony are not hopeful. A greater showman is in possession of the field. He is an American, calling himself Professor Bartholomew, who ascends 3,000 feet, and then casts himself into space with a parachute to which a trapeze is attached. On this trapeze he performs all sorts of gymnastic feats as he descends earthwards, and even hangs suspended by his feet. There is nothing extraordinary in a parachutist who is a gymnast going through these exercises. But so long as balloonists are not able to descend to the spot whence they ascend, these gymnastics high in the upper air will be lost to the spectators.

IN the Mysore Chief Court, Mr. Justice Plumer has fined a man, of the name of Lukanna, Rs. 20, for contempt of Court, for seeking to influence the Court by getting a third party to write a letter to the Judges, in a particular case soliciting that it be decided in his favour.

ON the 29th March, the P. & O. Co.'s mail steamer *Oriental* conveyed home from India a large number of passengers, amongst them being the Earl of Scarborough, Earl of Ancan, Mr. A. V. Freere, solicitor, Sir Samuel and Lady Baker, the Hon. Dudley Leigh, Baron MacGurgon, Lieut-Col. S. Babington, Superintendent of Police, Poona, Colonel Henry Fraser of Hyderabad, and Mr. A. Cotterell Fupp, Accountant General, Allahabad.

THE House of Commons has adjourned for the Easter recess, to re-assemble on the 29th.

SIR James Fergusson, from his place in Parliament, has denied that Persia has ceded Kelat-i Nadir to Russia.

THE Secretary of State has decided adversely to Mr. Crawford. The Commission found him not guilty of corruption, but guilty of indebtedness. Lord Cross pronounces him disqualified for public service and has ordered the removal of his name from the list of the Civil Service. Mr. Beames is more fortunate.

THE *Calcutta Review* under the editorship of the civilian Mr. Phillips earned the doubtful honor of a question in Parliament, and Sir John Gorst undertook to direct the attention of Lord Lansdowne to the political character of the publication.

THE Home Budget was presented to Parliament on the 15th. The last year closed with a surplus of £2,700,000 and a reduction of national debt to the amount of £7,500,000. The surplus, however, is swallowed

up by the surrender of local taxation and the increased naval outlay. The revenue for the present year is estimated at £85,000,000 and the expenditure at £86,966,000. The increase in expenditure is stated to be due to increased army and navy estimates. The total sum, we read in the *Army and Navy Gazette*, provided for the purposes of the Army is £17,335,800 for 1889-90, against £16,700,300 for the year just closed. The number provided for in 1888-90 was 149,667. The present year's establishment is given at 152,282. It is intended to make up the deficit and also to shew a surplus of £180,000, by using £1,000,000 out of £1,500,000 saved by the conversion of consols, by increasing the death duties one per cent. on estates over £10,000 in value, and by raising the duty on beer by one-fourteenth of a penny per gallon. Mr. Goschen cannot find his way to the abolition of the duty on silver plate to the relief of the Indian trade. A bill will shortly be introduced dealing with the light gold coinage.

THE German Navy Bill has passed into law. By it, the Navy will have its own Admiral-in-Chief as the Army has its General-in-Chief, the Emperor having the supreme command of both branches. The Emperor himself was for the change, and Prince Bismarck in person supported the proposal in the Reichstag. The Navy is to be divided into two naval battalions, instead of one, and quartered at Kiel and Wilhelmshaven, consisting of four companies each.

THE American President has also been empowered in this behalf. He has authority, by the United States Naval Appropriation Act, to construct one armoured steel cruising monitor of not less than 3,000 tons displacement, with engines of not less than 7,500 horse-power and a maximum speed of not less than 17 knots; a sister-ship to the *Tesaurus*, of not less dimensions than that vessel, of not less than 21 knots speed, and a coal endurance of not less than 15 days at 10 knots, the vessel to be armed with two pneumatic guns of not less than 15 in. calibre; and two shell cruisers or gun boats of from 800 to 1,200 tons displacement, and one armoured ram for coast defence. The new Secretary of the Navy is Benjamin F. Tracy, who is described by the New York *Army and Navy Journal* "to be an honest man, a high-minded and honourable gentleman, with whom the best elements in the service will find themselves in full sympathy."

AT the present moment, a Committee, under the Chairmanship of Sir S. Northcote, M. P., are taking evidence on the subject of the rations supplied to the troops at home. Is it not time for a Soldiers' Dietary Committee here?

THERE seems to be no foundation for the report so extensively circulated when the mail which reached us on Thursday left London, that the Duke of Cambridge intended to resign his position as head of the Army.

THE *Army and Navy Gazette* of March 23, thus summarises the news from Burma:

"Affairs in Burmah are still in a disturbed condition. The Chin Field Force is blocked up among the mountains, and reports from the front state that the troops are suffering great hardships. The expedition started too late for such a long and hazardous campaign. The Upper Province is very unsettled. Several dacoity raids are reported from Myingyan, and much loss of life and property has been occasioned. In the Lopa district two small columns, made up from the Rifle Brigade and the 4th Battalion this time, the 1st Battalion having returned to India after a trying experience, are in the field, and rendering excellent service, as so good a battalion is bound to do. Near Magun some Bengali Infantry have had a sharp encounter with a large dacoit band. Further disturbances are also expected at Gangaw, and Ottama, the most formidable of the dacoit chiefs, is in the field, and reported to be marching in that direction with his followers."

ON the advice of its law officers, the Madras Government has ruled that a receipt for sums above twenty rupees must be stamped before or at the time of execution, and that the adhesion of an one anna stamp afterwards will not make the receipt a legal or a valid document. A duplicate receipt is equally liable to stamp duty, but the department of the administration requiring it, must furnish the additional stamp. For purposes of record, certified copies of original receipts will do.

Is the Government of India of the same opinion? Does Sir Charles Paul construe the Stamp Act in that fashion? Whatever it be, in the present tightness of Indian finance, Madras may be congratulated on having tumbled upon a slight additional source of income. When a receipt is unstamped at the time of execution, a prosecution will lie.

THE late Mr. White, President of the Anglo-Indian and Eurasian Association, Madras, left behind him property valued at Rs. 39,000. In December last, he made a will and appointed the Official Trustee his executor. That functionary, however, declined to act, and the Administrator-General asked the widow to administer the estate. The Madras High Court, on application, granted her letters of administration. In the meantime, Mrs. Ballard, sister of the deceased, has filed a *caveat* contesting the validity of the will.

THE Deputy Collector at Madras Mr. Thomas Pritchard, has committed suicide by cutting his throat.

THE Hyderabad-Oomerkhot Railway has been sanctioned.

It is said that the Government have rejected as impracticable the proposal to establish a pigeon post between the Andamans and Burma.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Northern Bengal State Railway has experienced one of the saddest accidents. On the 15th, at Madhonagpur, a running train was blown off a bridge—an open one—and precipitated into the river. There were very few first and second class passengers. The third was fairly full chiefly of coolies and many of these were either dead or injured. The Railway report as yet gives the figure of the dead at less than half a dozen and the injured at only four dozens. We doubt not, Government will call for a full report of the accident and publish the same for general information. Horrible rumours are afloat in native society.

MR. PERCIVAL SPENCER has not yet ceased to be the wonder in Calcutta. On Thursday, he drew another crowd. He made another balloon ascent—from the Gas Works grounds at Narkaldanga. It was not a single flight. He had as his companion Lieutenant H. J. Cunningham, of the Royal Canadians. The Lieutenant is an amateur balloonist himself, having voyaged in the air before. He utilised the present occasion for scientific observations. The balloon bore no name but was the largest used by Mr. Spencer, being of 24,000 cubic feet capacity. It rose rapidly, took a northerly direction, then receded to the south and again sailed to the north-east towards Dum Dum and Baraset. The aeronauts started on their voyage a little after 5 in the evening and, in an hour and a half, they had alighted at the village of Lakhifooh, two miles from Baraset.

ONE Anil Chandra Banerji makes this desperate attempt to be famous in a letter to a Calcutta paper.

"If you kindly publish the following few lines in your widely circulated paper for Mr. Percival Spencer's information, I shall be heartily thankful to you. To convince the world that there are natives of India who are no less daring than other people in the world, I wish to undertake the daring task of ascending in a balloon and descending with the parachute. With this intention, I propose to Mr. Spencer that if he kindly allows me to take my aerial flight by his balloon, I shall be greatly obliged, and the feat will be very interesting to the public, as well as a matter of glory for the Indians that a Bengali young man who has not yet numbered twenty years, will play such an adventurous part. In conclusion I wish to say that I will perform the feat without any pecuniary consideration."

That is cool, to be sure. Master Banerji has probably nothing more substantial to give but his thanks to a professional man for the use of his costly apparatus. Will he lend his *chudder* to Mr. Spencer to go to Rangoon with? He thinks his own pecuniary unselfishness a sufficient obligation on other men, including showmen and tradesmen, to go out of their way to make substantial pecuniary and other sacrifices to satisfy his crazy crave for notoriety—to help him in making himself famous or ridiculous. For he evidently has no adequate conception of the adventure for which he is so lightly ready. At the eleventh hour, his nerve might fail him. Ten to one, he would perish in the attempt, from his flabby *Dal bhat* muscle being unequal to the strain. He is a representative man, however. Like too many of our writers and speakers, he talks as if the whole world is interested in the training of the Bengali race. He thinks everybody is bound to assist him in his queer enterprise at his call, without knowing who he is, or estimating his chances. He has no idea that Mr. Spencer or any other

person might be landed in a criminal jail for taking him too easily at his word.

It has been found in America that the refuse of sugarcane is capable of turning out excellent white paper of very fine quality. In this country, it is not wasted but burnt for the boiling of the juice. But how many resources are wasted by us in pure ignorance! A moderate share of European science and American energy would have made India one of the richest countries, if not the richest, in the world. If the foreigners who rule it had not themselves tasted of the Lotos of the Land, they would, in a decade or two, raise a magnificent revenue, by the prosecution of a vigorous policy of agricultural and manufacturing improvement. Unfortunately, those who come out do not stay and feel no permanent stake in the country, and too easily succumb to the prevailing relaxation and are content with a hand to mouth routine, while the magnates at Home—in the governing country—are nervously afraid of causing any possible alarm to the vested interests of British Commerce.

*Native Opinion* says:

"By the last Australian mail Surgeon Major K. R. Kutikar returns hale (*sic*) and hearty (*sic*) from his Australian trip. The object of this trip is well known and requires no repetition. Where-ever he went he was well received and was almost the lion of the day."

Now that, in consequence of repeated invasions of the Asiatic Indians, England has been exhausted as a field for lion-making of interesting tawny or swarthy strangers, it is satisfactory to learn that a new region has been opened in a different direction. Why don't our Bibos—the sons of Mammon and Behal in particular—sail thither. If they cannot all be lions, they have the chance of being wolves and jackals. Our town corporators might go there with advantage to themselves and their country and view the spectacle of a wondrous progress in the course of a generation or so. We wish our extreme radicals and visionaries might be packed off to the Southern Sea. They would probably be disabused of their sentimental faith in parliamentary government of a single Chamber, as Lord Sherbrooke we suspect was, as Attorney General of New South Wales. We wonder our Surrender Not has not yet gone on pilgrimage to the goahead Land of Liberty consecrated by the bones of Barrington and other congenial spirits.

THE *Indian Mirror* has been much exercised by the neglect of its prophet in his own country. The first stone indeed was cast by Mr Skime, but as a well-born and well-bred and withal accomplished member of the Civil Service, he is of course the impersonation of hauteur and insolence in Young Indian slang, an Anglo-Indian. But that that great appreciator of goahead native excellence and accomplishments, the experienced editor of the *Indian Daily News* should follow suit, is enough to break the tender heart of his Aryan brother. The said experienced editor actually sees no culture in native society. This is simply ignoring the obvious. This in the resplendent presence of Su No Render! As if the man of the *Mirror* is a man of the moon mooney. In the bitterness of soul, the native editor complains. His fury draws out of him a momentary spark of very near vivacity when he begins with the remark—"Our contemporary of the *Indian Daily News* has made a discovery." That sarcasm is as old as the hills, and is here, besides, not *apropos*, but it is a great thing to the lugubrious journal of the leaden eye, and may serve to preserve its poor habitual readers for another term from committing *filo de se*. The *Mirror* continues:

"In his issue of the 12th instant, he speaks of the 'almost general absence' of culture, 'even in the better classes of native society,' and says that, 'as a rule, culture is not a national feature.' We did not expect this dogmatic assertion from our experienced contemporary, without even an attempt to define what is understood by him by the word 'culture.'"

That is somewhat of a departure from the usual language of the editor. Is the famous stone of Blarney removed to the temple of Jagannath, and has he been secretly kissing it there? Instead of protest against the horrid Anglo-Indian, we have quite a touch of soft sawder and human nature in the whining compliment to "our experienced contemporary." Before the close of the sentence, however, the writer recovers himself and the attorney-editor enters his *caveat*. The *Indian Daily News* has committed the unpardonable silliness of not attempting, for the benefit of its Aryan brother, to define the word *culture*! There! we have Dryasdust in all his glory!

The Anglo-Indian is not to be charmed by a compliment, however. The relentless man's response to the friendly, if awkward, advances of the *Mirror* is crushing. He metaphorically pulls his victim by the ear in almost the formula of a formidable Doctor of the 18th century, saying

"We cannot hold ourselves responsible for any lack of understanding on the part of our contemporary."

THE following paragraph is on too important a subject to be withheld. We give it for what it may be worth :—

"The *Hospital* states that an unexpected testimony to the value of inoculation comes from South Africa. Mr. G. A. Farini, the explorer of the Kalahari desert, had some oxen bitten by poisonous snakes, and one of his bushmen, it is said, cured them by making incisions round the bite, and rubbing into these a powder made from the dried poison-sacs of other snakes. In a few hours the inflammation caused by the bite disappeared, and the oxen were quite well. A few days afterwards the bushman himself was bitten. He at once inoculated himself in a similar way with the powder, and having extracted from the wound the fangs of the snake that had bitten him, he drank a drop of poison from the virus sac. He immediately fell into a stupor that lasted some hours. At first the swelling of the wound increased, but it soon subsided. Next morning he inoculated himself again. By the evening of that day the swelling had disappeared, and two days after he was as well as ever. The favourite antidote is a little lizard of very deadly powers, called N'auboo, which is so valued that a native will give an ox for the dead body of one, to dry and reduce to powder for this purpose: but if he had no N'auboo, he uses the poison of any snake he can get."

If the above experiments may be relied upon, they are very important. They prove something more than the value of inoculation. It is a strange proof of the perversity of the doctors that they fail to recognise the true drift of Mr. Farini's researches. His experiments clearly make for Homœopathy. They are an unexpected testimony to the truth of the strange generalization upon which the learned German chemist and investigator of the physiologic action of drugs stumbled, namely, *Similia similibus curantur*. But whatever their relation to any theory of medicine, they are too interesting to be passed over. We trust our Indian men of science will pursue the inquiry and test Mr. Farini's assertions. We are glad to learn that there are a few still engaged in researches into snake-poison. Here is an account of the latest :—

"The experiment now being made by the present Deputy Sanitary Commissioner, Dr. Waddell, as to whether a snake's poison will affect itself, or other poisonous snakes, clearly shows that there is no agreement of opinion among authorities on the point which he has taken up. Professor Weir Mitchell, an American specialist, was led to the conclusion that one rattlesnake can poison another; whereas Dr. Vincent Richards has expressed himself satisfied that a cobra cannot kill a cobra, though he has often seen his specimens fight savagely. Dr. Fayrer was of the same opinion, though not clear as to whether a cobra would be able to destroy a daboia, for instance, or a krait. These conclusions, however, would appear to have been arrived at by the way, and we do not know that any of the authorities mentioned ever carried out such careful experiments with the express purpose of determining the point as Dr. Waddell has done. The latter took nine newly caught cobras which were inoculated with cobra venom, the efficacy of which was proved in each case by simultaneous experiments on fowls, which died almost immediately. But in no case did the cobras suffer; and when they were eventually killed, several days afterwards, the *post mortem* showed no signs of the poison having had the least effect. But when the venomous snakes are pitted against one another, the results become more obscure. For instance, the cobra poison is apparently inoperative on the daboia and seemingly on the krait, but deadly to the ordinary viper; neither krait nor daboia can harm the cobra; and it is doubtful if the daboia, in spite of its huge fangs, can hurt the krait. But, on the other hand, there is no doubt whatever about the potency of cobra poison upon non-poisonous snakes. Dr. Waddell records fifteen experiments made upon the latter, and in every case but one, death followed upon injection in times varying from a few minutes up to two or three days. The case, therefore, seems to be made out that poisonous snakes do possess immunity from the effects of their own poison, and to a great extent from that of the poison of other venomous species, which the non-poisonous varieties of the same race do not share. What is the reason? Dr. Waddell propounds the theory that it is because the immunity is an acquired condition—a toleration to the venom established through imbibition of small quantities of the venom in the modified or attenuated form which the venom assumes when mixed with salivary and gastric juices and absorbed through the alimentary canal—in other words, that the snake inoculates itself against the consequences of its own virus. And if the snake, why not the man; for that is the conclusion evidently to which Dr. Waddell means to work up. Experience alone can prove whether some sort of protection can be devised; and, if science can answer that question in the affirmative, whether it would be ever worth men's while to undergo inoculation in order to be "immune to" the remote risks of snake-bite."

Here, too, the direction of scientific investigation is the same. Dimly but unmistakably it points Homœopathywards. Be that as it may, the experiments are most valuable, and Dr. Waddell is entitled to the thanks of the public and of men of science for his devotion to a

difficult and dangerous line of work. Whatever may be the value of his theory, he has, by no little patience and risk, succeeded in establishing certain valuable truths on the subject. We think we now approach land. We are hopeful of the application of these facts to the successful treatment of cases of snake-poisoning.

*Dans l'adversité de nos meilleurs amis, nous trouvons toujours quelque chose qui ne nous déplaît pas.*

As Rochefoucault his maxims drew

From nature, I believe them true :

They argue no corrupted mind

In him : the fault is in mankind.

This maxim more than all the rest

Is thought too base for human breast :

"In all distresses of our friends,

We first consult our private ends ;

While nature, kindly bent to ease us,

Points out some circumstance to please us."

If such is the weakness of human nature even in respect of the distresses of friends, what must be its positive malignity in the case of others! This reflection has been forced on us by the attitude of the British press on the discomfiture of one of themselves in the Irish State Trial by Special Commission. There is no love lost between the *Times* and its brethren, evidently, and there is no pretence to sympathy for it in its hour of trouble. They are all crowing from their dung-hills down on the wounded and fallen eagle. They are virtuously cruel in their reproaches to the *Times* for its stupidity. The *Times* has been guilty of having been taken in, and there is no expiation for it in this world or the next. Had this sort of nonsense been confined to the baser organs of British Radicalism, we should not have wondered: they have a superstitious horror of, and perhaps an old grudge against, the leading journal. But the pity of it is that respectable papers, the organs of educated thought, have degraded themselves in this matter. Some of them have had their trials too, but they now talk in supreme unconsciousness of any misfortune in the past or unfortunate possibility in the future. "No one can contend for a single moment," gravely remarks the *Daily Telegraph*, "that even the most ordinary precautions were adopted, or the slightest knowledge of the world evinced, in the dealings which our contemporary held with dangerous persons called into activity by its action"; that the paper gave itself "to youthful enthusiasts, raw in political life, to rash patriots incapable of prudence; and to hungry adventurers who joyously supplied them with ridiculous forgeries." According to the respectable *Daily News*:—"The *Times* endeavoured to destroy Mr. Parnell. Mr. Parnell has destroyed the *Times*. . . . The smallest of provincial organs is utterly incapable of engaging in the abominable traffic which has led the *Times* into such abysmal depths \* \* \*." The saintly *Pall Mall Gazette*, whose editor, for all his virtue and wisdom, was not long since sent to jail, says the paper "is no longer the old *Times*, an honest embodiment of the prejudices and instincts of the average Englishman, that we have to do with now, but rather with a kind of possessed *Times*. An evil spirit has entered into the leading journal, rendering it incapable even of those human and generous instincts which are characteristic of our race."

This is the style in which the dry tree chuckles over the burning of the faggot!

No content with the present calamity, these relentless brethren are unearthing the past for any incident to the *Times*' discredit. *Truth* has gone back to the last century for material to point a moral against the humbled contemporary. It sent agents to disturb the dust of the British Museum and they have been lucky in discovering some scandal in the—family history of the victim. It is thus related :—

"It appears that on Saturday, February 13, 1796, it published, as coming from the reputations of *L'Eclair*, a Paris journal which then enjoyed the reputation of being usually well informed, the text, in French, of a treaty of peace alleged to have been entered into between the French Republic and the Emperor of Austria. The news was so good and so unexpected that all the Funds rose at a bound, and the Stock Exchange temporarily rejoiced. This was despite the fact that the previous evening, in the House of Commons, Mr. (afterwards the celebrated Lord) Grey had called the attention of Pitt the Younger to the fact that copies of *L'Eclair* were in circulation that day containing the striking news, and that the Prime Minister had replied that he knew nothing whatever about the matter, and that he doubted its authenticity, because the French used in the supposed treaty was more than dubious. It was, in fact, as grotesquely bad as Pigott's spelling; but the



*Times* then, as now, was confident in the integrity of its agents, and told Mr. Pitt on that eventful Saturday that 'all we can say is that the thing came to us in the regular way from Ramsgate in the name of our Dover correspondent, and that it appears to us perfectly regular.' But by the Monday it began to recognise that something was wrong, and the Committee of the Stock Exchange took the matter up and offered £500 to be put on the track of the forgers, for by that time it had been found that forgery had been at work, some Jews in the City of London having for speculative purposes fabricated the whole number of *L'Eclair* in question, and circulated it to various papers and prominent persons in the shape best calculated to deceive."

That is not a story to the credit of British morality, but these papers are prepared to cut their own noses to spite the enemy.

WHILE the supreme Government and local Administrations have retired to their respective summer retreats, Sir Stuart Bayley is toiling in the plains. He is in no hurry for the hills. Last week, he held a Durbar for the new recipients of honor at the hands of the Viceroy. Having commenced late his legislative session, notwithstanding this being a Gazetted holiday, our Lieutenant-Governor had his Council this forenoon. In the evening, there will be an Evening Party at Belvedere "to meet the members of the National Indian Association."

Early next month, he visits Chittagong unto the Hill Tracts.

THE counter-raid into the Lushai country is over—for this year. Government are not content with the slight advantage of the hour. They have an elaborate policy for the permanent pacification of the tribes. Its development will require some little time. In four or five years, they are confident of realising it and completing the conversion of the barbarians on that border into peaceful subjects and neighbours, as in Assam. Meanwhile, they are pushing on the construction of roads. They rely upon the opening of communications as their chief instrument for subjugating savages. We sincerely wish them Godspeed!

DURING the week, two wellknown members of the Civil Service have left the Presidency, one for a quarter, the other "for good." Mr. H. S. Cotton, Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Positivist, philo-Indian, and author of "New India," goes on a three months' pilgrimage to Western Europe. A few friends, chiefly European, attended at the railway terminus to see him off. Mr. J. H. Reynolds, the Senior Member of the Board, goes home on retirement from the Service. There was a large attendance of native and European friends and admirers at the landing to give *ecbat* to his parting, headed by the Lieutenant-Governor. Before his departure, he received the usual marks of private and popular regard. Baboo Jagannath Khunnah, the leader of the Buria Bazaar merchants, gave in his honour a party at the Town Hall. This was followed by a more general demonstration held in the heart of the native town, at the palatial mansion known as Mothoor Sen's, now the property of the millionaire Babu Jadu Lal Mullick. No better site for a grand entertainment could have been fixed upon. That house is one of the architectural "hons" of the city, and contains the loftiest and most spacious hall in any private dwelling in the country. The whole place and grounds were most tastefully decorated and converted into a fairy garden with arcades and arbours, all under the experienced loving supervision of Baboo Hem Chander Mitter, a leading gentleman of that ward of the town. In consequence of the approaching departure of Mr. Reynolds, the day selected was unfortunate. It was the first of the native year when our people are specially occupied. It was crowded too with previous engagements for the European community. The European Brahmans would not for anything in the world give up their opportunity for dining out at *burra khana*s. Hence the vast place was not well filled. But many made their apologies and the names of the Committee showed the estimation in which the retiring official was held. Great credit is due to the Secretary Babu Kally Prosunno Dey, of the *National Magazine*. This, it will be remembered, is the same to whose exertions we owe the portrait by public subscription in the Town Hall of the late Mr. J. Gibbs, one of the most genial and accomplished and devoted public servants in India, and one of the best friends of its people.

ANOTHER big official shortly goes to Europe from the interior. Mr. J. Lewis, Commissioner of the Rajshaye Division, has obtained six months' leave from the 1st May. We heartily wish him a safe voyage home, a happy sojourn in the scenes of *auld lang syne*, and a pleasant

return hence with renovated health and spirits to take up with zest the threads of his work. We are sure we echo the sentiment of his important and extensive jurisdiction and, indeed, of all who have ever come in contact with him. Belonging to an old Indian family which has given many members to the Services, Civil and Military, Mr. Lewis inherits an affection for the country and the people. He has latterly had a splendid opportunity of showing it in the establishment of that noble and much needed institution, the Native Retreat in the Darjeeling Hills. The value of this institution it is impossible to exaggerate. Though the sinews of war have been supplied chiefly by the liberality of the Maharaja of Cooch Behar and the ambition of Babu, now Raja, Gobind Lal, it is to Mr. Lewis's sympathetic interest in the wants of the native population that we owe the Native Sanatorium.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1889.

### OUR NATIVE CHIEFS.

FROM A EUROPEAN POINT OF VIEW.

THE repugnancy with which innumerable Native Princes and Princesses of India view our treatment of them, after despoiling them of their birth-right, appropriating, without any pretence or show of decency, a large portion, and, in many cases, the whole of their property and estates, under a cloak of dissimulation and hypocrisy, concealing our real object, in most instances, simply as trustees, and, in others, robbing them of the whole, leaving them in beggary, not even respectable poverty, is a matter of course. And is there a man in India who can be surprised that by every European power we are despised and looked down upon with the utmost contempt?

Let any other Government only attempt to do as we have done, and what is the result? An immediate hue and cry to denounce their actions, accompanied by most questionable assertions, conveniently overlooking, meanwhile, we have been guilty of the most sinful offences against both person and property, and then seek, in the most contemptible manner, to frame excuses for ourselves. It is distressing and painful to think of the many who now, with the paltry pittance allowed them by Government, eke out a most miserable existence, born in and, until we interfered, living in, affluence and luxury. As an instance, see Queen Myouk Shwe Yay, the Dowager Queen of Burma, now appealing to Lord Lansdowne for an increase to her allowance.

Is it not a refined cruelty that this lady, now well stricken in years, should be kept in little better than absolute poverty, upon a pension of Rs. 250 per mensem, and be made to suffer for the offences of others? Her daughter Princess Kyouk Souk Thake Khomi Din being the recipient of the shameless pension of Rs. 125 per mensem, or something like £8. 10s. sterling, scarcely a good mechanic's pay at home? The monthly expenses of the Dowager Queen of Burma and her daughter are Rs. 2,000, and Government allows the two the insignificant sum of Rs. 375, landing them in monthly arrears to the extent of Rs. 1,625, in addition to accumulated unpaid debt of Rs. 30,000. The writer is unable to find language to express indignation sufficiently strong in the case now under review. European sovereigns are not so despoiled and robbed. Then, by what law of God or man, do we assume the right to despoil all and every one who fall under our displeasure?

It is inexplicable, and one day, sooner or later, will bring its own judgment. National dishonour we

seem to feel none. What treasuries and private estates have we not plundered, what ancient houses have we not wrecked and ruined, what royalty and nobility not despoiled, making wanderers and exiles of the members over the face of the earth, and we have the impudent audacity to say such acts are those of a Christian Government! It is not surprising that many say, if such acts are those of Christians, they themselves are proud they are not Christians.

Witness our treatment of the King of Oudh's Family. After robbing the King of his vast territories and plundering his treasuries, we keep the existing members of the family on a starvation pittance and find some paltry excuse to justify our conduct of rapine and plunder, the magnitude of which cannot be defined. There is not a case of a king or chief in the East we have deposed in which we have not wilfully, without a thought of the wrong we were doing, shifted upon their own shoulders the crimes we ourselves committed.

What has our conduct been of Dhuleep Singh? Iniquitous in the highest degree. We deceived him, lied to him, robbed him, and, in the end, to show how complete was our want of rectitude, we made a Christian of him, and now have left him an outcast, to drift over the world, to live in a strange land on the generosity of pitying strangers!

It must not be implied that the writer commends Dhuleep Singh's present line of action. But, with the man's evil advisers and his ill-balanced mind—the result of our harsh treatment—he has fallen evidently a prey to hallucinations. After appropriating the contents of his treasuries and private property to ourselves, and pointblank refused to give him any information on the subject of his inquiries in regard to the plunder, is it surprising that Dhuleep Singh should openly declare himself our implacable enemy? No! it is not. But it is well for us he cannot do more.

There is not a dynasty we have deposed, that we have not pillaged and despoiled by open force, down to the annexation of Upper Burma. This may be ingenious and artful policy, it is certainly not statesmanship.

The Secretary of the Indian National Congress, writing on February 20th to the *Pall Mall Gazette* refuting the libel made by Sir Edward Watkin on the Congress, seeks to strengthen his situation by insinuating that if any Russian gold is coming into India, it must be finding its way into the Punjab for the purpose of propagating disaffection amongst the Sikhs in the interest of Dhuleep Singh. We do not pooh pooh Mr. A. O. Hume's Congress "fad," but we certainly do not think he went very much to convince Sir Edward Watkin, that Congressmen were not the recipients of Russian gold, by making the above assertion, and that the Congress movement meant the destruction of Russian hope of ever invading India. A simple denial to Sir Edward's "I do" was all that was necessary. There was no need to bring forward the name of poor Dhuleep Singh, whose followers see as little of Russian gold as Congressmen are ever likely to do. Men who are insane enough to believe Russia has money for such hair-brained agitators, should be confined in a lunatic asylum. We have arrived at a wonderful state of moral perfection, but we are certainly not ripe enough yet for Theosophism.

Are we to be congratulated for bringing about such a state of things? Has our supremacy in the East proved such a blessing as to gladden the hearts of our Indian subjects one and all? A moment's reflection will convince any man in India, that our forcible

conversion into British Provinces of the territories we have plundered and despoiled, are as much subject to raids and dacoity as they were 50 years ago. *Vide* our latest perfidious dacoity, *Burma*, conceived, planned and executed with a cold-bloodedness, unequalled by any of our former acts of vandalism.

While we write, Cashmere is being driven under a cloud. Another *coup* is in course of planning at the Foreign office! We are being deceived, or are again deceiving ourselves, that independence exists in our own rights only. Sheer madness! Our native Princes are not allowed the ghost of a chance to discern right from wrong. Orientals, from time immemorial, have always had a knack for dabbling in poisons, and a familiarity with drugs, if not inflammable at least dangerous to life to a degree. If it be true that the Maharaja has suggested his own abdication, we are not surprised. It is not that he contemplated poisoning Mr. Plowden that has induced the Chief to take this step, but that he is weary of constant British interference, and no longer feels confident of maintaining his state in the face of the settled greed of our Government. The writer is bold enough to assert the poison incident is a gigantic intrigue against, and to depose, the Maharaja. We have for years, in the most covert manner, coveted Cashmere, and desired to convert it into British territory. We have seen it said somewhere that Colonel Nisbet should have his hands strengthened. Strengthened indeed! Colonel Nisbet has already in this scandal displayed great weakness, and, like other politicals, is more or less purblind, when he imagines he has got hold of the right end of the stick. We do not look at this scandal from a "pessimist" point of view, but past and current events prove that, if Colonel Nisbet ever had hold of the stick at all, it is the wrong end.

The writer for the present will dismiss the Cashmere incident, by placing before the public in India and England, the three following questions:—

1. Has England any ulterior design on the independence of Cashmere?
2. Have we abandoned our annexation policy?
3. Can the Foreign office answer those two questions truthfully?

Where are all our pledges and treaties with our Native Chiefs and feudatories? What are they worth? What were they worth when made? Nothing! Advisedly, nothing, when made between contracting parties, one of which has not the power to compel the second to keep good faith. There is not a treaty now extant between us and any Native Chief in India, worth the paper it is written upon. If the Viceroy, with the counsel of the Secretary of State, think fit to treat it as waste paper, he may do so, and, without a moment's notice, will drive a coach and four through any such treaty.

This state of things in treaty matters does not exist in Europe. There we have great powers to deal with, equal in strength and armament to our own. Let Lord Salisbury attempt to drive a coach and four through any treaty we have with Germany, France, Russia or Italy, and I do not hesitate to say, if he were insane enough to do, as is done in India, the continent of Europe would rise against us, and materially alter the map of Europe. It is unfortunate India forms a field, where there is no such opposing element, and has to submit to conduct, England herself has to submit to, from the other European Powers equal in strength to herself. It is simply a system of blustering swagger we exer-

cise, and by such conduct keep the subjects in fear, certainly not love, either for ourselves, or British rule.

The writer asks, Is there any justification for the violation of such treaties with our Chiefs, the confiscation of private estates, and plundering of treasuries? By such a vile and unscrupulous course what have we gained? a legacy of discontent and ill will, which, at any time, should an opportunity occur, will rise against us. Justification there is none, not even political necessity, we add only insult to injury, in the violation of treaties at the price of national honor. Claiming the privilege of not being an atheist, it is hard for one to believe the Government of India does not lay claim to the power of Almighty God, having the right to all, and over all, at least in India.

The revelations of the late Sir Charles MacGregor, made public lately, are of a nature sufficiently startling, not only as throwing light upon our unscrupulous actions in Affghanistan, and confirming the suspicions of the Khartoum martyr, the late General Gordon, when he resigned the Private Secretaryship to Lord Ripon at Bombay, over the question of Yakoob Khan's deposition, but sufficiently interesting to make men now living in our midst, feel uncomfortable, having lulled themselves into fancied security, in the belief that dead men tell no tales.

The writer has not yet read the Life and Opinion of Sir Charles MacGregor, K.C.B., but, from a personal acquaintance and coming in daily contact with the late General during the Trihoot famine in 1874, can assert that it is not true that he was a cruel man. He was chivalrous and humane to a degree, tender and compassionate, though a strict disciplinarian. What he did was always done well, and he insisted upon all under him doing the same. Sir Richard Temple, then Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, spoke in high terms of his qualities as an officer, and, in frankly admitting he had in MacGregor an able Lieutenant, did not forget to give him credit for the magnitude of his charge during that trying time.

ZITO.

## . THE INCOME TAX.

THE Income tax threatens to be a permanent burden on the Indian people. The official view, at any rate, leaves little hope of its discontinuance. No less an exponent of that view than Sir David Barbour, Finance Minister of the Government of India, appears to be strongly in favor of its retention. In the debate which ensued in the Vice-regal Council on his own Budget, some of the native members of the Council took just exception to the income tax, as a source of real hardship and oppression to the people. The Hon'ble Syed Ameer Hossein, in particular, made out a strong case for abandoning the impost on the return of better times. Raja Doorga Churn Law also bore weighty testimony to the odious character of the imposition as well as of its administration. "If the finances be," he said, "in such a condition as to admit of any reduction of taxation, I would suggest that the taxes which act oppressively on the people be first taken away. The income tax is working great hardship. No form of direct taxation is suited to our country. If the income tax be abolished, it would afford a substantial relief and would be really appreciated by the people." This view, however, met with no support from the Finance Member. On the contrary, he was so much opposed to it that he could not allow the occasion to

pass without expressing his formal dissent. He said:—

"My hon'ble friend Syed Ameer Hossein has made a plea for some relief to the payers of income tax, and especially for those whose incomes are less than Rs. 1,000 per annum. So far as the wealthier members of the community are concerned, I think the claim for relief is of the weakest character. I doubt if there is any other country where the taxation falls so lightly on such classes as it does in India. I would ask my hon'ble friend to consider what taxation he and I and the other official members of your Excellency's Council contribute towards the cost of the government of this country. If he does so, he will be astonished at the moderation of the taxation on the official, commercial and professional classes in this country. I admit that there is more to be said for the exemption from the income tax of persons whose income is less than Rs. 1,000, but even in their case the plea for exemption appears to me to be by no means a strong one. In the first place, as incomes rise in this country, an income of even Rs. 500 a year is not low relatively to the incomes of the vast majority of the people. In the next place, the persons whose incomes are between Rs. 500 and Rs. 1,000 would pay little or nothing towards the expenses of the State, if they did not pay the income tax. And last of all, we cannot do without the money, and I do not foresee the time at which we will be in a position to say that this class has the first claim to relief."

Sir David Barbour is perfectly welcome to his opinion about the taxation of the higher official, commercial and professional classes, composed almost exclusively of Europeans, and who would pay nothing to the state, if they did not pay the income tax. But he must not lose sight of the fact that natives of the country belonging to those classes stand on a different footing. They are generally holders of land for which they pay a land tax, besides other cesses. As regards his argument, for retaining the tax on incomes ranging from Rs. 500 to 1,000, we do not exactly see its force or application. Compared with the ruling average of income in this country, an income of Rs. 500 is, in truth, not low, but, in instituting such comparison, we must not overlook the social system of the country. It is extremely unfair to apply such a test. There are respectable classes in this country for whom an income of from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000 is actually too low, particularly in these days of high prices. And in regard to these classes, Sir David Barbour's statement, that if they were exempted from the income tax they would be exempted from all taxation, does not apply. Belonging to the respectable classes, they pay land revenue, and otherwise contribute to the cost of government. The Finance Minister does not notice the argument against the retention of the income tax based on its oppressive administration. Probably that administration is not believed in high official quarters to be really oppressive. The other day, in the Bengal Government Resolution on the administration of the income tax, Sir Stuart Bayley, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, endorsed the opinion of a Divisional Commissioner that the tax excited no more odium than was incidental to the obligation of having to pay anything at all. The fact, however, is otherwise. The assessors of the tax are over zealous officers, bent on showing as large a collection as they can, regardless of the limits prescribed by the law, and Syed Ameer Hossein expressed but the plain truth when he said that, at any rate, a portion of those returned by the assessors as having an income of Rs. 500 or upwards never really enjoyed that income. We may be credited with having some reliable experience as to the character of these assessments, particularly in regard to the lower classes of assesses, and we are in a position to say that, if the irremediable iniquity of its administration were any argument against the continuance of an impost, the income tax should be done away with immediately.

Sir David Barbour is explicit in his view. He cannot look forward to a time when the tax on even the lowest grade of income might be remitted. We are, nevertheless, not without a hope. After all, the

Finance Member's view may not prevail. The thing itself is causing so great hardship that it is bound to go, at least as regards the lowest class of income. Some remarks fell from the Viceroy, which, though very guarded, would seem to show that the opposition offered by the native members to the retention of direct taxation of an oppressive character struck a sympathetic chord in Lord Lansdowne. We quote the passage we refer to—"The income and expenditure of the past year are beyond recall, and at the time when the Budget is framed it would be extremely difficult for the Government to recede from the arrangements which it has made for the year which is just about to commence. In regard, however, to the years that lie beyond, the Government of India is not committed to the same extent and is still in the position to profit by useful suggestions and advice. I welcome in this spirit that which has been given to us by the hon'ble members who have placed on record their opinion as to the course which should be adopted in the event of our being hereafter in a position to remit taxation. I trust that they are right in anticipating that we may, before we are much older, find it to be our agreeable duty to consider what burdens we can remove from the shoulders of Her Majesty's subjects in this part of the empire, and I can promise them that should the Government of India, while I have the honor of being connected with it, find itself in the happy position of being able to dispense favors, we shall be careful to do so with the utmost circumspection, and with a due regard to the arguments which they have advanced." It may be premature to build upon these words any definite hope with regard to the most unpopular tax that now exists, but it is not unlikely to have been meant by way of a response to the earnest appeals which the native members in Council addressed to his Lordship in behalf of the poor taxpayer.

### BOOKS.

#### AN INDIGENOUS HOMŒOPATHIC LITERATURE.\*

Bengal, as the earliest of the Indian Provinces to embrace Homœopathy, has naturally taken the lead in the creation of an Indian Homœopathic Literature. The great house of Berigny & Co. has played a most important part in this work. The pioneer Homœopathic Chemists, they have also been the first Homœopathic publishers. They felt the country's pulse with the first tentative *brochures* in Bengali. The success of these imperfect things emboldened them to publish in sumptuous style the first elaborate treatises in Homœopathy from the pen of the late Harikrishna Mallik, of the well-known Zemindari family of Meherpore. A hereditary Vaidya and an accomplished Sanskrit scholar, Harikrishna was peculiarly fitted to popularise the teachings of Hahnemann among his countrymen. The next writer in the field was Baboo Kali Kissen Mitter, the survivor of three remarkable brothers of Baraset. He produced a voluminous work on the Diseases of Infancy, published by the same firm we believe. Baboo Mohesh Chunder Ghosh next brought out two considerable but practical books, one of them being founded on the original Treatment of Cholera in English by his eminent nephew, the Hon'ble Dr. Sircar. Since then, works in plenty have appeared which we have not had an opportunity of seeing, but some few of which at least, from the names of their authors, must be more or less meritorious. And we once more hail in the field with pleasure Baboo Kali Kissen Mitter in the maturity of his powers. Although the book before us appears without the name of the author, we are assured that he is the writer. It is characteristic of him that, although he has published many things, he has always done so anonymously. He has never had any reason to be ashamed of his productions. This book, as it is the last from his veteran pen, is also his *magnum opus*. It is a valuable legacy of his rich mind to the profession and the public. It is a splendid monograph on the

Materia Medica and Therapeutics of that prime ill which flesh is heir to and to which Indian flesh in especial is exposed—Fever, in all its manifold shapes and varied complications. The book, though modestly offered as a compilation, is almost an original treatise embodying not only information derived from a variety of published sources, European and American, but also the results of personal observation during a long series of years. It really adapts Homœopathy to the peculiarities of this country and the needs of our people. It is enriched with all the latest researches into the articles of food commonly used among us—a desideratum in purely Western works which much detracts from their value in Indian practice. Lastly there is an interesting Introduction which though it travels into debatable ground challenges study.

#### A PUBLIC SERVICE MANUAL OF PERSONAL CONDUCT.\*

A book which is avowedly a compilation of the Orders of Government on such a simple subject as the personal relations of public servants, by one of them, and one of experience into the bargain, scarcely calls for any notice beyond a simple acknowledgment of receipt coupled with, at most, a word on its get up, good, bad or indifferent, as the case may be. It does not afford room for literary judgment, and such merit as may belong to publications of the class may be taken for granted. By each successive publication it withdraws itself farther and farther from the reach of critical interference. Such a book preeminently is that before us. Belonging to a class below criticism, it has, by flux of time and by other advantages, reached a height far above it. It is a collection of orders and rules regulating the personal relations of Government servants by not one but two old Government servants of that very department which is most familiar with those orders and rules. And it is now in the Third Edition! Such light, short and summary trial as such a publication may be exposed to, it has presumably long since passed through unscathed. The authors or compilers themselves were from the first so confident in their knowledge of what they were about, that they would not unnecessarily waste the least breath. They did not care to write a line by way of preface. Their book was introduced by the title page. This is being classical with a vengeance—following the Horatian precept of *medus res* literally! In this edition, however, the plunge is stayed, for a moment. Not that there is any pretence of a preface. Our authors do not surrender one iota of their method. In place of a preface there is an advertisement—not in the obsolescent sense, in which it is synonymous with preface, but in a veritable downright business announcement. This, of course, involves no superfluous expenditure of paper, the space on the back of the title-page being utilised with the new matter, after which comes the table of Contents, and then the plunge headlong into the open sea of the subject, a sea without light-house or other landmarks. This addition is nothing more or less than a page of opinions of the Press on previous editions. These opinions are honorable, coming as they do from the best quarters and being, of course, complimentary. Here, then, disappears the last possible chance of criticism. The authors come fortified on all points, and armed *cap à pie*. Their position is impregnable. What can the most daring critic do with such a Gibraltar but salaam it from a distance. It actually bullies him into submission. He must admire it willy nilly. It is presumably perfection.

Yet, the whole is an unfounded presumption. This book, the production of a strong duet of authors, is alas! too human, subject to all the infirmities of our lot.

It is very far from a credit to the community. It shows extraordinary incapacity in those responsible for it and a singular indifference in the public as well as a defect of the critical faculty in the press. The production of a book by courtesy—a furbishing of mere odds and ends of *Gazettes*—offers no opportunities for literary ambition. Charles Lamb himself, the genius lost in the desk's dull routine, if told off by his employers on such an errand, would perhaps have been at a loss to lend it distinction, unless he cared to provoke the grave and reverend seigniors of the India Office by a desperate pun. Yet not exactly so. Behold Gladstone and his Budgets! What ingenuity in massing numerals and marshalling accounts! How the dead bones are galvanised into flesh and blood realities! Nobody expects anything like such feats from Indian Assistant Accountants-General when our Chancellors of the Exchequer themselves pass with credit without suggesting anything beyond a distant comparison with the Grand Old Man. But there is a humbler ingenuity which is certainly expected of all who claim public notice by offering printed matter. There certainly may be an elegance even

\* *Sadrishia Chikitsa Vidhan, Sibiram o Aparadhar Jwar o Anugangik Roger Bhui Gajya Guna Sangraha.*

A Materia Medica of the Homœopathic Therapeutics of Intermittent and Other Fevers and their Concomitant Complications with the clinical experiences from thirty years' practice. Calcutta: L. V. Mitter & Co.

\* *A Compilation of Orders of the Government of India on the subject of the Personal Conduct of Public Officers in their Relations to Government, to their Subordinates, and others.* By I. C. Bose, M. A., Fellow, University of Calcutta, Assistant Accountant-General, Bengal, and G. D. Pudumjee, B. A., Assistant Accountant-General, Bombay. Third Edition. Corrected to date. [The British Arms.] Calcutta: Printed by I. C. Bose & Co.

in this sort of mechanical authorship. Some modicum of method at all events is a *sine qua non*. In point of fact, there is no pretence to decency of arrangement here. That it should not be attained in the course of three editions, is indeed a marvel. We repeat, this only proves that there is no criticism in India.

There may be an art in trifles. Not only is that not discernible in this work, but the authors may well claim almost a genius for bungling, so many are the imperfections of what must by this have been above reproach. The whole thing is scrappy to the last degree, showing neither research in the information nor intelligence in the presentation. There is no attempt at classification—no logical sequence. A number of regulations and orders of constant reference at the Accountant-General's office are strung together without order. There is no reason why one comes before or one comes after. The 47 matters are not disposed of according to subject nor presented in alphabetical or chronological order nor in the order of importance. The inconvenience from this methodical immethodicity is not even minished by an index: there is only a table of contents *seriatim*. This confusion is worse confounded by a sort of perversity. The title-page is contradicted at the outset. The book opens with the General "Rules for the Submission, Receipt, and Transmission of Memorials and other papers of the same class, addressed to Her Majesty the Queen," &c. Are these Rules among the "Orders of Government on the personal conduct of public officers in their relations to Government," &c.? If they must be retained at all, they should have been delegated to an appendix. The same objection applies to the Rules for the transmission of Letters (other than Memorials) to Her Majesty or any members of the Royal Family or the Secretary of State and, of course, the same compassionate remark. In fine, the book is simply beneath criticism. It does not show ordinary education. In avoiding writing a single line of their own, the authors probably thought they would escape detection. But they have not succeeded. For, they could not well avoid a title-page, and, in inditing a title for their work, they have discovered themselves. "A compilation," to begin with, is an absurd title. It may be a description of a book, but not the name of one. And, then, we have the "orders of the Government of India on the subject of the Personal Conduct of Public Officers in their relations to Government," &c. The Italics are ours. But why *the subject of*? We have already shown that the title does not strictly coincide with the contents. Lastly, the title page is defective for want of the publisher's name. For a work by Government officials, for the guidance of public servants, and now in its third edition, this is an extraordinary omission.

### JOHN BRIGHT.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

London, March 29.

Death has withdrawn a most majestic personality,—the curtain has fallen over one of the heroes of the world. Last Wednesday morning at 25 minutes past eight, Mr. John Bright peacefully expired at One Ash, his residence in Rochdale. India's greatest friend is gone, England has lost one of her greatest statesmen, Truth its boldest champion, the people their Great Tribune. One voice shall henceforth be absent from the Great Council of the nations, to warn man out of the purple stream of war, whenever unChristian principles should preponderate, and urge on the destruction of the species instead of its preservation. Posterity, according to the standard by which we all judge our fellows, will give the palm to his oratory, to his statesmanship, fortitude, or philanthropy, but civilization will record of him as the great Christian hero of the century. Often great, though less often many sided, as are the virtues of the great men of England, few have served mankind with so much devotion and success, fewer still with so much love. "Heart within and god o'erhead," was the motto of the honest Quaker; "I am a plain and simple citizen," he said once in one of his most memorable perorations; and in half a century's service to his country, if one thing was more conspicuous than another, it was, as he exemplified it in his life, his great love for Christ's simplicity of character, and his ardent desire to learn the spirit of Christian charity. His mission was to preach and practise the Gospel of Peace on earth,—Peace at any price.

John Bright was born at Greenbank, in the vicinity of Rochdale, in 1811. His father, Jacob Bright, was a cotton spinner, a man of substance, proprietor of Crankyslaw Mill. He received a sound English education, but for the culture of his intellect and for the stores of information which his speeches prove him to have possessed, he was mainly indebted to his own efforts. His reading in the historical and poetical literature of England was extensive, and his interest in every department of real, vital, productive knowledge was constant and impassioned. His family had been Quakers for many generations, and Mr. Bright remained faithful to the Society of Friends to the close of his life. He was twice married—first in 1839 to Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Jonathan Priestman, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, and in 1847 to Margaret Eli-

zabeth Leatham, daughter of a Quaker banker of Wakefield. He had had seven children, a daughter by his first wife and three sons and three daughters by the second. One of the boys died at an early age. The other two are now taking part in public affairs. Mr. W. L. Bright, the member for Stoke-on-Trent, being a hearty supporter of Mr. Gladstone in Parliament.

The bent of Mr. Bright's genius was early displayed. It is said to have been among the young temperance reformers of Rochdale that he first had an opportunity of discovering that his, as Mr. Disraeli said, was one of those tongues "born to guide human beings." In 1835 a stripling entered Mr. Cobden's ware-house in Moseley-street, Manchester, and asked him to address an educational meeting. Mr. Cobden went to the meeting, and was so much struck with the eloquence of the young man at whose request he had attended that he made an effort to enlist him in that crusade against the Corn Laws in which Cobden was already engaged. A witness to some of his earlier attempts describes him as dressed in black, of a sombre, Quaker-like appearance, square-built, muscular, with a broad face and forehead, fresh complexion, and mild blue eyes, voice good but somewhat harsh.

In September, 1838, a banquet was given by a number of gentlemen in Manchester to Mr. (afterwards Sir John) Bowring. In his speech in reply to the toast proposing his health, Sir John Bowring made a remark on the impossibility of estimating the amount of misery inflicted by the Corn Laws. It was proposed to form an association for the total repeal of the obnoxious statutes. A day was fixed for a meeting to organise the society, and out of this germ sprang the Anti-Corn Law League. Among the first names inscribed in the Provisional Committee of the Association was that of John Bright. The next eight years were perhaps the most active of his public career, and it is not too much to say that more of the real history of England during that period is to be learnt by following the steps of Cobden, Bright, and the other chiefs of the League than by reading the despatches of placemen and placehunters watching the strife of Parliamentary parties, or tracing the rise and fall of cabinets.

In July 1843, Mr. Bright was returned for Durham by a majority of seventy. In his first speech in the House he announced himself as not only member for Durham but "one of the representatives of that benevolent organization the Anti-Corn Law League." The active operations of the League continued till 1849 when an Act of Parliament was passed repealing the Corn Laws.

The limits of space forbid me to dwell, as I would fain do, upon some of the most important events which are associated with his name. I pass by therefore the history of his connection with Factory Legislation, the part he took in the American Civil War, his principle of "peace at any price," and his thorough detestation of Lord Palmerston and his Crimean War. Mr. Bright as a Cabinet Minister, I will pass over, nor would I refer to his first acquaintance with Lord Hartington but for a little anecdote in connection with the latter which might not be uninteresting. Mr. Bright remembered how twenty years before he had met Lord Hartington at a Lancashire inn, and found him little in love with the promise of a political career. One reason was a disbelief in his power of public speaking. Mr. Bright urged him to remain in Parliament, reminded him of the past services of the house of Devonshire, persuaded him that proficiency in public speaking was very much a matter of practice, reminded him that Hume on his entrance into Parliament could scarcely put two sentences together, pointed to the brilliant example of Lord Athorp, who made up for lack of eloquence by the transcendent honesty and transparency of his character, and finally said there was no influence and no dignity in the House of Commons to which, if he would but persevere, he might not fairly aspire.

It was in regard to India that he delivered some of his best speeches. "You may govern India, if you like," he said, "for the good of England, but the good of England must come through the channels of the good of India." "I am willing to avow that I am in favour of justice and conciliation—of the law of justice and kindness. Justice and mercy are the supreme attributes of the perfection we call Deity, but all men everywhere comprehend them. There is no speech nor language in which their voice is not heard, and they could not have been vainly exercised with regard to the docile and intelligent millions of India." "You have had enough of military reputation on Eastern fields; you have gathered large harvests of that commodity, be it valuable or be it worthless. I invite you to something better, and higher, and holier than that; I invite you to a glory not 'fanned by conquest's crimson wing,' but based upon the solid and lasting benefits which I believe the Parliament of England can, if it will, confer upon the countless populations of India."

I will conclude with one more quotation. It is one of the most striking and powerful of his many splendid perorations. With us it has a special significance to-day and I hope and trust it will be echoed by the two hundred and fifty millions of my countrymen. "I believe the time is coming, nay, we are upon its very threshold, when a large number of those hitherto excluded will be admitted, and we shall feel more than ever before that we are one nation, and



one people. Many of you have stood, as I have often stood, on the sea shore in an hour of quiet and of calm. No tempest drives the waves, the wind is but a whisper, and yet the tide comes in as by some latent and mysterious power. The loiterers on the beach are driven from point to point as the waves advance, and at length the whole vast basin of the ocean seems filled to the brim. So on this occasion, there is no violence nor even menace of force, but opinion grows; its tide moves on; opposition ignorant on the one hand, insolent on the other, falls back; and shortly we shall see barriers thrown down, privilege and monopoly swept away, a people enfranchised, and the measure of their freedom full. You have honoured me this morning by committing this great cause in part to my keeping. I may defend it feebly, I may fall from the ranks before it is won, but of one thing you may be sure—I shall never betray it."—I say, Amen!

## Law.

[Judgment in the Bombay Rain-betting Case on the appeal by the Government of Bombay against the order of acquittal by the late Chief Presidency Magistrate under the Bombay Prevention of Gambling Act of 1887.]

Mr. Justice Jardine, in delivering judgment, said: I am also of opinion that the acquittal was right. The facts are not in dispute. It is admitted that people frequent the house of the accused to bet on the quantity of rain which may fall in a given time, and that there is an appliance used to measure the quantity, of the nature of a rain-gauge. The appliance is the accepted measure of the quantity; it registers quantity just as the watch in the hands of the judge at the horse-race registers time, or as a thermometer is used to register heat, or a barometer the pressure of the atmosphere. Its use resembles further use of these instruments, in that it does not introduce any element of chance into the betting. Thus, in my opinion, it differs very much from the *Pari Mutuel* machine, which in *Follett vs. Thomas*, L.R. 6., Q.B. 514, was held to be an instrument of wagering, and to constitute the transaction, among the parties betting, a game of chance within the meaning of the Act 31 and 32 Vic., Chap. 52, s. 3. The Advocate-General has argued that the appliance for measuring the rain-fall constitutes the betting a game, and that the gauge is itself an instrument of gaming, within the meaning of Bombay Act 4 of 1887, s. 3, an enactment which strikes at gaming, but not in the preamble or elsewhere at wagering or betting. He relies on *Follett vs. Thomas*. He concedes that if two people meet together where there is a thermometer used for ordinary convenience or scientific purpose, and bet about the number of degrees of it which it will register in a given time, the thermometer is not an instrument of gaming, the bet is not a game, and the persons betting are not guilty under the enactment. But, as I understand the argument, the contention is, that if the thermometer is contrived and used only to facilitate the betting, then the bet, the chance, and the instrument constitute a game. I do not think this criterion can be accepted in construing the statute, which, as it interferes with the liberty of the subject, must be construed strictly (*Bowen vs. Henrich*, L.R., 9 C.P. p. 339), more especially as it shifts the onus of proof in certain circumstances from the prosecution to the accused. There would also be found great difficulty in practice in drawing the distinction, as evidence would have to be taken about the reason for having the particular gauge, watch, thermometer, or barometer made, and the various uses to which it might be applied. Moreover, the uncertainty would promote evasion, so in circumstances like those of *Hampden vs. Walsh*, L.R. 1, Q.B. p. 189, where there was a wager whether the world is round, and the wager was settled by certain tests agreed upon before and applied by the referees and umpire on a spot chosen, the question whether the bet was a game, whether the enactment had been broken, might depend on the question whether the scientific instruments used to ascertain curvature had been invented or made for the purpose or were ordinary instruments of survey. I do not think the case of *Follett vs. Thomas* goes as far as is contended. The English statute strikes at wagering and betting, so the *Pari Mutuel* machine was obviously within the mischief contemplated. It was held to be an instrument of betting. There is no law in India which makes wagering and betting unlawful. This Act against gaming does not mention those practices. Again, there are two other differences between the case of *Follett vs. Thomas*, and the case tried by the Chief Presidency Magistrate. In the former, it was argued and shown that

the amount of winnings did not depend solely on the result of the horse-race. Lord C. J. Cockburn says "Whether a horse-race be in itself a game of chance or not, we can entertain no doubt that, if some additional element of chance be introduced the wagering on a horse race may be converted into a game of chance." The *Pari Mutuel* arrangements introduced a variety of chances "independent of the issue of the race as well as the will and judgment of the winner, depending, as it does, on the will or caprice of the other persons betting" . . . "There being then this element of chance in the transaction among the parties betting, we think it may properly be termed, as among them, a game of chance." In the case before us this element did not exist, the rain-gauge only registered an operation of nature, and did in no wise, like the *Pari Mutuel* machine, increase the number of chances among the bettors themselves. Thus the reason on which *Follett vs. Thomas* was decided does not apply to the present case of a rain-gauge, which did not of itself create a new and peculiar form of diversion among the bettors, which in England might be treated as a game under the statute. The other distinction is that there is no horse-race or other sport or contest in this case as there was in *Follett vs. Thomas*. It must be repeated also that the learned Judges held that case to come within the mischief at which the English statute struck, namely, wagering and betting. But in India, as pointed out by the Chief Presidency Magistrate, the Legislature has refrained carefully from interfering with wagers or bets; and while enacting laws similar to those of England, relating to common gaming houses, has abstained from any enactment of laws about betting houses. There is no law here like the statute 16 and 17 Vic., chap. 119, which was passed for the suppression of betting houses, and makes them to be deemed gaming houses. The subject has been before the Legislature several times, and the omission to interfere by penal law with betting has doubtless been intentional. In 1848 it was decided by the Judicial Committee of her Majesty's Privy Council that the statute 8 and 9 Vic., chap. 109 (to amend the law concerning games and wagers) did not extend to India (4 Moore's I.A. p. 339), and that in the absence of statute, an action might be maintained on a wager. In the same year Act 21 of 1848 was passed as suggested by the Judicial Committee, declaring null and void all agreements by way of gaming and wagering. In Act 87 of 1867 an exception is made in favour of certain horse-racing transactions, and the rule and the exception are substantially reproduced in section 30 of the Indian Contract Act of 1872. The Indian laws go no further than to make wagering contracts void—they are not unlawful. The distinction is discussed fully in an unreported case—*Parakh vs. Ransordas*, P. J. 1875, p. 76—by Westrop, C. J.

That judgment incorporates another by Sir M. Sausse, in which also that learned Chief Justice discusses the English and Indian statute law, and affirms the unanimous judgment of the Supreme Court in *Ramlal vs. Dulabdas* that wagers were not illegal by Hindu law. "The state of Hindu law," says Sir M. Sausse, "on this subject appears to have been very analogous to that of British law before the statute 8 and 9 Vic., chap. 106, until which period wagers, generally, were unlawful contracts, although particular descriptions of them, such as gaming with dice, cards, &c., were rendered illegal by statute." It is also not to be forgotten that the Indian Legislature, in amending the Indian Penal Code, re-enacted as section 294, a law of 1884, which treated lotteries as transactions which may be authorised by Government itself. The Indian Legislature has never felt itself opposed against wagering and betting in the several terms used in the Preambles to the English statutes. If this Court were to hold that a bet is converted into a game, and the betting house into a gaming house, and the bettors there into offenders against the criminal law, because a rain-gauge or hour-glass or other measure is contrived and used to settle the bet, I think the Court would assume to itself the work of legislation which Parliament has confided to another authority. Except by a metaphorical use of the word, contrary to the ordinary as well as the statutory use, a bet cannot, for the purposes of criminal law, be treated as a game. The common and legal use of the latter word coincides substantially; it required express enactment to make betting houses to be deemed gaming houses. What the law treats as a game can be gathered from the statutes reviewed in *Jenks vs. Turpin*, L.R. 13, Q.B. D. 505, e.g., 16 Car 2 C. 7, where cards, dice, e.g., tables, tennis, bowls, skittles, shovel board, cock-fighting, horse-races, dog-matches, foot-races, are mentioned before the more general words "other pastimes, game, or games whatsoever." According to Bacon's Abridgement, gaming, a foot-race, and horse-race, are games within the statute; so, it seems, is cricket. In the present case, where money is staked on an operation of nature, and the instrument is a mere measure of the operation, I am of opinion that that amusement provided by the keeper of the house, who makes an income by allowing the bettors to come there and use the rain-gauge as a means of deciding the event of the bet, is not a game; and that the house is not a common gaming house within the meaning of Bombay Act 4 of 1887. I am also of opinion that the Act is not directed against betting and wagering practices, except as connected with games.

The Court therefore dismissed the appeal.

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(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,  
Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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1, Dackoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street,  
CALCUTTA.

**OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.**

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little *brochure* written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridood Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman. — *The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*, October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in

each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river: [Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye.—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course [Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting.—[Extract.] *The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious; he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree. "A naked Whiteman" hints his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes." But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in. *The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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# Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 1889.

No. 371

## TRUE MAGIC.

TO W. W. S.

I.

THERE dwelt of late by Tiber's flow  
A Sage of aspect to inspire  
Weird thoughts in those who marked the glow  
Of eyes where Rosicrucian fire  
Gleamed hollow, and whose look remote  
Some far-off mystery seemed to note.

II.

'Twas rumoured, those who sought the tower  
Where lone and vigil-worn he sat  
All darkling at the midnight hour,  
Consorting with the owl and bat,  
Came forth with pallid lips to tell  
Of ghostly things that there befell

III.

For he could bid a slumberer's thought  
Through time and space its passage wing,  
With news by docile spirits brought  
Could make the smitten table ring,  
And e'en (dread thought!) from dust could raise  
Like life the folk of other days.

IV.

Much of these feats did he impart  
To one, a fellow-sojourner  
For Art's sake in this realm of Art,  
As once they left the city's stir  
And passed beyond the ancient wall  
Along the broad-browed Viminal.

V.

Replied this last, "Faith, too, have I  
In arts which may the dead restore;  
Dost ask example?—see, hard by,  
The studio of my friend:—its door  
To us (though absent he, of late)  
Is free,"—and so they entered straight.

VI.

The Wizard, rapt, paced dreamily  
The studio round; with absent glance  
Passed all the noble statues by,  
Preferring to recall, perchance,  
What yesternight's long *séance* gave  
Of tidings from beyond the grave.

VII.

"Mark," said the other, "how my friend  
Makes his unbodied thoughts our own,  
Persuades the plastic forms to blend,  
Then turns them into breathing stone;  
Almost with awe I look around,  
And half believe 'tis holy ground.

VIII.

"See where yon' block of Parian stone  
Awaits his hand:—within it lie  
Love, hate, joy, anguish;—he alone  
The shrouded passion can descry;  
His chisel is the wand of might  
Will bring the latent soul to light.

IX.

"What Art divine, to rend the veil  
That wraps the beings of the past!  
Nay, more, the spirit's husk and shale,  
Its accidents, aside to cast,  
Till in these forms around we view  
The master-motive shining through.

X.

"The soft Egyptian musing here  
Forgets her queenly pomp and sway;  
Love's vassal she; in thought she's near  
Her amorous Roman far away;  
Creeps in her ear the splash of Nile,  
By Tiber strays her soul the while.

XI.

"Now mark the Queen whose pomp of soul  
Made Babylon a dwelling fit  
For gods:—here will that scorns control,  
And pride, and lust of empire, sit  
Enthroned;—if Love may venture nigh  
'Tis with trailed wing and abject eye.

XII.

"Wouldst view the god in fairer guise?  
See here in Sappho's form he beams,  
All thrilling in a soft surprise  
She harks to tones late heard in dreams,  
With lips that murmur, eyes that long—  
The spirit of a Paphian song.

XIII.

"Canst show, with all thy magic power,  
How, 'neath an evil spirit's wing,  
A soul is darkened? In his hour  
Of rayless gloom see Saul the King,  
Majestic still though sore oppress'd,  
Clutching the beard that hides his breast."

XIV.

The Wizard paused before reply,  
As one whose thoughts are elsewhere,  
"These forms are born of fantasy,  
And wrought by other hands would bear  
Another aspect—I evoke  
The people as they walked and spoke.

XV.

"No fancies:—those we call the dead  
Are close to hearing and to sight;  
To lure them from the world we dread  
Needs but a nature tuned aright,

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11/12 M. X. 10

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## XVI.

"If, of this necromantic power  
You ask for proof, come visit me  
In private and propitious hour,  
When, duly reverent, you shall see  
The forms of those yourself shall name.  
King, poet, warrior, winsome dame.

## XVII.

"At my command, the self-same face  
That Antony upturned to kiss  
Shall smile on you—your eye shall trace  
The features of Semiramis;  
And, as dead Samuel rose for Saul,  
The Hebrew king, obey my call.

## XVIII.

"Sappho in lyric utterance  
Herself shall manifest—you'll hear  
What held all Lesbos listening once."  
Observed the sculptor's friend "I fear  
'Twill show, if her authentic verse,  
How death has changed her for the worse

## XIX.

"But not alone live here again  
Those who once were in the shadows vast  
Whose birthplace was a poet's brain  
Take substance, or a people past,  
Or vanished faith, compact is brought  
Before our eyes, in marble wrought.

## XX.

"I know not if Medea stood  
One moment to inflame her heart  
With thoughts of Glauco, that the flood  
Of jealous rage might force impart  
To flash aloft yon dagger bare  
But, if she did—behold her there "

## XXI.

"Grief veils, as twilight veils the sky,  
The beauty of this maiden's face,  
Touches the features tenderly,  
Transmutes, not hides, the charm and grace.  
Lone princess, all her glories fled,  
Jerusalem mourns, uncomfortable

## XXII.

"That listening Sibyl, rapt and awed  
Hears through the stillness of the shrine  
Dread tokens of the coming God;  
From those sad lips the will divine,  
Dim prescience, wisdom veiled, would come  
Ere yet the oracles were dumb

## XXIII.

"Here are no fading ghosts, mere things  
Of air As in the Pharaoh's land  
The giant forms of ancient kings  
Rise vast above the desert-sand,  
So, o'er the flats of everyday,  
The larger life that these portray

## XXIV.

"Thus, the true magic, can compel  
True homage, both of mind and heart  
And he who wields such potent spell,  
Endowed by nature, nursed by art,  
May claim inheritance through these  
With Phidias and Praxiteles."

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

WE reproduce, for the benefit of our readers, a fine poem which was published a few years ago in a leading London periodical. We do not recognise the writer, but "W. W. S." whom he addresses in this high classical and artistic strain, is evidently Mr. William Story, the eminent Sculptor-Poet who has, from a long time past, made Rome his home, where he has executed many works of art and whence he has issued many books, literary as well as technical. We recently offered a splendid little piece from Mr. Story's pen. Who that has once read will ever forget the vigorous stanzas in our issue of the 6th April? It will certainly do mankind good to remember the moral of the Hymn to the Conquered.

\*\*

ON Saturday last, the Bengal Legislative Council passed the Bill for the protection of emigrant coolies in the labour district of Assam. The Council meet again on the 11th of next month.

.

SIR Stuart Bayley left for Chittagong on Thursday, by the British India steamer *Kistna*. He is accompanied by the Chief Secretary, the Public Works Secretary and the Private Secretary. He is expected to leave Chittagong on the 5th proximo by the steamer *Kapurthala*.

.

THE Lieutenant-Governor has published his intention to direct, under section 45 of the Indian Forest Act (VII of 1878), that the river Kusi and its channels within the districts of Bhagulpore and Purneah are areas within which all unmarked wood and timber, and all wood and timber on which the marks have been obliterated or defaced by fire or otherwise, are deemed to be the property of Government, unless or until any person establishes his right and title thereto under the provisions of the said Act and the rules made under it. The proposed rules with regard to the collection of drift timber in the Kusi river, in the districts of Bhagulpore and Purneah, are also published.

\*\*

FOLLOWING the example of the N. W. P. Government, the Government of Bengal has agreed to permit rent being paid by means of postal money-orders, and has published the draft rules on that behalf, inviting objections if any. The system has succeeded in the collection and payment of land revenue. The rayyets of Uttarbarh-Jhampardah, in the Howrah district, at war with their landlord, applied for the concession. The experiment will be first tried experimentally in the Burdwan Division, from the 1st July 1889. If the working for six months prove acceptable, the system will be further extended.

.

SENIOR Francisco Vasco Guedes succeeds Senhor Cardozo Carvalho as Governor-General of Goa.

.

THE Maharaja of Benares had been seriously ill of fever. We are glad he is improving.

.

THE Railway between Bhojpur and Porebunder has been completed.

\*\*

THE Public Works Account's Committee have retired to Simla to draw up their final report.

.

MR. W. B. OLDHAM having obtained furlough for eighteen months. Mr. H. Lee, from the 24-Pergunnahs, acts as Magistrate and Collector of Burdwan.

.

MR. E. V. WESTMACOTT's time being up in the Port Commission. Baboo Jaggannath Khunnah has been appointed a Commissioner in his stead.

.

THE Second Criminal Sessions will commence on Monday next, Mr. Justice NORMAN presiding. We may expect some sensation, for the Calcutta Corporation stands charged with committing a nuisance.

.

THE Yearly Examination of Candidates for the Fourth Grade of Accountant, Public Works Department, will begin on Monday the 3rd June, at the Civil Engineering College, Seebpore.

THE session of the Engineer Department of the Civil Engineering College, Seebpore, begins on Monday the 3rd June. Applications for admission to the Mechanical Apprentice Department must be filed before 25th May.

THE week's *Calcutta Gazette* publishes the price-lists of staple food-crops in the local areas of Bengal, prepared under section 30 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, VIII of 1885, for the period from 1st October to 31st December 1888.

THE Dhurmtolla Street is one of the best in the Town. But the stables on both sides of its banks make it impassable from Wellington Square to the maidan. We would draw the attention of the Corporation to the unhealthiness of this portion of the street.

BEFORE a bench of magistrates in the Midlands, a well known lady was charged with shooting game without a license. In defence, the plea was that she had acted on impulse, having been asked to take a gun by a gentleman of the shooting party. It was found that she was engaged in the sport for two hours, too long for an impulse, and she was fined £2 and costs.

A FRENCH Raja Brooke has turned up at Paris. The *Civil and Military Gazette's* correspondent there recently mentioned a M. de Mayrena, who, after various incidents of travel in the East, found his way to the Principality of Sedang, where he has lately been elected King, whence he has gone back to France on a political mission. All this is romantic if true, but the previous question is, Where is Sedang?

A MOST interesting literary and historical "find" has been made in Great Britain. The *Indian Planter's Gazette's* Home Correspondent reports:—

"Not since the late Mr. I like discovered the great store of Pope and Caryll manuscripts, together with the autograph letters of King James II. and other distinguished personages, among the mouldering lumber of an outhouse at West Grimsted, has so interesting a discovery been announced as that of which Mr. Maxwell Lyte tells us in the introduction to his Report on the Duke of Rutland's Manuscript. Other eyes and hands had been at work in exploring the papers at Belvoir, but Mr. Lyte was not satisfied with the meagre results, and his perseverance was soon rewarded with a bundle of documents, comprising a letter of the Duke of Clarence, the hero of the 'butt of Malmsey' legend, whom Mr. Mansfield by the way has rather unceremoniously dismissed from his acting version of Richard III. More fortunate still, in looking for this bundle, he came across a key labelled 'key of old writings over stable,' and, guided by this hint, repaired to certain old stables at the bottom of the hill on which the castle stands. Here it was that, in a loft under the roof, he finally came upon a vast mass of ancient papers. Cobwebs hung from the rafters; dust, broken plaster, and dirt lay thick upon piles of documents standing three or four feet high, and leaving scarcely standing room. The rats had done their work in gnawing and staining, and many a paper which might have shed light on disputed points of history was found to be irretrievably damaged; but in the course of the first half hour the explorer found an autograph letter of Lord Burleigh, side by side with a letter of Charles James Fox. Rattled fragments of a letter of the Earl of Leicester, with other more legible gossiping letters from the Court of Elizabeth next repaid his toil. Then came more letters of the Duke of Clarence, with others from Warwick, the king maker, King Edward IV., the tyrant Richard, and his great adversary, the Duke of Richmond."

THE East India Association, which had not been heard of for a long time, has again entered appearance. They recently got up a very good meeting at the Westminster Town Hall. Sir Roper Lethbridge, M. P., presided and Mr. C. W. Whish read a paper on the Indian National Congress and the Indian Patriotic Association. We have not seen the text of the paper, but as reported it was a distinct condemnation of the Congress and its methods of agitation. According to Mr. Whish,

"the Indian National Congress might perhaps be described as the first attempt on the part of British India to demand a constitution and to aspire to representative self-government. Its members, among whom might be found representatives of nearly all the various races and creeds of Hindustan, claimed that they formed an Indian national party. Certain definite demands for reform in administration had already been formulated, including an examination for the Indian Civil Service in India itself, the practical abolition of the Arms Act, separation of the judicial and executive services, facilities for the attainment of commissions in the Army by natives of India, and the permission of native volunteering and representation through elected members in the councils of the Empire. Some of the methods employed by the reformers in furthering their views appeared particularly objectionable. The Government must do one of three things—either oppose, encourage, or compromise the congress. The contingency existed and must be faced. The English Government in India was peculiarly in need of some agency by which it could be brought into touch with the people.

It was to be feared that far too wide a gulf separated the rulers from the ruled for the former to be able rightly to understand the feelings, needs, and aspirations of the latter without some intermediary. However, there was much in the Nationalist programme which no Government ought to permit to continue, and it was the deliberate opinion of many by no means extreme politicians that the political propagandism of the congress must be put a stop to if a catastrophe was to be averted. Whichever way one turned a difficulty came to view, leading to the conclusion that a compromise was inevitable."

We can understand Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji's feelings on reading the report of this meeting. He it was that, by immense exertions involving great sacrifices, set up the East India Association. To what base uses has it come! must now be his reflection. Our friend Major Evans Bell has already gone to Heaven, or he would have felt the same mortification.

THE Allahabad High Court—Messrs. Justices Straight and Mahmood—are engaged on a boy conversion case. Last week, one Sarat Chunder Chuckerbutty applied to their Lordships for the restoration to his custody of his younger brother Satya Saran from that of the Revs. J. J. Lucas and H. Forman, missionaries of the American Presbyterian Church, on the following grounds:—

"1st.—That he is the elder brother and guardian of one Satya Saran Chuckerbutty, a minor, aged about 15 years, who, having been educated in the Jumna Mission School, passed the University entrance examination in March 1887 from that school, and has all along prosecuted his studies in that school, and was prosecuting his studies before last Christmas in the Muri College, Allahabad, at the expense and under the guardianship of the petitioner. 2nd.—That the respondents, being connected with the Jumna Mission School, on the 25th December 1887, baptised the said Satya Saran in the Jumna Mission Church, and the petitioner became cognisant of this fact on the 26th December 1887. 3rd.—That on the 29th December 1887 the said Satya Saran having intimated by letter to the said defendants his intention to renounce the Christian religion, the said defendants came to the petitioner's house, and demanded from the petitioner the surrender of the said Satya Saran, which the petitioner refused to do. 4th.—That on the 30th December 1887 the said defendants, without the knowledge or consent of the petitioner, improperly removed the said Satya Saran from the guardianship of the petitioner, and are now keeping him in their custody without any legal authority or permission. 5th.—That the petitioner has several times called the defendants to make over the said Satya Saran to him, but the defendants have refused to do so."

Mr. D. Banerji appeared for the applicant, and Mr. Howard and Mr. Alston for the Reverend gentlemen. They filed a counter-petition from the boy Satya Saran, in which he gives his age as 17, and that he, of his own free will, received baptism at the hands of Mr. Forman at Allahabad, and that, after his baptism, he went to his house where his brother made him to undergo purification and tell his neighbours that he had only intended conversion, but had not been baptised, that he had to bow to the goddess Durga and to drink of the *churanamrita* of his mother, and that he was afraid of his life if sent to reside with his brother who had threatened to kill him and Mr. Forman and then himself, if he did not do as directed. Both the brothers were examined by the Judges, and the case was adjourned *sine die* for order.

IN a letter, without date, the District Magistrate of Rajshahye Mr. H. A. D. Phillips, who has grown to be a terror to the local Zemindars, thus reports the accident at Madhanagor to the *Englishman*:—

"There seems to have been a small tornado such as that which occurred last year in the districts of Dacca and Pubna. To the west of the scene of the accident is an extensive beel stretching for miles, and it was across this beel that the wind came with immense velocity, travelling from south-west to north-east. On the west of the railway and near it are some villages, both to the north and south of the beel, and as the wind was backed up between the high land on either side its force and speed were, of course, enormously increased. The railway embankment is high, and the pressure of the wind through the space under the bridge must have been very great. The bridge is an open bridge, and the wind seems to have come from underneath and lifted the train off the rails. Had this not occurred, the rails would have been torn up, and the permanent way damaged. In one or two places can be observed the marks of wheels on the centre of the sleeper between the two rails, and similar marks on the masonry abutment outside. The width between the marks is just the width of the gauge. This shows that the train was bodily lifted up. The bridge has no rail or parapet on either side, but had one existed, it could not have prevented the train from going off."

"It is believed that there were about 125 passengers in the train, 40 regular passengers, and the rest coolies. There was no first class passenger. There was a European or Eurasian in the train, by name Macdonald, and he is said to have behaved very well, and to have rendered much assistance to the railway people. 69 persons were treated for wounds of various sorts, but only ten were severely wounded. Three people were killed, and one has since died. It is possible that there are other bodies lying under the carriages in the water. Nine carriages fell from the bridge into the water, a height of about 25 feet. Seven were completely capsized. Four carriages were smashed and crushed while three were not much injured. Had the accident happened in the

dark, there must have been greater loss of life, the doors being jammed to. The depth of the water is only three feet. Two carriages were smashed to pieces, and I fancy that these may have been rather older carriages than the others.

"As I have said, nobody seems to have been to blame, but possibly further departmental inquiries may disclose some fault or defect."

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

OUR prediction has come true to the letter, after all! Belgium would not—could not allow any Boulangering nonsense in her territory. Finding that country too hot for him, the General has crossed over to England. He arrived at Charing Cross station on the 24th, where both groins and cheers awaited him.

For libelling M. Raynal, ex-Minister of Public Works, M. Gilly, one of the members of the Chamber of Deputies, has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

IN Russia, the Nihilists continue to be the terror. Their activity is now directed to manufacturing bombs at Zurich. Warned by the Prefect of St. Petersburg, the Czar had to forego his presence at the funeral of one of the ministers on the 20th.

FATHER MCFADDEN, charged with complicity in the murder of District Inspector Martin at Gweedore on 3rd February, along with two female and eighteen male peasants, has been let out on bail.

Mr. Conybeare, who championed the tenants at recent evictions in Donegal, has been charged with conspiracy to resist the law.

Mr. Parnell's Scotch action against the *Times* was non-suited for want of jurisdiction. He has since withdrawn his Irish suit.

An Indian loan of £3,500,000 at 3 per cent., for constructing railways in India and discharging debentures, has been floated by Lord Cross in England.

NAWAB Mehdi Ali had resigned his office as Finance Minister of the Nizam's Dominions, to point his disapproval of the course now adopted in connection with the Mining concessions. He could not well go out altogether, and has since been prevailed upon to withdraw his resignation.

Nawab Mehdi Ali Khan has shown his spirit by resigning. Having persisted in his opposition to the Medhi Hasan settlement supported by the Premier, that was the only course by which he could maintain his honour when, under the decision of the British Indian Foreign Office, that scheme was adopted. It was a protest not only against the local Vizier but also against the Government of India itself. Sir Asman Jah would not accept his resignation. He felt that with Mehdi Ali the ablest man in the ministry would depart and his administration would be utterly weakened. We should not be surprised to learn that Sir Asman Jah received a demi-official hint from Simla not to allow the withdrawal of the offended Secretary in the Finance Department. Nawab Mehdi Ali is not a common man. He has friends too in England who would doubtless have inquired of Her Majesty's Secretary of State the cause of the Nawab's resignation. Then the whole intrigue about the settlement with the notorious Deccan Mining Company would have come before Parliament and the public.

THE Calcutta University has been unusually late this time in publishing the results of the examinations. It is not yet known when we shall hear the last of the examinations. To-day we are only given the list of successful L. M. S. and B. A. s. In the first L. M. S., there are 11 and in the second 15 students, all from the Medical College. The B. A. list, from various colleges and institutions, gives the number 317, besides the Honours in the same examination. Here, we find, in English, First Division, 9, the Presidency College heading the list and returning 6. Next, the Metropolitan Institution giving 2 and the City College making up the total with its only one. The second Division has passed 37. Mathematics, 1st Division 4, 2nd, 14. Mental and Moral Science, 1st Division 5, 2nd, 18. Physics and Chemistry, 1st Division 5, 2nd, 8. History and Political Economy, 1st Division 1, 2nd, 3. Sanskrit, 1st Division 2, 2nd, 16. Persian, 1st Division 1. The Presidency College, in every instance, returns the most successful candidate in the order of merit. The Entrance result is expected in another fortnight. The First Arts is yet far off.

THE Calcutta Corporation lately passed a Resolution asking for power to control the sale of exciseable articles in their jurisdiction. The missionaries, as represented in their Calcutta Conference, have joined suit and memorialized the Bengal Government for the transfer of the authority to the local municipality.

IN Kurnool, in the Madras Presidency, the municipality derives an income from its street sweepings. The receipts equal Rs. 82 per annum for every thousand of the population. The attention of the other municipalities has been drawn by Government to the fact, with a view to an additional source of income. Here in Calcutta, the refuse is chiefly utilized for the reclamation of the salt lake. But Mr. Harrington has proposed to the Municipality to burn them all, for a consideration not exceeding the cost of their cartage.

The sweepings are removed from the streets at stated hours. The horse-droppings continue the greatest nuisance in the streets always. Can nothing be done to remove it? Why not farm the droppings out and raise an income and at the same time keep the streets clean of them?

CALCUTTA is rather a formidable place. There is never much charity between competitors in the same line, and we are so rich in shams and humbugs that we are apt to suspect every stranger as an additional burden. See how narrowly Mr. Spencer—a hereditary aeronaut of wide celebrity—escaped being hooted out as an imposter without common honesty! When at last he showed the stuff that was in him and indeed made a hit, carrying the hearts and the imagination of his detractors away with him in his seemingly wild flight high up the sky towards the Sunderbuns, he was not long allowed to enjoy his glory. The irrepressible Bengali entered appearance in the field as a rival, to show that there was nothing surprising in the feat of swimming in the air and disappearing in the clouds in a balloon. One Baboo Ram Chunder Chatterjee accompanied Mr. Spencer on his next ascent. Emboldened by his success on that occasion and encouraged doubtless by Spencer's instruction, he has announced his intention of going up this afternoon by himself, alone. Meanwhile, aeronautics itself has been reduced to an absurdity by the juvenile genius and ambition of Babudom. A native correspondent of the *Indian Daily News*, who, by the way, writes well, says that ballooning is the Baboo rage of the hour. It is the only subject of conversation in native society. It would seem that the Congress and Mr. Hume and even the substantial grievance of our friend Captain Hearsey have been already forgotten by a patriotic public. Why does not Sir Syed Ahmed Khan raise a subscription to invite Mr. Spencer to the Upper Provinces, to give a diversion to the minds of our people there now surcharged with the Congress past and future? Here, our very boys are after the balloon. And not in thought only but also in deed. Baboo N. N. Dass clinches his argument with this crowning anecdote of *Penfant terrible* of Young Bengal.—

"The desire to make such ascents has nevertheless taken a deep root in the native mind, and your readers will be astonished to hear of an attempt made in this direction by a little child. Master Hera Lal Chatterjee, a boy of six years of age, and the son of Baboo Behari Lal Chatterjee, of Rajah Rajbullub's Street, was asked by his playfellows yesterday (Ap. 21) whether he could descend from the top of a two-storied house by means of a parachute. The plucky fellow immediately replied that this would be the most pleasant thing to do, and getting hold of a broken umbrella proceeded to make it something approaching to a parachute by tying ropes round it. This done he ran up to the roof of his house which is a two-storied one, and is nearly 40 feet in height, and, moving round the so-called parachute in the air two or three times, threw himself down from the roof, before any one had time to say a word. There were many elderly boys present, who, had they known that the little child would really commit such an act of foolhardiness, would certainly have prevented him. The moment he let himself down from the roof, a cry was raised by the youthful spectators all round, who thought that their brave companion would be crushed to pieces in a second. By that time, however, the little fellow had reached the ground quite unhurt, and laughing heartily."

THE enthusiasm with which the southern reformers have set to work in promoting social amelioration, bids fair to be crowned with a considerable measure of success. Already, some twenty-eight high caste widow marriages have taken place. And there is no disposition to be content with this result. Old Dewan Bhahadoor Raghunath Rao is vigorously at work. He has called a Congress at Madras for consolidating the reform organisation. Here is his manifesto:—

"A meeting of the Re-marriage Association of Madras will be held in the premises of the Mahajana Sabha office at the *Hindu* office, at



5 P. M., on the 21st April 1889. All the resident members of the Association are requested to attend. All similar Associations and those sympathising with the former in the Mofussil are requested to depute one or more of its members to attend the meeting, or to appoint some residents of Madras to represent them at the meeting, furnishing them with a memo, showing what they may have done towards the realisation of the objects of the Association up to the end of 1888, and offering suggestions for the more efficient working of the same in future. At this meeting the question of the affiliation of these Associations with National Social Conference of India will be discussed. All sympathisers with both these Associations are earnestly requested to attend.

We confess we are sanguine of the ultimate success of the effort. But whether they succeed or no, so long as the reformers proceed on strictly Hindu, though of course liberal, lines, they deserve the full sympathy of every right-minded and feeling member of our community.

THE same remark applies to Mr. Malabari's reform. He has exhausted his wild oats in the line and is now moderation itself, and we cannot understand the jealousy with which he is still regarded in certain quarters, still less the malignity with which he is pursued. On principle, we are opposed to legislative interference with a social life having its roots in religion, and specially the interference of a legislature of foreigners. But no such objection holds in the case of the proposal to raise the age qualifications. That is already a matter of British law. But the law is obviously defective, and it is but reasonable that it should be amended. It would be a strange superstition that would not allow an enactment made in our generation to be touched.

THE Berlin Beauty Competition has ended disastrously. Beauty was all right, as became her, good soul and charming creature! but the male Beast spoiled the interesting fair. To keep off professionals, the jury were young married men and betrothed bachelors. The contention over the Golden Apple was here multiplied as many times as there were judges to adjudge the prize. Each considered his own the worthiest. From words the judges went to blows. The competitors left in terror. The police rushed in and closed the tournament. It is said 18 champions were wounded. And this is civilization!

SIR Comer Petheram had been neither to Barrackpore—where preparations had been made for his reception—nor to Darjeeling, as has been announced in the papers. He is at Kurseong, and is regaining his health. It is not yet known whether he takes leave. It does not matter.

THE heat and close atmosphere of the last two days is made bearable to-day by a south-easter. The squall prevented Ram Chunder taking his projected flight into the sky.

WE would draw the attention of our readers to the municipal advertisements elsewhere regarding licenses to be taken out for carriages and horses and trades, professions and callings. Horses and carriages must be licensed for the current half-year before the next month begins. We think it also necessary to point out that, as the author of the Act, Sir Henry Harrison improves upon the law by the addition of the declaration appended. The law as it is does not, that we can see, require any person to bind himself as the Chairman would wish. Neither the Act quoted nor the schedule makes any allusion to the verification.

Persons exercising any profession, trade or calling must take out their licenses at the old rate, before the 1st July. Any one who considers himself liable under a lower class, or exempt from the tax, must apply with particulars before that date.

WE hope the Chairman of the Corporation will not be as hard as his notice, in the collection of the House-rate for the last quarter of the expired year 1888-89. Two quarters' bills are payable during the current quarter. It would indeed be a hardship if the strict letter of the law were enforced in the realization of the bills. The Chairman has quoted both the old and the new Acts in support of his demand and intention to collect the bills by process of law, on expiry of a week after presentation. But the Chairman, in his eagerness to clear old accounts and to set the new Act agoing easy, forgets the practice and the rules saved by the new law, which require twice presentation of the bills and allow the Collector full one quarter to realize them. It would be in perfect keeping with the old and the new law, if both the bills were collected by 30th June. It is not necessary for the purposes of the Act that no bills for the current quarter should be issued till after the return of the previous quarter's bills by the Collector.

THE friends of the newly discovered Nestor of the bar, who has, for thirty years, been presiding at the unknown tribunal of public opinion that daily sits in the backslums of the High Court premises, are in great glee. They have wrung out a rejoinder from our Grandmother's Journal to the reply we gave it for its foolish championing of the said Nestor. They are hawking it about as a fine specimen of *galee* of the Grand Old Thersites. And, of course, we are undone. Only, we don't perceive it. Do any of our readers see the poor thing dancing on the skirts of our certainly "characteristic cap" that "points" its scorn at humbugs of all sorts? As for the satires of old Hans, we might well reply in Lessing's epigram. Hans

Has published satires upon me, you say,

Which vilify sorely my words and my deeds;

Pooh, *publish*?—poor Hans, let him scribble away,

That can scarce be call'd "*publish'd*" which nobody reads.

We had already administered our crusher, which will yet find its victims, to use a homely Bengali expression, dead in their respective quarters, from agony. If we now notice the feeble essay of the worm to turn round, it is out of some compassion for an old love. The *Hindoo Patriot* is visibly sinking so fast that it is doing it a good turn to notice it, even for rebuke or chastisement. Soon the poor thing will not be heard of.

It is widely recognised as the Sick Man of the Native Press. It has for some time been in a miserable state. And now the malady, having travelled from the extremities to the trunk, has gone up to the topmost regions. The doctors had advised a change of air, but the change must be thorough to give any ground for hope. Deoghar will not do, but the poor patient has been too long accustomed to Mohant's *persad* to move from that retreat. He must go to sea and make for Europe, and as far north as Perthshire, to have the benefit of the famous springs.

The *Patriot* under its present *régime* is too hard of sense to be felled by the classic axe. It is the veritable Scotch block requiring a surgical operation to make it perceive wit. In its low vitality it may be said to bear a charmed life. Knock it down, upset it, kick it over and over, and still it moves like Gahleo's earth. Haul it over the coals, and it only groans. Therein only it is English and no mistake. The stupid British, cried Napoleon, they know not when they are beaten!

Who shames a scribbler? Break one cobweb through,

He spins the slight, self-pleasing thread anew.

Destroy his fib or sophistry; in vain,

The creature's at his dirty work again.

And so it still makes a show, grunting and squeaking at us!

We have given it mortal offence for telling the truth about its condition.

Is there no hope, the sick man said,

The silent doctor shook his head.

And the sick man wants to dismiss the brave doctor who performs his melancholy duty without flinching, and tells every visitor that he is a fool and wears motley and—worst crime of all in the eyes of the naked and bare-headed Bengali—sports a "pointed cap"—the most distinguished headdress in the country.

Notwithstanding its condition patent to all the world, the *Patriot* has a good opinion of itself, and a very poor opinion of its neighbours. It pretends to turn up its nose at others' Billingsgate, but its delicate self itself hails from no more aristocratic neighbourhood than Balliaghata and Chingrihata. Accordingly, it has indited a peculiarly fishy paragraph. It calls itself the Triton and us the minnow. Pro-di-gious! This quite beats the aspiring frog in the fable hollow! And it talks of "blowing its wreathed horn to soothe the turbulent waves, and riding away!" Thank you, Martinus Scriblerus for that magnificent prose. Thou hast surely written thyself down an ass, and no mistake. The next time we shall find thee "riding on the whirlwind and directing the storm!"

As for calling us *wretched, rash, intruding, fool, cad*, and what not, why, thou art welcome to play with the whole dictionary, but nothing will alter facts. Thou mightest as well call thy "governor" *salu*, as call one who would lose caste if he stooped to be thy *gooroo*—thy spiritual guide here and hereafter—"cad." The truth is, as the Persian of old sang, the Almighty deprives of reason those whom he forsakes.

But for a' that and a' that, thank you for your new Tritonship. You will surely blow your wreathed horn, and are quite competent to control the turbulent waves. But you forget that you have only one voice, whether you aspire to the Triton's horn or Jove's thunderbolt. The bray is undisguisable.

One last word about the Suburban meeting which has been exercising poor Nestor and his friends. If a respectable man will come to us be-

tween 10 and 2 in the day, we will satisfy his curiosity. The thing is in print. We have had enough of Nestor and his crew—unless they again give offence. In spite of all we have said about him, we have spared an old friend who wilfully gave the first provocation.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 1889.

### TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN BOMBAY.

TECHNICAL education has been fairly established in Bombay. Well may the Western Presidency congratulate itself upon being the first in this new field. The commercial character of Bombay as well as the well-known liberality of its citizens, points to that city as, of all others, the natural leader in an experiment of this kind. Bombay having now set the example, let the rest of the country follow. The success also which has already attended the first start of the movement in Bombay, is full of hope for all in the future. Lord Reay, in formally opening the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, felt just pride for the signal success which has been attained in a few months of its existence. This his Lordship attributed to the fact that, in setting to work, the Government had not waited for a programme. The Institute was placed under a strong representative committee, thoroughly conversant with the wants of the community, and then left to shape its own course, without being tied down by a preliminary hard and fast programme at the beginning. The advantages of this course and the dangers of insisting upon a programme to start with, were set forth in Lord Reay's inaugural speech with a charming freedom and candour. "In these few months of its existence," said Lord Reay, "the success has been signal and more than I could have expected, and it is greatly due to the fact that in starting this institution we did not yield to the cry with which we were met when we first thought of inaugurating technical schools. Where is your programme? Well, if we had been unwise enough to lay down a hard-and-fast programme, I doubt very much that we should have been here to-day. Nothing is easier than to draft programmes. Those who asked for it only wanted it for purposes of criticism. We should have been told that our programme was not definite enough or not comprehensive enough or too ambitious, and finally that we had not carried it out. We did not publish programmes; we did not publish many Government Resolutions; the only way in which technical education in India will prosper is to place such institutions under the guardianship of men who know the wants of the community and who are able to deal with these wants from close personal knowledge." One of the great dangers in starting is "to aim higher than the wants of technical education at the present moment demand." This has been avoided by the appointment of a committee possessed of practical experience of the needs of the community and the selection in Mr. Phythean of a Principal who is at once possessed of sound judgment and devotion to the cause of technical education. Steps have also been taken to secure a thoroughly scientific and sound teaching.

Technical education in the Bombay Presidency is placed in three divisions. First, there is the Polytechnic College of Science in Poona. Secondly, the Technical or Art School for dealing with Art in its application to Industries. The third division embraces all that is not included in the first two, and

will be taken in hand when the Arts School has been completely developed. Lord Reay dwelt with satisfaction on the equipment of the Institute. "That special side of technical education—art applied to industry—finds its natural home in the Arts School. And I should not have been satisfied with what has been done here if I had not been able to give to the Arts School for the Art-industries the development it required. That has been done, and that being so, this institute, standing on its own proper footing, will hold its own against all comers, if it sticks to the programme which has been laid down, and which must ultimately take up the whole ground of what I have called the third division, all which does not properly belong to the two other divisions." The equipment of the Institute, satisfactory as it is for the short time it has been in existence, is still wanting in some things to make it complete. These were pointed out by the Governor of Bombay and comprise a laboratory for technical chemistry; dyeing silk, wool, cotton and vegetable fibres, bleaching and calico-printing; electrical engineering classes; a museum of industrial and commercial products; a hosiery department; a library; in the cotton department a department of research into the construction of ancient designs, and the formation, if possible, of original designs; and short-hand writing. His Lordship concluded with supporting the movement against the alarm which it has aroused in Europe. If the multiplication of technical schools in European cities has raised up opponents against them there, India offers a virgin field for the experiment, and the need of technical education is too really recognised to fear any similar opposition. Lord Reay also referred to the admiration commonly expressed for the old apprentice system in Europe at the expense of modern technical education. With all that may be urged in its favour, the apprentice system lacked the benefit of scientific training, and it is only a self-evident truth that a training in the rudiments of science must confer manifest advantages which were absent from the old system.

### THE BURMAN AS HE IS.

UNTIL the other day, I was in ignorance of the existence of a pamphlet entitled, "The Burman As He Is," by Mr. James H. Linton, and published at the Methodist Publishing House. The pamphlet, I learn, gives not only the personal experience and observations of Mr. Linton, but as well the expressed views of many Englishmen, old residents of Burma, of the real character of the Burmese.

The author without hesitation acknowledges having freely availed himself of Commissioner Birgg's graphic description of the Burmese. Mr. Birgg's authority on matters in connection with Burma, as a disinterested and independent writer, is unquestionable and the very best guarantee Mr. Linton could give with reference to the accuracy of his statements. The valuable influence of such candid expressions can hardly be over-estimated. It gives me very great pleasure and satisfaction to be able to confirm every sentiment expressed in Mr. Linton's *brochure*, more so that it confirms my assertions in the article lately contributed to this journal, "How to Pacify Burma." It is something to know that I stand not alone in disinterestedly reviewing the present unhappy state of Burma.

In his pamphlet, Mr. Linton lays before his readers a series of brief sketches of prominent traits of Burmese character, not as a purblind partizan, but after

a careful study of his subject, quoting many valuable illustrations in support of his assertions, all well and ably blended. Moderation has been his guiding policy; he has not suffered himself to jump to hasty conclusions, but is justly impressed with the erroneous representations made from time to time of the Burmese character, and asks, as I myself have frequently done, Why call men who are fighting for their national independence "dacoits" and "rebels?" They are patriots who, as Mr. Linton says, doubtless feel justified in punishing those of their countrymen who quietly submitted to the invasion of their country. It is untrue utterly, cruelly and shamefully that they are either "dacoits" or "rebels." They are, as Mr. Linton asserts, patriots struggling for the restoration of their national and hereditary rights.

Pages two to four of this compact little pamphlet, gives a vivid description of the Burman, and should disabuse the mind of every European, both in India and at home, of the absurd speculative hypothesis that they are incapable of rising above the ordinary *rayyet* of India. They are excellent athletes, and as fond of sports as any race in Europe or India, are naturally of a gay, lively and rollicking disposition, full of fun, and in every sense equals of the Hindoo or Mahomedan. They have a profound contempt for the natives of India, and will resent being treated other than as equals. They are high-spirited and very sensitive, where their fair fame is affected. Men and women have equal rights. Boat-racing is in great favor with the Burmese. Of this manly sport Mr. Linton gives a very spirited account in the 4th Chapter. Over Boat, Foot and Pony races, in the midst of the greatest enthusiasm, the Burman goes wild with excitement. Mr. Linton gives a good account of the three distinct races inhabiting Burma, the Burman proper, Mons and Karens, and speaks well of the American Missionaries, and I quite agree with Mr. Linton that one Karen Christian in a disturbance will do more good than 50 Punjabi policemen.

The last three chapters are devoted to the *pucka* dacoit, the opening chapter dealing with the oft-repeated tale of Theebaw's monstrous atrocities and massacres, which newspaper mongers, annexationists and agitators so highly coloured, exaggerated, and ultimately manufactured into a monstrous interesting tissue of falsehood. Mr. Linton says our one inveterate fault is a constant looking at foreign peoples through the medium of English glasses. I go further very much and say, fault being a misnomer, it is one of the many evils we carry along in our wake of civilization, like litigation, the magnitude of which, within the last 25 years, has grown beyond the capability of conception and is now the curse of India.

Buddhism neither encourages nor sanctions lawlessness and dacoity, and no Buddhist Priest does or will countenance either. Upper Burma has not yet accepted British supersession, and until it does so, (if ever) in the fullest acceptance of the term, there cannot and will not be peace!

Mr. Linton, in his last two chapters, deals with the real typical Burman dacoit, and draws a truthful similarity to him in the Indian dacoit, men who will go for anything from pitch and toss, to murder, crucifixion and torture of the most inhuman character. It is not want or poverty that constitutes the Burman dacoit's (in theatrical parlance) make up, it is his innate love of lawlessness, as with the European brigand, resulting in lucrative but dangerous employment.

Had I seen Mr. Linton's pamphlet sooner, I should

certainly have noticed it in my article, "How to pacify Burma," as it contains much that is highly interesting at the present time in connection with Burma. The author has traced in remarkably good style and taste his graphic description of the law-abiding Burman, and the lawless dacoit, between whom there is no similarity, not even a remote likeness in their objects.

The little *brochure* is a most interesting and readable summary of undeniable and uncontestable facts, and should not only be read by every European and English-reading native in India, but should be read and inwardly digested by every man in Europe, who has or takes any interest in the East. It is a very instructive, a most readable booklet, and wholly void of any political reference. I hope this notice may attract notice. Mr. James H. Linton is the author. This pamphlet may be had at the Methodist Publishing House, 6 Waterloo Street, at eight annas per copy.

ZITO.

#### JOURNALISM IN EXTREMIS.

For shame! write better Labeo, or write none:

Or better write; or Labeo, write alone.

\* \* \* \* \*

Of what is bad, a little's a greater deale.

Better is more: but best is nought at all.

Lesse is the next, and lesser criminal.

Little and good, is greatest good save one:

Then, Labeo, or write little, or write none.

Such is the advice that comes to every discerning lip, on marking the decadence of a once great journal in the hands of a well-known blockhead cast out of the Bæotia of Upper India and his worthy ambitious young nephew, inadequately checked and corrected and feebly sustained by the wreck of a man—a once famous knight of the quill now in his dotage, who, with loss of power, has been left only with a eunuch's spite. Such is the advice all benevolent spirits would give, if there was any chance of the pretenders and drivellers to listen to sense.

Had the paper been a legitimate concern, the evil might have been arrested in the usual normal way, or at least the public scandal long since suppressed. The proprietary would either have shut up a losing shop, instead of keeping it up with the reluctant doles of wealthy friends (as on the Doorga Pooja reckoning day), or sent the whole crew of weak or bungling hands to the right about. But it is a charity business—a trust property, and it is undergoing the fate of trust property in general. It is even more unfortunate, for it is a worse anomaly, as a business. The journal is at once a trust and the organ of a corporation. What wonder, then, that it should come to this! A corporation is an indifferent machinery for business management, and this nondescript corporation, since its soul left with the late Kristo Das Pal, has itself been in a bad plight for want of a good director, and is rapidly going down-hill. As for the Trustees, they are dominated by a lacklander of a retired schoolmaster burdened by a joke-loving Government with a territorial title which he can ill afford to support, even with the doubled pension procured him by the friend whom he always envied and to whose memory he has been foully ungrateful—(we mean, of course, Kristo Das Pal)—who sucked the life-blood out of the concern, so as to exhaust his remaining powers and bring himself to death's door, and blast his former reputation, without doing the paper any literary or political service, and still frantically sticks like a horse-leech to the very carcase!

Fond fool! six feet shall serve for all thy store;

And he that cares for most shall find no more.

We scorne that wealth should be the finall end,

Whereto the heavenly Muse her course doth bend;

And rather had he pale with learned cares,

Than paunched with thy choyce of changed fares.

Or doth thy glorie stand in outward glee?

A lave-ear'd asse with gold may trapped be.

But it is too late, this quest of the Golden Fleece. And California is not in Scott's Lane. And if Kristo Das Pal

has left a fortune made on a native weekly, he evidently did not leave his recipe for the benefit of his successors. The mad attempt of the greedy Trustee to coin his failing brains into money, at the rate of Rs. 10 a column including extracts and all, sense or nonsense, even with the advantage of himself being his own computer and paymaster, could not make even a serving Raja rich but must make a paper poor indeed! It has already recoiled on both, making the one a sad spectacle and losing the other over twelve hundred subscribers. The latter seems beyond redemption. We would still wish to preserve the former. There might still be left work in him if he would give himself rest for a length of time. This, at any rate, is not the time of life to overwork the system. He may still watch, but then he must choose efficient hands.

The blockhead will never do. It is a dead piece of office furniture, which no amount of licking in public or private will improve into a mind. You may as well kick one of the racks in your press into a leader writer, as bully the blockhead into a sense of grammar.

There may possibly be danger from such tools, but never any good worth a thought. We will give a story from old Jelaluddin Rumi to this point:—

"The Prophet had a scribe who used to write down the texts that fell from his lips. At last this scribe became so conceited that he imagined all this heavenly wisdom proceeded from his own wit, and not from the Prophet. Puffed up with self importance, he fancied himself inspired, and his heart was hardened against his master, and he became a renegade, like the fallen angels Harut and Marut. He took his own foolish surmises to be the truth, whereas they were all wide of the mark, as those of the deaf man who went to condole with a sick neighbour, and answered all his remarks at cross purposes."

As for the young nephew, we will make him a parting present of a fable from the Arabic:—

"A lion took a wolf and a fox with him on a hunting excursion, and succeeded in catching a wild ox, an ibex, and a hare. He then directed the wolf to divide the prey. The wolf proposed to award the ox to the lion, the ibex to himself, and the hare to the fox. The lion was enraged with the wolf because he had presumed to talk of 'I' and 'Thou,' and 'My share' and 'Thy share,' when it all belonged of right to the lion, and he slew the wolf with one blow of his paw. Then, turning to the fox, he ordered him to make the division. The fox, rendered wary by the fate of the wolf, replied that the whole should be the portion of the lion. The lion, pleased with his self-abnegation, gave it all up to him, saying, 'Thou art no longer a fox, but myself!'"

We hope the lion will yet see through the wolf, and give due encouragement to the promising fox.

#### PATNA.

*Patna city, April 19.*

I have very little to write regarding the state of weather which is one of the favorite subjects with most of the correspondents who write for the papers. I must say however that it is getting warmer daily and that all the offices are now held in the morning. The latter portion of the night is cooler and the general health of the town is bad. Smallpox, fever and other diseases are prevailing. The weighing of opium has, I believe, commenced or is about to commence, and it is justly believed that at this particular time cholera and other diseases break out in an epidemic form. The reason is clear why the public health of the town suffers. But neither the municipality nor the authorities here have ever directed their attention to this matter, although this fact is known to all. A large number of cultivators come from the interior and they spread themselves in different parts of the town. Proper care is not taken to lodge them in any safe place. They are exposed and they add by their dirty habits to the already insanitary condition of the town. These men ease themselves on the river bank or on lanes and fields, near enough to the places where they stay in, and in some quarters the nuisance is so great that it is difficult for respectable persons to live in their houses without injuring their health. Most of the bye-lanes are used by the unclean inhabitants as public latrines, and this may be seen every morning if one passes through them. These cultivators also sometimes bring with them the germs of some infectious diseases which prove very dangerous. In all other districts, as far as I know, the opium factories are on the outskirts of the town, in a quiet place far from the populous part. I cannot understand why the same arrangement for weighing is not made here. I would draw the attention of the energetic and able Sanitary Commissioner to this fact and ask him to make it a point for enquiry during his next visit to Patna. Government may also ask him to make a thorough enquiry about the matter and report. He may ascertain the number of cultivators that visit the town, the accommodation which the Opium Department gives them and the sanitary precautions which are taken during their congregation. If attention is paid to safeguard their advent to the city, it will be a great boon to the inhabitants who are already exposed to the insanitary

condition of this town. A place may easily be fixed and some Bungalows erected outside the municipality for weighing.

Our much respected Magistrate Mr. C. C. Quinn goes on leave for 6 months, and he has been relieved by Mr. Faulder who was acting as Joint-Magistrate at Chupra. Every one is sorry to lose him even for this short time.

On the 12th instant at about 8-30 A.M., a rather interesting ceremony of prize distribution to the boys of the Lodikotra Middle School took place, at the house of its energetic Secretary Munshi Mahomed Kayem. Mr. Quinn, the Magistrate, presided and there was a very select and influential gathering of the Mahomedan elite of the town. The Circle Inspector and other educational officers were also present. The Secretary of the School committee first read out the report, after which the prizes were given away by the president. This done he made a few suitable remarks on the condition and progress of the school and in respect of the general education of the Mahomedans in which he always took a keen and lively interest. He was followed by Mr. Syed Mahomed, Deputy Magistrate of Patna, who delivered a short but clear and forcible speech in Urdu. He commenced by explaining the purport of the address of the Magistrate-Chairman, and then made some useful remarks on the importance and usefulness of the Middle and Vernacular schools. In his opinion, if these schools were well conducted, they were very useful in giving elementary education to the students. He attributed the progress of general education in Bengal much to the opening of such schools. He insisted upon the moral training of the students and also looking after their vernacular when they were in such schools. He advised all supporters of education in Behar and those who are responsible for the conduct and character of students, not to mix in politics which, he said, had done much harm both to the students and their guardians in Bengal. He said that the control and care of the students should not be allowed to pass in Behar from the hands of the headmasters, principals, and teachers to those of the Magistrates, District Superintendents and other Police officers, as has generally been the case in Dacca and other Districts in Bengal. He would warn all against such a danger, and apprehended there were signs of such a tendency visible in Behar among the students. He pressed upon the teachers the importance and necessity of maintaining the strictest discipline, and appealed to the guardians to strengthen the hands of the teachers. He then thanked the President for the interest which he always took in the education of his co-religionists. The officiating Circle Inspector then made a short speech bearing testimony to the interest taken by the President in general educational matters and complimented the Secretary. A vote of thanks was then proposed to the chair and the meeting dispersed. The European gentlemen present were asked to some light refreshments which they accepted. Nawab Syud Velayet Ali Khan, C. I. E., and the Secretary of the School also thanked the chairman.

Last night, the Evening Party given by Syud Fazley Imam Khan Bahadur, in honor of Mr. Quinn, came off. Almost all the European gentlemen and ladies of the station were invited. A select number of native gentlemen were invited on account of insufficient accommodation. The party was a great success on the whole. Refreshments were served to all the guests, both native and European, and there was a very good display of fireworks prepared locally which was appreciated and admired by the guests. Nothing was left to make the guests comfortable. For about 3 hours the party lasted and there was very good and desirable intercourse between the natives and the Europeans who mixed freely and talked on interesting subjects. Mr. Quinn had a kind word for every one and he was the great centre of attraction throughout. The Syud must be congratulated on the success of his party. It would be better if the natives were also invited by European gentlemen to similar parties tending to increase good feeling between them and better understanding.

BEHAREE.

#### THE PATRIOTS' HERO-WORSHIP AND HEROISM.

*Reis* is dishd and no mistake. It has been eternally damned by the Prince of darkness. Sir Oracle of the Press has thundered anathema and maranatha at it. The "erratic" Editor will, it is feared, hardly survive the blow, dealt, though it is, by a man and brother. Man did I say?

Ay, in the catalogue he goes for a man.

As hounds, and greyhounds, mongrels, spaniels, curs,

Sloughs, water-rugs and demi-wolves, are clept

All by the name of dogs.

The offence was, of course, as dire as the castigation administered is severe. Since its very birth, *Reis* has been a thorn in the side of the publicans and sinners. The fond hope that it would ere long die a natural death could only render the first two or three years of its existence somewhat tolerable. But as soon as the Patriots of the Period realized that, striking though it was, it was a power—a veritable David that would make not a few Goliaths bite the dust—

they laid their heads together for devising some plan for making short work of it. But alas!

The best-laid schemes o'mice and men  
Gang aft a-gley  
And lea'e us nought but grief and pain  
For promised joy.

Despite their snarling, grumbling and gnashing of teeth, *Reis* throve apace, "going from strength to strength." And it soon became so immensely powerful as to usurp the function of the grim monster Time,

To unmask falsehood, and bring truth to light.

It chose satire to be its weapon and made a point of running amuck and tilting at Saints, savages and sages, Reises, Rayyets and even the protégé of the *Patriot*, whenever they were caught tripping. The devils in disguises as well as the *unco-patriotic* scamps quaked. They feared their days were numbered. The miserable have no other medicine than hope, and they laid the flattering unction to their soul that with growing age it would see the error of its ways and come round. They might as well have hoped to gather grapes from thorns and figs from thistles. What is bred in the bone will stick to the flesh. It is more possible for a leopard to change his spots than for a 'perverse' journalist to get rid of the pernicious penchant for unmasking the dissemblers and charlatans. That a man who punishes every one according to his desert will raise a host of enemies against him, is but natural. For "Punish every one according to his desert," says the bard of Avon, "and none shall escape whipping," and for man to pocket an affront--for in that light will a transgressor regard the chastisement inflicted with a view to his correction--is out of the question. This, I suppose, is the only solution of the problem as to why *Reis* stinks in the nostrils of the swinish multitude. But the multitude, as said by the Earl of Roscommon, is always in the wrong and consequently to be dispraised of it is no small praise. The unpopularity of a paper is, I should think, often the true test of its intrinsic worth. "Woe unto you," says the Prince of Peace, "when all men shall speak well of you."

Thus much may serve by way of proem  
Proceed I therefore to my theme.

Ever since the shaky, sycophantic hero of the birch was kicked up to the position of editor, much as a donkey was created a consul of the Empire by Tiberius, I have given up reading the *Patriot*. Not that I would seem to imply that a newspaper of the *Patriotic* class requires any colossal intellect, profound scholarship and extensive observation in its editor. Far from it. Any Jack, unblest with brains and guiltless of all knowledge of science, literature, politics or the arts, may, with the assistance of certain quantities of brass, gall and wormwood and quintessence of nonsense and a big bellows to blow up the sins of the big swells, successfully conduct such a paper. It was only yesterday that a friend drew my attention to the now famous *Patriotic* leaderette that has canonized "the precious old fogey" and done for the veteran Doctor to the great glee of the men of motley. The *Patriot* will never want a hero

When every Gazette sends forth a new one,

neither will it ever yield in its enthusiasm for hero-worship. It knows like the illustrious sage of Chelsea--though in an altogether different sense--that great men are a profitable company. But that it should come to this! That the Gazette should become so barren as to necessitate the *Patriot's* going to fresh woods and pastures new in quest of a hero! But if the *Patriot* had to make a departure from its almost lifelong practice in the selection of its hero, it has lighted upon one to whom even the worthies of old are not fit to hold a candle.

\* \* Nature made but one such man  
And lost the perfect mould.

Yes, he is our Nestor and more--our Nestor, Gamaliel, Coryphæus, admirable Crichton, Bayard and the rest all in one. The *Patriot*, however, is content to compare him only to the first two. But to be serious, is not the *cacothetic scribbler* run mad? But *malaproposum* is so much in the line of the *Patriotic* paper that I wonder that it has not yet used that lucky simile "as headstrong as an allegory on the banks of the Nile" with reference to Dr. Mookerjee, the arch blasphemer. Certain words and phrases are so much in favor with the *Patriotic* editor that he will be irresistibly led to use them, in season and out of season, no matter whether their application is apt or otherwise. It may be that he finds "great support" in them much as the old woman in the story used to do "in that comfortable word Mesopotamia."

The *Patriot* is nothing if not original. A man must needs be a Nestor provided he has attained the three score years and ten of the palmist and is in the good books of the B. I. A. But does not Sir *Patriot* know that when the age is in, the wit is out and that

It is not growing like a tree  
In bulk doth make men better be  
Or standing long an oak, three hundred year  
To fall a log at last, dry, bald and scar?

But not content with desecrating the name of Nestor, the sapient Sarbadhikari compares the fossilized flunkey to the distinguished Jewish rabbi--Gamaliel. Can anything be more sacrilegious? Does he not know that a Gothamite and a Gamaliel are as different from each other as chalk from cheese? But however overweening an opinion the model man of the Scott's Lane journal may have of himself, he has never dreamt even in his wildest dream that a comparison will ever be instituted between him and Nestor and Gamaliel. Verily, nothing but the unexpected happens. He rose one fine morning and found himself famous. But as a candid friend I ought to tell him that the toad's highest idea of beauty is his toadness and the small snob's highest idea of manhood is the great snob; and so

Though Patriot worships at his word

He is but but a coof for a' that.

The wretched scribbler would not only rescue his idol from total destruction but would also demolish the iconoclast. He forgets however that

Pygmies are pygmies still, though perched on Alps,  
and that none but a *non compos mentis* would ever attempt to draw out a leviathan with a hook.

Vessels large may venture more,

But little boats should keep near shore.

Throwing as much mud as possible over the good name and fair fame of the veteran Knight of the quill *ans par et ans repré* in the hope that some would stick, the *Patriot* calls him eccentric, perverse, and what not. It is a matter of congratulation that it has spared the epithet "isosceles triangle" and thus saved the Dr. from annihilation. *Reis*, as I have already said, is *care* to the general. But pearls are pearls still though trampled upon by swine. Though bats may refuse to fly in the light that does not diminish the splendour of the luminary. A man who is a consistent upholder of all that is good and worthy, who is too fond of right to pursue the expedient and

Who will flatter neither Neptune for his trident

Nor Jove for his power to thunder,

stands little chance of being appreciated by a wretched specimen of humanity who is only too ready to sell his birth-right for a mess of pottage, whose guide philosopher and friend realizes in Iago his ideal of honesty.

The concluding lines of the leaderette are characteristic of a *patriotic* paper:--"No judgment ought to be formed upon the national character basing it upon the aberrations of an eccentric journal." Certainly not. If judgment is to be formed upon the national character of the native, it ought undoubtedly to be based upon such *patriotic* writings as these:--

"We can better lose a hundred Mulhar Raos than a single Northbrook." "Mandalay has fallen; King Theebaw has surrendered; the entire kingdom of the Lord of the Golden Umbrella is now an appanage of our gracious sovereign. It is time for general felicitation, and we congratulate our Queen Empress on this rich and extensive accession to her dominion, on which the sun never sets."

Oh, wad some power the giftie gife us

To see oursel's as others see us!

THURIEL'S SPEAR.

#### THE "MAHOMEDAN MISSIONARY" IN DACCA.

On reading your paper of the 13th instant my attention was directed to the letter of your Dacca Correspondent "Alpha," and I was much amused at the account in it of the antecedents, qualifications and avocation of a Mahomedan Missionary who has been for some time making a great fuss among the schoolboys of some of the Eastern districts. It is a great mistake that anybody should be tempted to write upon a subject of which, or regarding a person of whom, he knows nothing or next to nothing. The desire of seeing themselves in print is so great among our youngmen, that they care not to enquire before committing themselves. Let any person come in whatever garb he likes and let him create a fuss, and the young men of the present generation will honour him with all their power, and it is not unoften that I see some of our old men also following suit and making fools of themselves. A stranger particularly should always be received with caution, but there is no harm in paying any one the tribute that is justly his due.

*Holloway's Ointment*--Sores, Wounds, Ulceration, and other diseases affecting the skin, are capable of speedy amendment by this cooling and healing ointment, which has called forth the loudest praise from persons who had suffered for years from bad legs, bad breasts, piles, abscesses, and chronic ulcers, after every hope of cure had long passed away. None but those who have experienced the soothing effect of this Ointment can form an idea of the comfort it bestows by restraining inflammation and allaying pain. Whenever Holloway's Ointment has been once used it has established its own worth, and has again been eagerly sought for as the easiest and safest remedy for all such complaints. In neuralgia, rheumatism and gout, the same application, properly used, gives wonderful relief.



The writer of the letter seems to be as innocent of the antecedents of the so-called Moonshee Hasan Ali of Bhagalpore as the latter himself is of Arabic and Persian. As the religious cloak is always a very mysterious thing for imposing upon the public, so it is used in every country and community for profitable wordly purposes and it has always been found successful to deceive the people. History and the experience of every person are full of instances in which very clever persons were marvelously influenced by imposters. To give at once a passport and importance to himself this gentleman calls himself a "Mahomedan Missionary," instead of a *Waez* (preacher). "Master" Hasan Ali has changed several colours within the last 20 years. He is a native of Bhagalpore town and is a "half caste" Mahomedan. His father is a Marwari and his mother a Mahomedan woman of the town--Bhagalpore. He learnt a little English here and afterwards went to Patna where he became a schoolmaster. He was at one time believed to be a Brahmo, then he was considered a Nechari and up to this time he is looked upon as a Nechari by those Mahomedans who know him thoroughly, although he disclaims it now. His mother tongue must be that corrupt Urdu which is spoken at Bhagalpore, but he has acquired a practical knowledge of it by reading Urdu newspapers and such Urdu books as he could understand. He can now speak Urdu in the strain and with the accents of converted native Missionaries and that is even too much for the schoolboys of Dacca, Pubna and Calcutta. He cannot speak correct and polished Urdu. As for his classics, he can hardly read two lines of Arabic and one paragraph of Persian correctly, not to speak of writing in those languages. He has read, I believe, up to the First Arts and his English is ordinary. With all these qualifications, of which he is himself aware, he passes unblushingly among the ignorant classes as a learned Moulvie and a profound Oriental scholar, on the principle of "fools rush in where angels fear to tread." It is a great insult to the Mahomedan religion and community to call him a Mahomedan Missionary or a Moulvie in the literary sense. While at Patna he did not confine his avocations to the teaching of boys, but he extended his private mission so much in some families that in order to safeguard the religious tenets of young boys it was found necessary to close the doors against him, and he was afterwards always received and regarded with much suspicion by the orthodox Mahomedan families. Finding that his Nichari tendencies did not

benefit him much, he thought of "fresh fields and pastures new," and became a Missionary. Certainly he has been more successful in his new profession as far as his personal comforts are concerned. You know, Mr. Editor, how men of this class are treated by the Mahomedans. He went one day to preach in the Chauk Masjid here, but he was stopped very rudely, and if some good and respectable people had not interfered he would have been very badly treated. The Dacca Mahomedans are very keen about their religion, and have always been a terror to all classes of theological imposters. If Munshi Hasan Ali (as he is called for the sake of politeness) had really been an honest person, he would have at first taken the opportunity of contradicting untrue and groundless statements about his knowledge and learning, &c. Our young schoolboys now want everything, even their religion, through some English channel, and therefore the mere name of Missionary has peculiar charm for them. I have heard that the Mahomedans of Clark Bazar were very much irritated and they had collected a bundle of sticks to drive the Munshi Sahab off their mosque.

There is no harm in any person preaching good things to the boys on moral and other subjects. But religion is a subject which should not be trifled with in this way. If Mr. Hasan Ali would speak on such subjects which he knows or can gather from Urdu or English books, I would not object. But certainly he should not try to mislead people by making any false impressions upon them. It is not an easy thing to pass for an Oriental scholar at Dacca where there are still some scholars of whom Bengal may well be proud.

The late Moulvie Karamut Ali, our most popular and venerable *Waez*, carried from Bengal about 35 lakhs of rupees, and his worthy son Hafez Ahmed Sahab is now moving and living like a prince in East Bengal. Poor Hasan Ali has also got a living by becoming a Missionary to the schoolboys which must be more paying and more consoling to him than his schoolmastership and Private Secretaryship to certain ignorant Reises of Patna.

If Master Hasan Ali (as he is known at Patna) makes another attempt to preach in our mosques here, I think he will have to rue his experience of Dacca. Mr. Clark ought to watch his movements and remember the riot between the Hannafis and Wahabees which had caused a commotion at Dacca.

WELL INFORMED.

Dacca, the 16th April 1889.

### CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Sealed tenders are invited and will be received by the Vice-Chairman up to noon of Wednesday the 8th May 1889, for undertaking the repairs to several mehters' barracks consisting of tiled huts. Separate rates must be submitted for each description of work. The covers to be superscribed "Tender for repairs to Mehters' Barracks."

The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

JOHN COWIE,  
Secretary to the Corporation.

26-4-99.

### NOTICE.

Sections 77-80 of Act II (B. C.) of 1888.

All persons keeping carriages and draught or riding animals within the Municipal limits of Calcutta as defined in the Act, are hereby reminded that the carriage and horse-licenses they may at present hold, whether issued by the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta or of the Suburbs of Calcutta, expired on the 31st March last, and that applications for licenses for the half year April to September, 1889, should be made to the undersigned before the 1st of May next. An application for a license should give a description of all carriages and animals liable to the tax owned by or in charge of the applicant, and should be accompanied by the amount of tax payable according to the rates mentioned in the schedule given below. Any person who becomes the owner, or takes charge of any carriage or animal after the first of May, should, within a week of his becoming owner or taking charge, make a similar application for license. Whoever owns or is in charge of any carriage or animal without the required license shall be liable to a fine not exceeding *three times* the amount payable in respect of such license, and not being less than *one and half times* such amount.

By Order,  
R. CHATTERJEE,  
License Officer.

1st April, 1889

### SCHEDULE.

	Per half-year.	Rs.	A.	P.
For every four-wheeled carriage drawn by two horses	...	12	0	0
If more than one such carriage, then for every such carriage after the first, two-thirds of the above rate	...	8	0	0
For every four-wheeled carriage drawn by one horse, or pony or mule, or a pair of ponies or mules under thirteen hands	...	6	0	0
For every two-wheeled carriage drawn by one or more animals	...	6	0	0
For every horse (not a race horse), pony or mule	...	6	0	0
For every race horse	...	12	0	0
For every pony or mule under thirteen hands	...	2	0	0

I declare that the above is a correct description of all carriages and animals liable to the tax, belonging to me or under my charge, and kept within the limits of Calcutta as defined in Act II (B. C.) of 1888.

Signature  
Residence  
Stabling

NOTE.--Carriages, the wheels of which do not exceed twenty-four inches in diameter are exempted.

### NOTICE.

Sections 87-90 of Act II (B. C.) 1888.

All persons exercising any of the trades, professions, or callings mentioned in Schedule 2 of the above Act within the limits of the Municipality of Calcutta, as defined in the said Act, are hereby reminded that the licenses they may hold under Section 76 of Act IV (B. C.) of 1876 expired on the 31st March last, and that they should take out their licenses for the official year 1889-90 without delay. An application for license should mention the profession, trade or calling of the applicant, all his places of business including yards, godowns or factories and the monthly valuation under Chapter V of the Act or the rent of each separate place of business. If, in consequence of any change in his profession, trade or calling or place of business, or for any other reason, a person con-

siders himself entitled to take out a license in a lower class than in the previous year, or to be altogether exempted, he should present an application to that effect to the Commissioners before the 1st of July next, failing which he shall be liable to take out a license as in the previous year, notwithstanding the change in his profession, trade or calling. Whoever exercises any trade, profession or calling without a license on or after the 1st of July next, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding *three times* the amount payable in respect of such license, and not being less than *one and-a-half times* such amount.

By order,  
R. CHATTERJEE,  
License Officer.

1st April, 1889.

NOTICE is hereby given that, under sections 94-96 of Act II (B. C.) of 1888, the registration of Carts, Hackeries and other wheeled Vehicles, with or without springs and not included in the definition of Carriage in the above Act, for the first half of the official year 1889-90, shall be made at the Office of the Commissioners of Calcutta on the 1st of April 1889, and on each successive day during the half year, holidays excepted, and that a fee of Rs. 4 will be required for each registration.

By order,  
R. CHATTERJEE,  
License Officer.

1st April, 1889

In Pamphlet, Price 4 annas

or 6 copies for a Rupee,

## ARMY REORGANIZATION

With special reference to the Question of

## A Reserve for the Indian Army.

By Capt. ANDREW HEARSEY.

Apply to Reis & Rayyet Office, Calcutta.



# A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta, under Act II. (B. C.) of 1883,

WILL BE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL,  
on Thursday, the 2nd May, 1889, at 3 P.M.  
BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. The Chairman to lay upon the table report for the quarter ending 31st March, 1889.
2. To consider the revised rules for conduct of business at General Meetings as passed by the Bye-laws and Rules Sub-Committee, at their Meeting on the 16th April.
3. To approve the proposed rules for the protection of wild birds and game.
4. Prince Mahomed Buckhtyar Shah to ask—(1) for a list of the ghee vendors prosecuted during the quarter January to March of this year, together with the result of the cases and the amount of fines imposed; and (2), whether, in the opinion of the Chairman and Health Officer, the Food Inspectors do all that it is in their power to do to put down the adulteration of ghee, as it is very difficult to procure pure ghee.
5. To confirm the proceedings of the Town Council at the Meeting held on the 30th March, 1889.
6. To confirm the proceedings of the General Committee at the Meeting held on the 13th April, 1889.
7. To confirm the proceedings of the Water Supply Extension Committee at the Meeting held on the 18th April, 1889.
8. To confirm the proceedings of the Bustee and Town Improvement Committee at the Meeting held on the 22nd April, 1889.
9. Vital statistics for the month of March, 1889.

JOHN COWIE,  
Secretary to the Corporation.  
24th April, 1889.

## WANTED.

Three or four qualified temporary Sub-overseers, experienced in earthwork, and expert at levelling.

Salaries from Rs. 40 to Rs. 55, and, where a horse is necessary, horse allowance.

Apply, stating salary that will be accepted, to  
THE DISTRICT ENGINEER,  
Bhagalpur

District Engineer's Office,  
Bhagalpur, 15th April, 1889.

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Cloth Bound ... .. Rs. 5-8

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## TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN  
Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,  
BY

## SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late  
NAWAB FARIDDOON JAH BAHADOOR,  
(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,  
Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State  
Apply to Manager, "REIS & RAYYET"  
1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street,  
CALCUTTA

## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridood Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by

English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*, October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following: [Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river. [Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye: [Extract.]  
The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course. — [Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be fami-

liar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting: [Extract]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA, ENGLAND

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University masters, specially suitable for Indian Children. Indian References. For Prospectus, address Principal

C. RINGER & CO. have in hand the largest stock of Homœopathic Medicines, Medicine Cases, Medical Sundries, and Books, &c., &c., for sale at their Homœopathic Establishment, 10, Hare Street, Calcutta. Catalogue, free on application.

## LOVERS OF GOOD TEA

Are strongly recommended to try our Flowery Orange Pekoe with Rose-like Aroma, @ Rs. 2 per lb.

T. HILL & CO.,  
Adjoining Courtman Theatre,  
Calcutta.

## Rivers Steam Navigation Co. "Limited."

### ASSAM AND CACHAR LINE NOTICE.

This Company's Steamer "SCINDE" will leave Calcutta for Assam on Friday the 26th instant.

All cargo for shipment by the above vessel should be sent to the Company's Godown at Juggannauth Ghat not later than Thursday the 25th idem.

### CACHAR LINE.

For particulars of the sailings of this line please apply to the undersigned

### DHUBRI & DEBROOGHUR MAIL SERVICE.

The Steamers of this Service leave Dhubri daily immediately on arrival of the mails from Calcutta, and are connected with the E. B. S. Railway for booking of traffic through to river stations.

### GOALUNDO AND DEBROOGHUR DESPATCH SERVICE.

A special bi-weekly service of Steamers is maintained between Goalundo and Debrooghur, the steamers leaving Goalundo on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday, and Debrooghur on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

### NARAINGUNGE AND CACHAR DESPATCH SERVICE.

A tri-weekly service is maintained between Naraingunge and Panchooingunge for passengers and light goods traffic.

All particulars as to rates of freight and passage by all the above Services to be had on application to

MAC NEILL & CO.,

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# BEETHAM'S

# GLYCERINE - AND -

# CUCUMBER

For INDIA and HOT CLIMATES this recently patented emollient makes INVALUABLE IT KEEPS the SKIN COOL and REFRESHED in the HOTTEST WEATHER Removes and prevents all SUNBURN, REDNESS, FRECKLES, TANNING, and RENDERS the SKIN DELICATELY SOFT, SMOOTH, and WHITE

It entirely prevents it from becoming DRY, or IRRITATED, and PRESERVES the COMPLEXION from the scorching effects of the SUN and WIND more effectively than any other preparation. The IRRITATION caused by the HEAT and STINGS of INSECTS is wonderfully allayed by its use. For imparting that soft velvety feeling to the skin this delightful preparation has no equal! Sold by all Chemists.

Sole Makers M. BEETHAM & SON, Chemists, Cheltenham, England.

CALCUTTA AGENTS: SCOTT, THOMPSON & CO.

**"IT RECOMMENDS ITSELF."**  
All who suffer find sure relief from

**LITTLE'S ORIENTAL BALM**



**The Greatest Pain Cure Extant.**

It has driven out from the system

**Acute Rheumatism and Rheumatic Gout,**

After years of semi-helplessness and suffering; while in **ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS, LUMBAGO, SCIATICA, FACEACHE, SPRAINS**, it is the surest and safest remedy for these complaints in their severest and most chronic form.

Its magic effect in affording instantaneous relief in

**Neuralgia in the Head, Face and Limbs**

Is almost too remarkable for CREDENCE.

Are you subject to **HEADACHES** and the tortures of **TOOTHACHE**? A single application will relieve you.

In Sore-throat its power has been so rapid and complete that it is universally recommended as

**The Marvellous Sore Throat Cure.**

Try this wonderful Medicine and let the result speak for itself.

The Oriental Balm is used by the best Physicians in the world in their practice. It has been pronounced a blessing in thousands of homes. By its intrinsic virtue, it has achieved a wide-spread popularity which no similar preparation has ever before attained.

*Sold in Bottles at 1 Re. each.*

Obtainable of all respectable chemists throughout the world.

Agents in Calcutta: Smith Stanistreet & Co. R. Scott Thompson & Co. and Bathgate & Co. Limited.

**HOLLOWAY'S PILLS & OINTMENT**

**THE PILLS**

Purify the Blood, correct all Disorders of the **LIVER, STOMACH, KIDNEYS AND BOWELS**. They invigorate and restore to health Debilitated Constitutions, and are invaluable in all Complaints incidental to Females of all ages. For children and the aged they are priceless.

**THE OINTMENT**

Is an infallible remedy for Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Old Wounds, Sores and Ulcers. It is famous for Gout and Rheumatism. For disorders of the Chest it has no equal.

**For Sore Throats, Bronchitis, Coughs, Colds, Glandular Swellings and all Skin Diseases**, it has no rival; and for contracted and stiff joints it acts like a charm.

Manufactured only at Professor HOLLOWAY'S Establishment  
**OXFORD STREET (late 533, Oxford St.) LONDON.**

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(Opposite the Police Court.)  
THE CALCUTTA  
**HOMŒOPATHIC PHARMACY.**  
THE  
EARLIEST & STILL MOST EXTENSIVE  
DISPENSARY IN ASIA  
OF PURE HOMŒOPATHY ONLY,  
WHICH  
INTRODUCED TO THE EAST THE  
TRADE IN  
INDEPENDENT HOMŒOPATHY  
and maintains to this day  
THE DIGNITY AND INTEGRITY OF  
THIS  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

B. & Co. beg to draw the attention of their constituents and the public to the neat little turned

WOODEN CASE

in which every phial of medicine that goes out of their Establishment is packed.

These cases while they ensure the bottles against breakage will also be found very convenient and useful.

No EXTRA CHARGE.

**BERIGNY & CO.**

12, Lal Bazaar, Calcutta.

**READ THIS CAREFULLY.**

Strong, accurate, pretty, open-faced Nickel silver *short winding* Keyless Railway Regulators, of small size, jewelled, enamelled dial, bold figures and hands, showing *two* times with tempered machinery and dust tight cases for only Rs. 7-8 per V. P. P. with spare glass, spring, box and guarantee. Warranted to stand rough usage. Can be easily repaired. Have no appearance of cheapness about them. Others sell at double our rates. Mr. A. R. Mehta from Bandora says:—"The 7-8 watch I purchased from you two years back, gives correct time as yet." Acting Superintendent, Government Farm, Khandesh, says:—"A watch maker has valued your Rs. 7-8 watch for Rs. 15." Mr. J. Sutcliffe, R. W. Fusli Regt., Lucknow, says:—"Some valued it at Rs. 15 and were completely surprised when I told them it only costs Rs. 7-8." Pretty Canadian Gold Chains, Lockets, Pencils, complete shirt Studs and Rings set with chemical diamonds, rubies, &c., at Rs. 2 each. Mr. J. A. Yelmore, Satur, says:—"The *best goldsmith* of this place values the chain for Rs. 7 and the locket for Rs. 10." Mr. G. Smith, Salt Inspector, Sanikutta, says:—"A German valued the diamond ring at Rs. 50 and the ruby at Rs. 30." **WESTERN INDIA TRADING CO., BOMBAY.**

**JEYES' PERFECT PURIFIER**

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Thirty-three Prize Medals and First Class Certificates and were specially appointed by the Royal Commission for the Colonial and Indian Exhibition in 1886, where not a single case of illness occurred amongst the native artisans there employed.

Authorized by the Government of India; and largely used by the Calcutta and other Municipalities.

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Used in the Royal Households, by Her Majesty's Government Establishments, by the Corporation of London, Parochial Vestries, Smithfield and Billingsgate Markets, Peninsular and Oriental and other Steam Navigation Companies, the Railway Companies, Principal Hospitals, &c.

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*Preparing for the Press*

THE

**FALL OF MANDALAY,**  
BY  
**ZITO.**

With which is combined a complete and practical Guide to Upper and Lower Burma.

The Author accompanied the last Expedition under General Sir Harry Prendergast, in November 1885, and remained in Upper Burma after the conquest until June 1887.

The work will probably be ready for delivery on an early date; meantime subscribers may register their names with

**Messrs. DIPPIE & Co.,**

298A, Upper Circular Road,  
CALCUTTA.

A limited space only will be reserved in the GUIDE for advertisement, for which early application is invited.

In consequence of the difficulty and delay in getting together reliable matter for the guide portion of the work and the preparation of numerous illustrations which must be executed in England, some delay necessarily will arise in the execution of the work. But intending subscribers should not delay in registering their names at the above address.

DIPPIE & Co.,

Agents and Correspondents for the author

DR.

**J. N. MITRA, M.R.C.P.,**

London,

Gold Medalist in Medicine & Hygiene,  
Stood 1st in the FINAL EXAMINATION

CALCUTTA MEDICAL COLLEGE IN 1880.

Late Surgeon Superintendent of Quarantine Station, Mauritius, and Surgeon in charge, Mysadul Hospital.

Address,—

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**Special rates for Contracts.**

No additional charge for inland postage or peon. For arrears an advance of 50 per cent. will be charged. Foreign postage separately charged at the rate of 4 annas a month or Rs. 3, a year.

Business Communications (post paid) to be directed to "The Manager," and Literary Communications and books and pamphlets (carriage paid) to "The Editor" of "Reis & Rayyet."

OFFICE: 1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street, Calcutta.

# Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. {

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MAY 11, 1889.

} No. 373

## CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

### A HYMN.

[From the French of Lamartine.]

THERE is an unknown language spoken  
By the loud winds that sweep the sky ;  
By the dark storm-clouds, thunder-broken,  
And waves on rocks that dash and die ;  
By the lone star, whose beams wax pale,  
The moonlight sleeping on the vale,  
The mariner's sweet distant hymn,  
The horizon that before us flies,  
The crystal firmament that lies  
In the smooth sea reflected dim.

'T is breathed by the cool streams at morning,  
The sunset on the mountain's shades,  
The snow that daybreak is adorning,  
And eve that on the turret fades ;  
The city's sounds that rise and sink,  
The fair swan on the river's brink,  
The quivering cypress' murmured sighs,  
The ancient temple on the hill,  
The solemn silence, deep and still,  
Within the forest's mysteries.

Of Thee, oh God ! this voice is telling,  
Thou who art truth, life, hope, and love ;  
On whom night calls from her dark dwelling,  
To whom bright morning looks above ;  
Of Thee—proclaimed by every sound,  
Whom nature's all-mysterious round  
Declares, yet not defines Thy light ;  
Of Thee—the abyss and source, whence all  
Our souls proceed, in which they fall,  
Who hast but one name—INFINITE.

All men on earth may hear and treasure  
This voice, resounding from all time ;  
Each one, according to his measure,  
Interpreting its scenes sublime.  
But ah ! the more our spirits weak  
Within its holy depths would seek,  
The more this vain world's pleasures cloy ;  
A weight too great for earthly mind,  
O'erwhelms its powers, until we find  
In solitude our only joy.

So when the feeble eye-ball fixes  
Its sight upon the glorious sun,  
Whose gold-embazoned chariot mixes  
With rosy clouds that towards it run ;  
The dazzled gaze all powerless sinks,  
Blind with the radiance which it drinks,

And sees but gloomy specks float by ;  
And darkness indistinct o'ershade  
Wood, meadow, hill, and pleasant glade,  
And the clear bosom of the sky.

D. M. M.

### "HE PURGETH IT."

NATIONS need sometime suffering : when our mood  
Is soft, emasculate, and fearing pain ;  
When indolence and torpor chill the blood,  
And insolence and bluster fire the brain ;  
When, puny sons of mighty sires, we deem  
Our fathers' stature greater than our own,  
We cannot wear their armour ; and we dream  
Heroic dreams, the life heroic flown :  
Then, oh ! come loss, come suffering—only shame  
Be absent ! come, and to our souls discover,  
Ere the reluctant day of grace be over,  
Lost manhood's greatness, now inert and tame !  
Virtue's foundation strong is to be bold ;  
The nobler metal iron is, not gold !

—Spectator.

A. G. B.

### SONNET.

TO THE LIBERAL UNIONISTS OF 1887.

YE, who, to Virtue and your Country vowed,  
Reject, denounce dishonoured party ties,  
And side by side with ancient enemies  
Confront the Jacobin onset blind and loud  
Nor snared by sophist tongue nor clamour-cowed,  
England's brave sons, pursue your high emprise  
So much the more, the more the unjust, the unwise  
Rain on you fire from faction's low-hung cloud.  
Against you march Revolt and Rapine's brood :—  
That sect its scope remoter knows not yet :  
In France its axe is red with brothers' blood :  
Firm as a flint your face 'gainst such is set.  
Old friends change faith : to old convictions true  
Ye change but place. Changelings are they, not you.

—Spectator.

AUBREY DE VERE.

*Holloway's Ointment and Pills.*—Old Wounds, Sores and Ulcers.—Daily experience confirms the fact which has triumphed over all opposition for more than forty years, viz., that no means are known equal to Holloway's remedies for curing bad legs, bad breasts, sores, wounds, diseases of the skin, erysipelas, abscesses, burns, scalds, and, in truth, all maladies where the skin is broken. To cure these infirmities quickly is of primary importance, as compulsory confinement indoors weakens the general health. The ready means of cure are found in Holloway's Ointment and Pills, which heal the sores and expel their cause. In the very worst cases the Ointment has succeeded in effecting a perfect cure after every other means had failed in giving adequate relief.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

WE find among the Mss. on our table, a well written communication dated the 29th March, on Mr. Spencer's balloon ascent from the Maidan, condemning his foolhardiness and asserting, on personal testimony, against the aeronaut's own denial that he had been goaded to the mad enterprise of starting without his parachute by the mockings and taunts of the crowd of high and low spectators around him. The letter would certainly have appeared if it had not been mislaid. We beg our correspondent's pardon.

IN honor of the Queen's birthday, there will a state dinner and Levée at the "Viceregal Lodge," Simla, on Friday, the 24th May. The Birthday Ball comes off on the 30th.

THE Prodigal has gone home. The Bombay Government would not reimburse Mr. Crawford for any portion of his expenses in the Enquiry on his conduct. He will doubtless kick up a row in the Mother Country. He is sure of the sympathy of the speculators, great and small, with which it abounds. And the *Times* will thunder at poor Lord Reay.

THE jute trade still languishes. The Calcutta Jute Manufacturers' Association have decided to work less hours still. From the 4th July, the mills will produce jute goods ten per cent less. In other words, they will work nine days instead of ten in a fortnight.

THE Lieutenant-Governor returned from Chittagong by the S. S. *Kistna* on Monday evening.

ONE Kali Kahar—a punkah-puller in the Bank of Bengal—picked up at Howrah a third class ticket to Gya. He is a knowing man and meant to utilize the find. He presented it to the ticket seller and wanted a refund of the value, saying that he had changed his mind and would not go to Gya that day. At this moment, the real owner of the ticket turned up and complained of the loss of his ticket. Kali was made over to the police. He confessed his guilt to the Magistrate who sent him to jail for three months.

THE Sultan has strongly protested to Mukhtar Pasha against the application, by Arabic journals in Egypt, of the titles King and Kafa which are the exclusive distinction of the Sultan, to the Khedive.

M. VAMBERY has permission from the Sultan of Turkey to examine the secret archives in the Imperial Library at Stamboul.

THE remains of Lord Ely were burned not buried at Woking. Under orders of the Bishop, the church service was not read till after the cremation.

As a prevention against fires in public offices, the Government of India, we are told, has addressed a circular to Heads of Departments suggesting the appointment of "Fire Clerks" in each office. These officers should be teetotallers.

THE Special Sub-Registrar of Khulna has been appointed an *ex-officio* Notary Public for the Khulna District.

MR. E. G. COLVIN, Officiating Political Assistant of the second class, has been posted as First Assistant to the Governor-General's Agent in Baluchistan.

THE 14th May is the last Tuesday mail day. The Saturday mail begins from the 18th, that is, next week, there will be two mail days, Tuesday and Saturday.

DR. K. McLeod, bound for home, having resigned his seat on the Calcutta Municipal Board, Dr. J. O'Brien has been appointed a Commissioner.

THE Viceroy strays out of Simla 12 miles to Naldhera, from Saturday to Monday. He visits the Sipi fair and the Simla races on the 20th and 30th June.

MR. HENVEY goes home this month. Mr. Martindale, the First Assistant, acts as the Agent to the Governor-General for Central India.

THE Madras Government not supporting it, the Government of India have declined to sanction the bonus of Rs. 50,000 recommended by the Madras Railway Company, to Mr. Fitzgerald Church, their late Chief Auditor.

AS might be expected, the Parnell Commission is supplying matter for criminal prosecution. The false position to which the *Times* was driven, naturally led that journal to attempt to regain lost ground, if possible. It prosecuted its own witness Patrick Molloy for perjury. It was he who furnished the *Times*' solicitor with all kinds of seriously incriminating evidence against the Parnellites. When called on, however, to depose before the Commission, he denied ever having given any information to the *Times* and urged that he was not a Fenian or an Invincible and was not employed in the Phoenix Park murder case. The *Times* undertook to prove in this perjury case that Molloy's deposition before the Commission was not true. The *Times* established its case, and Molloy was sentenced to six months' hard labor.

MR. H. A. D. PHILLIPS, of Rajshaye, promptly takes leave for a couple of months, and Mr. W. C. Macpherson, of Mozufferpore, will relieve him. We hope this will prove a respite, however brief, for many in the district—a respite from their place on live coals.

THE Lieutenant-Governor has sanctioned the construction of a new sluice in a tuccavi embankment on the left bank of the Cossye river at Srirampore, in the district of Midnapore, at a cost of Rs. 40,677, to be borne by persons interested in the work.

THE Arms Act continues to disturb the natives. We thought it was time enough for Government to understand the inconveniences of the law and specially its utter uselessness in Bengal as an engine of power. What a pity the Government should rest its prestige on such laws! Here are the latest additions to the Bengal rules under the Indian Arms Act XI of 1878:—

"5 (a). By section 30 of the Act, a search under the Code of Criminal Procedure, in the course of any proceedings instituted in respect of an offence punishable under section 19, clause (f) of Act XI of 1878, must be conducted in the presence of some officer specially appointed by name, or in virtue of his office, by the Local Government. All Magistrates and Police Officers not below the grade of Inspector, and, in the Chittagong Division as well as in the districts of Darjeeling and Julpigoree, all Magistrates and Police Officers not below the grade of Sub-Inspector, are hereby appointed under this section.

13. All Magistrates and Police Officers not below the grade of Inspector, and, in the Chittagong Division as well as in the districts of Darjeeling and Julpigoree, all Magistrates and Police Officers not below the grade of Sub-Inspector, are hereby empowered to detain arms or ammunition under clause 2 of section 6 of the Act."

The relief intended by these rules will be only nominal, we are afraid. Who among the natives can resist the demand—legal or illegal—of the police—of whatever grade or degree—and who will incur the risks of a refusal?

FROM the 1st day of June 1889, the First Calcutta and Second Calcutta Divisions of the Public Works Department shall form a part of the Western Circle of superintendence.

WHAT is a language leave? We read in the *Calcutta Gazette* that "Mr. H. Barlow, Assistant Engineer, Buxar Division, is granted language leave for one month and 20 days, with effect from the 15th May 1889 or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it."

THE Travancore Correspondent of the *Madura Mail* describes the annual procession of Padamnabha—the guardian deity of the Ram Raja's Land, as it is called in Hindostan:—

"Sunday the 14th (April) was the Arat or the 10th day of the Pangyuni festival in Trivandram. The festival went off as usual with very great *alut*. The Arat procession was certainly a sight worth seeing. The gay, sprightly, lightsome character of the scene may very well be imagined when we remember that the state elephants with howdahs and flags, the state horses beautifully caparisoned, two long rows of the Nair Brigade troopers in their gay uniform, the famous Nair brigade band, the sepoys of the Nair Brigade in their gaudy red coats, the Government Officials and their Highness the Maha Raja and the 2nd Prince formed part of the gorgeous procession of the three gods Padmanaba, Narasimha and Krishna, whose gold and diamond jewels flashed brilliantly in the evening sun."

WE believe there is some foundation for the statement that there will soon be heavy reductions in our local High Court. Not only will there be a paid officer in the Administrator-General's office, but the pruning process will extend to the Appellate Side by the abolition of the post of Deputy Registrar, when Mr. J. H. Belchambers retires, next month. The salary of the Head Assistant, English office, Criminal Department, will also be reduced to Rs. 200 and that of the Superintendent, Section writers' Department, to Rs. 100, as originally proposed, leaving the charges made by Job writers to be estimated by a counter, on approved security. Other changes in the copying staff have been also advised, a number of Section writers being done away with.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE English mail of the 19th April discloses signs of exhaustion of the great Gladstonian Faction. The tactics of the party have been pretty much "used up." The collapse of the formidable charge of the *Times* against Mr. Parnell in respect of the notorious letters, clinched as it was by Sir Charles Russell's great speech in defence of the Irish Leader, was a momentary windfall in its favour, but the ministry soon recovered from the shock. The able administration of Mr. Balfour is producing its just fruits in the gradual contentment of the great body of the Irish population. Mr. J. W. Russell, the Irish Member and apostle of temperance, is doing the Government yeoman's service by exposing the calumnies of the enemy and exhibiting, by well-collated and authenticated facts, the great advance being made by the Conservative Administration in tranquillising the agitated and torn land. Then the results of the two by-elections of Central Birmingham and Rochester, showing the growing popularity of the Government, have come with crushing effect on the malcontents. At Rochester, the Gladstonian, the Hon. Edward Knatchbull-Hugesson (heir-apparent of the Conservative Lord Brabourne), defeated the Conservative Alderman Davis by a narrow majority of 75 only. At Birmingham, the Government made up by a marvellous majority of 3,060 votes in favour of Mr. Balfour, who delivered a most adroit and effective speech. The Premier overflowed in thanks to the Central Association of the town.

Lord Hartington, speaking at Sunderland, while congratulating Mr. Parnell that a certain letter attributed to him had proved a forgery, reminded his hearers that that was but one of the charges against him. He expressed his belief that a great many of the Irish Nationalists were hostile to the Empire, and thought that, if the Commission threw any light on the relations between them and the avowed enemies of England in America and the Colonies, the Inquiry would not have been labour lost.

Lord Rosebery's speech at Norwich seemed to show symptoms of awakening of Mr. Gladstone's followers from the influence of the charmer. He admitted that the Grand Old Man had come upon the country too suddenly with his crude measures of Home Rule, and suggested that, when the country returned a Home Rule House, the Government should appoint a Commission of constitutional lawyers and permanent officials to determine the details of a scheme. This is, in other words, admitting the truth of the famous epigram that Mr. Gladstone is an old man in a hurry.

THE cross-examination of Mr. Parnell in the Commission bearing his name, is over. He made certain admissions and condemned certain proceedings of the Fenians and the Invincibles. He denounced the speeches of Mr. Dillon and Mr. O'Brien and the advocacy of all physical force. He admitted making a misleading statement in the House of Commons to prevent the passing of the Coercion Bill in 1881, to the effect that Secret Societies in Ireland had ceased to exist. There was a sensation in consequence. At a later stage, Mr. Parnell asked the Commission to confine his statement in the House to Ribbonism. The account books of the Land League are opportunely missing.

THEY are still at it—the Deceased Wife's Sister Marriage Bill. But many of the Peers are yet unable to "digest" it. The House of Lords has just, on the second reading, rejected the Bill legalising such marriages by 147 against 120 votes. The Lords ought to be sent out to India.

THE House of Commons is more concerned at the morality of the excise system in India than at the ethics of the opium trade with China. Mr. Samuel Smith is not disposed to let the grass grow under his feet. Having, on the 30th April, obtained the verdict of the House condemning the fiscal system in India as promoting intemperance and misery among the people, he followed up his victory with another motion, on the 3rd May, disapproving of the opium trade between India and China coupled with a proposition for re-imposition of the cotton duties. But this time the fates were not propitious. The Commons by this time probably thought they were going too fast and far in their interference with the policy of the responsible Government of India, and the motion was negatived by 165 against 89 votes. The first Resolution (of the 30th ultimo) with a covering despatch from the Secretary of State is on its way to the Viceroy.

LORD CROSS invited those interested in the wheat trade to a conference at the India Office. They met on Wednesday, but came to no definite resolution. It was ascertained, however, that the shippers and millers were in favour of limiting the admixture of impurities to two per cent., whereas the Indian Committee of the London Corn Association were for a non-interference policy. Lord Cross expects good out of this conference as likely to lead to some feasible method of cleansing Indian wheat.

HIS friends in England have anticipated Mr. Crawford. Mr. Baumann, member for Peckham, has announced his intention to move in the House "that the conduct of the Bombay Government in respect to the trial of Mr. Arthur Crawford, has been unfair and vindictive and calls for the censure of the House of Commons." Mr. Crawford is bound to make a desperate effort to recover caste and to pacify his creditors.

THE Paris Exhibition has been opened. On the 5th instant, the President, before the members of both Houses and the principal officers of the army, unveiled the Tablet at Versailles commemorating the opening of the States-General in 1789, with an eloquent speech asserting that France had broken finally with the one man power.

THE Armenians are causing trouble to the Porte. A great atrocity against a defenceless family has stirred this loyal and peaceful community to honourable indignation. The Koords at Much Kamach, it is said, first outraged and then burned a young girl in the presence of her parents. The Armenians petitioned the Grand Vizier Kiamil Pacha, and followed up with a demonstration of 500. They demand reparation from their sovereign, and threaten to pray to Russia to annex the Province.

The Turkish Government are showing lamentable imbecility in dealing with the matter. Instead of making inquiry and giving redress and punishing the Koord savages, they have resorted to the official trick of pretending to be alarmed at the designs of the injured Armenians. An insurrection is apprehended, and many arrests of Armenians have been made. A search has been ordered, in churches and convents at Van, for clues.

The Turkish mission to Zanzibar has been countermanded.

If the "Dacoits" still disturb the peace of Upper Burma, our Government feels itself strong enough to disperse with the Hloodaw, the Consultative Body of the Ministers of the late Ava Kingdom, which was set up as a blind between it and the people, to keep up a show of the continuity of the old régime. That body has been dissolved from the commencement of the present month. The several members will receive pensions according to the satisfaction they could give the British Agents in Burma. Kenwoon Mengyee will draw Rs. 740 a month, Taungyun Mengyee Rs. 400, and Pin Atwinwoon Shwedike Atwinwoon and Tabayun Woondouk, each Rs. 200. The records are to be taken down to Rangoon.

THE Hon'ble Mr. T. T. Allen has entered the following protest in the Select Committee on the Mahomedan Burial Board:—

"I decline to sign the report. The Bill introduced into the Council was for the appointment of a Muhammadan Burial Board. It is not competent to a Committee, to which that Bill was referred, to substitute for it a totally different Bill as has been done. The title of the Bill has been changed without authority, and matters altogether outside the burial of Muhammadans have been added."

The members who have appended their names to the report are Sir Henry Harrison, Sir Alfred Croft, Dr. Mahendralal Sircar and Shahabzada Mahomed Furrokh Shah. They were evidently more anxious for the thoroughness of the measure entrusted to their charge than for the law which ought to govern their action. Strictly speaking, no doubt, Mr. Allen is right. At the same time, the Hon'ble Legal Remembrancer forgets that the legislature is but a department of the Government to confirm its decrees. The rules, if any, for the conduct of business or the conduct of members, are more honored in the breach than in the observance thereof. If Mr. Allen be in earnest, he should follow up his protest in Council, and if he acts throughout in the spirit which breathes in his protest, the Government will learn to mend its ways and be more constitutional. Or, possibly, he will find his own legislative days numbered. We will remind him of a passage in the history of this official Chamber. All the members of the Select Committee and the Council were opposed to the elective portion of the municipal law which has just been superseded by a new measure. Yet, after the Select Committee had reported on the bill, and against the elective principle, the Lieutenant-Governor of the day came to the persuasion that the Corporation should be in part a representative body, and, at his suggestion, the same Committee sent up an amended bill altering the constitution of the municipality. The members made no stand against the Government policy and took no steps to mark their resentment at their treatment at the hands of the Lieutenant-Governor. They pocketed the insult and tamely submitted to Government dictation.

715 students have passed the First Examination in Arts, namely, 16 in the first, 128 in the second, and 571 in the third division. The Hooghli College stands preeminent, returning the first boy in the first division. The Presidency College comes after it, followed by the General Assembly's Institution, the Bangabasi College, the Patna College, the Rajshahye College, the Dacca College, and the L. M. S. Institution, Bhowanipore. This, in order of merit. As regards number, the Presidency College gives 7, the Hooghli College 3 and the remaining six institutions one each. The Ripon College and the City College are conspicuous by their absence. Only one Bengali lady has passed in the second division.

THE Municipal Commissioners must be very busy indeed. They are holding meetings every week. They met last week, and this week, and meet again next week. At the first, the chief discussion turned on a proposition to deprive the Chairman of the last word when he makes no specific resolution. An amendment was moved to that effect, reserving the final word to the mover of a resolution. It was not carried though, for the Chairman had the last word in the present matter and he carried the meeting by his persuasive eloquence. Sir Henry Harrison was not so successful this week. Not that he was less persuasive or less eloquent, but that his Secretary, in his zeal to serve the occupant of the chair, committed an open indiscretion which virtually decided the poll on the question of the day—the Kotrung brick-fields.

THE Kotrung—like the Dhurmtolla market—has, for sometime, been a burden to the Municipality. It was decided to get rid of it anyhow. It was advertised for sale or to let. But no good offers were received, and the Commissioners knew not what to do. They at last authorized their Chairman to enter into negotiations with particular parties. The Chairman concluded terms with one and then was disposed to offer the lease to another, but, in consultation with the expiring Town Council, he decided for the first comer, put him in possession of the fields and received a quarter's rent from him. He evidently relied on his powers, under the new law, to ignore the general body of Commissioners when he happened to agree with the select few of the General Committee, and would not wait for their confirmation of the proceedings of the Town Council or the General Committee. This the Commissioners would not submit to, and they asserted their right to veto the action of the Chairman. The Chairman was confident of his success, for he was averse to refer the question back to the General Committee, and he had not calculated wrongly. For, when the matter was put to vote, the show of hands was in his favor. A poll was then demanded which went against the chair. We believe this turn is all due to the Secretary Mr. Cowie. He was detected tampering with the

Commissioners for their votes in favour of the Chairman. He was immediately taken to task. He admitted the part he was playing. There was a proposition to exclude the Secretary from the polling business. The Chairman admitted the Secretary was wrong but did not deserve that severity. The point was not pressed, and Mr. Cowie called out the names of the Commissioners. The result now proved different, and thus the Chairman lost the day.

THE missionaries are showing a liberal spirit towards the just aspirations of the people. The Rev. Mr. Slater lately delivered a remarkable address to that effect at Madras. And now we are glad to find, from a London letter in the *Hindu*, that in England,

"at a very big Missionary meeting in Manchester, Mr. Jenkins devoted the greater portion of his remarks to the Congress. The Madras meetings rather than the session at Allahabad attracted his attention, probably for old acquaintance sake. He commented upon the significance of the men who from all parts of India composed it; he considered the result of their deliberations to be worthy of the best consideration of the Government of India. He cautioned that same Government not to listen to those advisers who would counsel that the Congress should be pooh-poohed. A pooh-pooh policy, he reminded his hearers nearly lost England the Indian Empire at the time of the mutiny. His sympathy was with the men who wished to be released from some of their leading-strings. He uttered a shrewd truth, which many Anglo-Indians might lay to heart, when he said: 'Men of the order of those who composed the Congress could not be pooh-poohed and set aside. Some of them were of excellent rank, others were foremost examples of culture, and all of them were able exponents of some phase of the intellectual revolution.' Such testimony, voluntarily given, cannot fail to do good in this country. If missionaries in India generally were as sympathetic and as far-seeing as Mr. Slater and returned missionaries turned their opportunities to as good account as Mr. Jenkins has done, the relations between English and Indian subjects of the Queen would be greatly improved."

*Per Contra*, the same writer reports:—

"While a Jenkins at Manchester was saying good words of the Indian people, a Jenkins in London was doing the reverse. I refer to the article in the *Overland Mail* of last week, which doubtless has already been copied in the anti-Congress papers and, I hope, in the Congress-supporting papers too. The Editor of the *Overland Mail*, it is well known, is Mr. Edward Jenkins, ex-M. P. for Dundee. When in Parliament Mr. Jenkins was among the few friends of India then in the House. Now he is in the other ranks. Why he has changed sides, I do not know, anyhow he has changed sides and is resisting the Congress reforms. Almost single-handed is he thus acting. On the present occasion he has apparently gone a trifle too far."

Mr. Edward Jenkins is one of the most brilliant men of our generation, and we are glad to find him engaged in active journalism and specially on one of the few journals in England devoted to India. He is a man of genius who, by his first work, took the public by storm. "Ginx's Baby" is a gem of purest ray serene. It is worthy of Rabelais. Nothing like it had appeared in England since Swift. Mr. Jenkins' wit, terrible to its butts, might have repelled others but for its essential and eminent humanity. In fact, his wit often broadens into fine humour. The whole has its root in warm affections and intense sympathy with the unfortunate and the oppressed. Nor is his pity exclusive. He is capable of feeling for the Indian coolly in the Colonies as well as the neglected Briton in the desert of the great cities of his own country. Whatever view he may take of any particular movement of our countrymen, it were an injustice to a man of such gifts and of such antecedents to suppose that he is not prepared to help us in all our legitimate efforts.

SIR Alfred Lyall is engaged on a life of Warren Hastings for Macmillan's "Men of Action" series. He is a most accomplished penman and ought to write with a grasp which the mere *litterateur* might aspire to in vain. The book will be interesting as showing the literary power lost to the world and expended in India on subtle minutes on village sanitation and brilliant despatches on the political economy of the *khariff* and the *rabi*. He will probably write with the bias of one despot for another—the progenitor of the Order. But he will also write with complete sympathy. We hope he will be able to throw additional light on the Benares and Oudh episodes in the career of his hero. The Hegirah from the Holy City was a stirring incident which ought to call forth all the author's pictorial power. We hope he will not fail to do justice to the intrepidity of Hastings' Bengali *factotum* Canto Baboo.

THE writers on the Indian press are commonly deficient in the ear for versification. The *Madura Mail*, in recommending a volume of Notes



on the English Text for Matriculation in the Madras University, remarks :—

"Young's caustic epigram

'Commentators all dark passage shun  
And hold their farthing candle to the sun'

can by no means apply to the authors of these notes."

The writer, treating as he does of an academical subject, ought to have seen that the lines quoted scanned. But he did not care to see that they were grammatical. Young in his satire, "The Love of Fame," says—

How commentators each dark passage shun,  
And hold their farthing candle to the sun.

As regards the thought, the complaint is common to all ages and almost every literature. A later English poet, himself also a satirist, James Crabbe, in "The Parish Register," has apparently borrowed from Young and expatiated on the theme, thus :—

Oh rather give me commentators plain,  
Who, with no deep researches vex the brain ;  
Who, from the dark and doubtful love to run,  
And hold their glimmering tapers to the sun.

The same thought occurs in Persian and Arabic. The most notable remark that we can recall, however, occurs in Sanskrit. In a rare work, which we saw in the possession of Mastaram Babaji, a learned Panjabi religious mendicant, whom we met in Upper India just twenty years ago, named *Bhojavritti*, of which we procured a copy from the original MS., there is a passage in the Introduction which describes the class of frivolous commentators with accuracy and just discrimination. Without troubling printer or reader with a transliteration, we give a close translation :—

That which is very difficult is passed away with the remark it is very easy of comprehension, that which is very easy is expatiated upon, dwelling on *sanidhas* and roots irrelevant and useless, and by a mass of improper or irrelevant words in improper places, spreading error among mankind, all commentators are wont to hide the real thing [or drift] from the audience [or readers].

THE *Madura Mail* has a good Travancore Correspondent. In his letter of the 22nd ultimo, he treats of many interesting topics bearing on the regeneration of the people. First, he speaks of the new Sanskrit College at Trivandrum and its new Principal. Though recognising the latter's learning, he is not satisfied with the appointment of a man whose method of teaching is antiquated. He has a more serious objection to the college itself as a caste school, at which Brahmans only will be admitted to study. That was a matter of course in an orthodox Hindu state governed (under the Maharaja) by Brahmans. Even in British territory, much the same exclusiveness holds. The Government Sanskrit College at Calcutta (which has always been a British settlement) admitted only Brahmans and Vaidyas. If the College is now open to other classes, it has long ceased to be a distinctively Sanskrit institution. It is now a cheap English seminary with a Sanskrit staff and a Pandit Principal, but for many years it was under a European head. Nevertheless, the remarks of our contemporary's correspondent are worth attention. He begins vaguely, however :—

"Our pundits, of course, will never for a moment even dream of having for their pupils persons of low caste. But the most conservative and orthodox among them will not have the slightest objection to Sudras sitting at his feet and drinking of the holy fountain of Sanskrit lore."

That is a suicidal passage, the two parts destroying one another. But that is a momentary slip, and the writer soon delivers himself with clearness and sense.

"Why Malayalis, who as a nation are highly intellectual and acquire proficiency in Sanskrit with great rapidity, have been thought disqualified for admission, I do not well see. It is idle to say that custom does not allow them to study the Shastras ; for it is not true. The only part of Sanskrit literature which they are not allowed to study is Vedic literature and perhaps also Panini's Sutrams. But what objection could one have to their attending the literature class? In this 19th century of broad views and advanced notions, one would have looked for more catholicity of aim in an enlightened Government. 'The model state' should have extended the right hand of enlightenment to all that would willingly have grasped it."

That is the counsel of enthusiasm, not of statesmanship, and we hope the rulers of Travancore will not listen to it. Knowledge is too precious a pearl to be thrown to swine to trample upon. At any rate, some preparation is needed to fit a man or class to receive knowledge so as to be able to make proper use of it, for self and others.

There ought to be a social preparation before a particular class is endowed with the franchise of knowledge. The peculiar constitution of Hindu society, indeed of Indian society in general, specially demands caution, if a social *bouleversement* is to be averted. The results of British administration and the effects of Christian philanthropy ought to be a warning to self-governing native communities. There is a time for everything, and a discrimination too. At any rate, whatever may be done ought to be done with open eyes—with comprehension of what is likely to be brought in its train or to follow.

THE same correspondent gives the following news of the Travancore Legislative Chamber, with his criticism thereon :—

"There was a sitting of the Legislative Council lately in which the discussion on the Civil Procedure bill was resumed. I observe one general mistake in all the draft bills published by Government for the information of the public. The bills are drafted in His Highness' name. His Highness ceased to be the lawgiver with the organization of the Legislative Council, and I do not see how bills introduced into the Councils by Members on their own responsibility can be worded as if they were regulations emanating from His Highness."

That is a frivolous objection, and not very well informed. Here, in a remote Hindu kingdom, is a fanatical Red who cannot bear the very sound of the "one man power!" He cannot tolerate the very forms of a monarchy. He belongs to the school of the Revolutionists who in France abolished God. The writer does not pretend that there is any practical inconvenience from the wording of Travancore legislation as an emanation of the Maharaja. In point of fact, there is positive convenience. What is the value of the statutes of a new fangled Chamber in an almost theocratic society, unless the Rama Raja himself accepted them and commanded his people's obedience to them? The Maharaja is sovereign—the fountain of all authority—and will remain, so long as Travancore remains Travancore, all constitutions notwithstanding.

The *Madura Mail's* Trevendram Correspondent concludes his notice of the Travancore Legislature with this piece of information :—

"Curiously enough they have published along with the draft bill of the Civil Procedure Code an amendment bill too."

That is a mere accident, we suppose. The two drafts will doubtless be incorporated into one.

MR. P. HORDERN having retired from the service, Mr. J. Van S. Pope, M. A., Inspector of Schools, Eastern Circle, Bengal, becomes Director of Public Instruction, Burma. Mr. Hordern failed as a professor in Bengal, where he distinguished himself by his war against the cawing tribe. He probably suspected that they had found him out and hooted him in derision. So his ire was up and never was down. Herein too he failed. He would have liked to birch them with all a pedagogue's fury, unfortunately he never could get at them. He had not the secret of Dedalus to be able to fight at close quarters. They fluttered about over his head in mockery from their situation of vantage in the air. He could only stamp his foot and tear his hair and at best revenge himself on his class. So the enemy kept cawing and cawing away at him, till he retired from the field and Bengal. Such was Hordern. But, then, he was a nephew—of the Bishop Metropolitan, and was provided with promotion in Burma, where he was pitchforked into the head of the Education Department. Mr. Pope is a superior man, who has succeeded both in instruction and inspection. He is a hereditary educationist, being a son of a wellknown missionary in the South, who published one of the best schoolbooks—the Text-book of Indian History, a capital work.

THE Bombay Presidency has done more for preserving the memory of our ancient art than any other or all the other Presidencies combined. The Archaeological Department there is more artistically inclined than that of any department. It is not content to discover antiquities and fix their dates. It takes photographs, models, drawings, and prints them by way of a record for all time. Thus, Mr. Burgess, the obscure schoolmaster of Bengal, who suddenly blew into an antiquarian and virtuoso in Bombay, and was employed as Government archaeologist in that Presidency, issued several deeply interesting and accurate books of illustrations accompanied by letter-press. The liberality of the wealthy of Bombay has nobly come forward to furnish the sinews of war, when the Government grant on these luxuries was

exhausted. A series of massive folios have been produced illustrating and describing the antiquities of Gujrat, Maharashtra, Bejapore, Mysore—sumptuous and costly works paid for by the native merchant princes of Bombay. Nor are the princes territorial backward, but equally alive to the great interest attaching to the past of their common country. The present accomplished Gaekwar is specially enthusiastic. He has had a work on the Antiquities of Dubhai in Gujrat prepared by Mr. Burgess, now Director-General of the Archæological Survey of India, and has been privately printed for him by Messrs. George Waterston and Sons of Edinburgh. The most notable illustrations are the Baroda and Hira gateways and the Kalika Mata Temple. The illustrations are drawings from photographs. We understand that six have been richly bound for the Gaekwar's presentation. The binding is thus described:—

"They are in red morocco, richly tooled. Three of them have been treated after a Persian design suggested by examples of Persian decoration in the Museum of Science and Art. The front cover, inside an elaborate border, is divided into curiously shaped panels, which are filled in with an intricate floral device. At the top of the cover are Gaekwar's Arms, which consist of a shield bearing the device of a Mahratta horseman, the shield being flanked by climbing elephants. On a scroll beneath is a motto 'My saddle; my Kingdom.' The other three volumes also bear the Gaekwar's Arms, but the tooling is less ornate. On the whole these volumes are a splendid example of the binder's art. The whole edition consists of 200 volumes, and will be bound in half-morocco."

JUST as we are going to press, we learn that Dr. Sooraj Ball has received orders to quit Cashmere at once, and that the venerable patriot of Bombay Rao Saheb Vishwanath Naryan Mandlik Bahadoor is dead.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 1889.

### A TRIO OF OFFICIAL BLACK SHEEP.

PHILLIPS—BEAMES—HALL.

IF there is anything that can cause the Government of India more than another to be looked upon as obnoxious and offensive by the native community, it is the cruel administering of justice and tyranny exercised by men who, we had reason to believe, were above suspicion, holding exalted positions of trust under Her Imperial Majesty's commission unhappily for the communities over which they are placed, to the virtual prejudice and apparent ignoring of British rule. Men not blindly but with their eyes open lending and identifying themselves with proceedings in anger and displeasure which cannot be characterised in any other terms than those of absolute public disgrace.

It is with unmixed feelings of regret, we feel called upon to denounce, in the very strongest language, the numerous cases of this character which have recently cropped up. To do otherwise, we should fail lamentably in our duty as public journalists and exponents of public rights.

The most recent Magisterial notoriety is a Mr. H. A. D. Phillips, Magistrate of Rajshahye, and editor of the *Calcutta Review*. In this dual capacity, he has succeeded in immortalising his name in a way no true Englishman will envy him for. As a Magistrate, by his own acts and conduct, he has proved himself, without the slightest outside aid, wholly unsuited for the position he was placed in. Now, whether this Mr. H. A. D. Phillips, who is quite unknown to the writer, be permitted to retain his chair at the editorial table of the *Calcutta Review* or not, there should be no two opinions about his unfitness for the Magisterial bench. His conduct should be visited with the severest censure the Government of India has at its command, and an example made of men,

who by nothing short of imposition could have attained to such positions. If Dame rumour speaks correctly, he is at this moment being sued in the court of the Subordinate Judge of Rajshahye and the Munsiff's court at Nattore, for damages and wrongs done in more than two instances. If the Government of India permit such high-handed vagaries to be performed in its name, it is little wonder, we have every other day men setting themselves up in open defiance to our Judges of the High Court, men who could never have risen, had they remained at home, above writing a six and eight penny letter and that in all probability not oftener than two or three times a week. It has been said Mr. Phillips would succeed well at the bar. Admitting such an assertion to be correct, Europeans do not, as a rule, enter into litigation just to please Barristers, and from the vile epithets and insults that he has heaped from time to time upon the Native community, his patronage from that source might be set down at *nil*. No, Mr. Phillips should retain the editorial chair of the *Calcutta Review*, and be content to cater to the depraved instincts of readers after his kind. He will do less harm there a great deal than on the bench or at the bar.

It is simply idiotic to imagine Mr. Phillips could command prominent notice as a newspaper or periodical writer outside of India. His vindictiveness is, has been, and always will be, so marked, that he will earn a name for himself in doing the *Review* very material injury in expressing his political views which, from all accounts, are of a vile and questionable character, and have, in a way he little dreamt of, made him of some little notoriety. With the removal of his name from the Civil list, he will, if let alone, drop into obscurity and pass away with much less *clat* than did Mr. Spencer the aeronaut.

There is a possible easy way of vindicating the conduct of such wrong-doers, as Mr. Phillips, by closing our eyes to the demoralization they are working in their official capacity. But what of the majesty of the Law? From motives which will readily be understood, as journalists, we prefer to witness the chastisement of insolent servants, who, taking advantage of the position which, by a gross mistake, they have been placed in, ride high shod over all they come in contact with. Happily for India, there are still some honest upright Englishmen, who notice with pain the persistency with which the Government of India retains men on the Civil Service list, after they have spared no pains in qualifying themselves for ignominious and summary dismissal. Such a man is Mr. Phillips. It is now high time Government was taking a determined stand against such unsuitable material being deported to India for the Civil Service. How many cases of high-handedness and corrupt practices have lately come to light, the most appalling of the whole being the downfall of Mr. Crawford of the Bombay Commission? It is impossible for any upright Englishman to sympathise with a man who has, for years, continued a system of mal-practices of the description Mr. Crawford was convicted of, and the Bombay Government, after Sir Phillip Wodehouse's rebuke, was very blamable in permitting him to remain in the service. It is hard, no doubt, and a pity. None will have a keener feeling of the situation than Mr. and Mrs. Crawford themselves, after a life-time spent in India, to return home under a load of infamy and disgrace. It is all the more painful, when the Government of India deals with such offences by administering various measures of punishment. It is not

many months ago, when a member of the Bengal Civil Service was guilty of an offence similar to that Mr. Crawford was summarily dismissed for. But our Bengal Civilian was very much more fortunate. He was simply shunted on for a few months, to the scarcely less exalted office of a Divisional Commissioner, and then, when the public outcry had had time to hush, he was again enthroned in the same Board of Revenue (the stepping-stone to the Lieutenant-Governorship) from which he had been only a few months before deplaced, with censure, for borrowing money from those in a subordinate position to himself. For this or something akin to it, Mr. Crawford is dismissed. Possibly, climatic influences may have something to do in the matter. To say the least of it, there must have been a gross miscarriage of justice in the case of the Bengal Civilian, to permit him to get off so cheaply.

There is another official, belonging to a different fraternity, who has lately succeeded in making himself conspicuous as a wrong-doer. We refer to Dr. Hall, Superintendent of the Naini Jail, Allahabad, who, while he had the unlucky Captain Hearsey in his clutches, constituted himself accuser, judge and executioner. It is very easy to understand how men of Dr. Hall's stamp abuse the power they wield within four walls, where they are veritable monarchs of all they survey. It is most unfortunate in India that the Superintendence of Jails is made a dual appointment, that of medical officer and Superintendent. This is neither just to the tax-payer nor the prisoner, least of all to the latter. The two appointments should be distinct and separate, as it is impossible for a medical man to make a good Jail Superintendent. His attention reverts to fifty things a day, the least not being his private practice. We hold there should not be two opinions as to the impracticability of Government officials holding in India dual appointments, either of which gives the official practically unrestricted power over a body of men, as in the case of Dr. Hall, or over a large provincial district, as in the case of Mr. Phillips. Such appointments are particularly objectionable where the men holding such appointments are utterly destitute of the most ordinary rudiments of fairness.

The cowardly attack by Dr. Hall on Captain Hearsey and insult to Mrs. Elliot, while Captain Hearsey was in his power, is the natural outcome of absolute ignorance, a want of good breeding and worse education. The same is applicable to a, shall I say, gentleman like Mr. Chesney, whom Captain Hearsey horsewhipped, and served him right? The term half-caste is a most objectionable one, and no gentleman ever makes use of it. It may be, and probably is, in common use amongst lower orders of society, but we are not supposed to be reviewing this class now, Dr. Hall and Mr. Chesney being or at least supposed to be educated men, although that alone does not constitute either a gentleman, which title they have forfeited any claim to, always provided they ever had a claim to such respect. Had they but thought it was our early intermarriages in India that produced, naturally and honourably, the Eurasian! There are Eurasians and Eurasians. The Eurasian gentleman is the descendant of the Fathers of many who were gentlemen by birth and education, and, did their progenitors live now, they would certainly warm the backs of Messrs. Hall and Chesney, if they did not do considerably more.

The apathy with which Government has evidently viewed the conduct of Dr. Hall, is past

understanding. It was thought the Viceroy would notice so gross an outrage on society, having little hopes in any measures being adopted by the Local Government, which, from of old, has some reason to regard the victim as an inconvenient bore. At any rate, since the notorious Laidman case, the prejudice of the official community is sufficiently well known to give us hopes from that quarter. We must confess our disappointment of Lord Lansdowne in this particular instance, as we looked for nothing less than Dr. Hall's dismissal, accompanied by His Excellency's marked displeasure.

Captain Hearsey's letters to the *Statesman* last month, very justly aroused the whole community, filled it with indignant sympathy, and called forth an endless tirade, all of which notwithstanding, under the influence of Balloon on the brain, Captain Hearsey's case has been quite lost sight of. It is, however, unlikely Lord Lansdowne had not seen, from the *Statesman*, the brutal, cruel and cowardly insult offered Captain Hearsey and, through him, the whole Eurasian community, amongst which number gentlemen of Dr. Hall's own profession, many who have risen to such a position as he never can look forward to. Witness the principal medical officer of the Madras General Hospital, a Eurasian, a gentleman and ornament to society.

We have refrained all this time from noticing Captain Hearsey's complaints of the treatment he was subjected to at the hands of Dr. Hall, not so much that we looked forward to hear of any extenuating circumstances in the conduct of the Superintendent of the Naini Jail, but that some enquiry would have been instituted. But this is evidently only another notorious incident of the callousness with which the authorities ignore the right to complain or seek redress and relief from high-handed and tyrannical officials. Has the term "departmental enquiry" become obsolete? If it has, we have a just right to know that it has: the elasticity of the official conscience at any rate has not become obsolete towards its wrong-doers. It is certainly significant that the attention of Government has not long ere this been directed to the subject. We have before us a number of letters all bearing on the matter, vehemently and in strong terms denouncing as cowardly the unprovoked attack on Hearsey when he was not in a position to resent it. There is every probability, had he been on the other side of the Jail wall, Dr. Hall, with Chesney's well-merited experience before him, would have thought twice before he called Hearsey a "half-caste." It must be held that it makes the case very much worse, than if they had been standing on equal footing, and indelibly stamps Dr. Hall as a coward and bully. He is known in Calcutta as such, his attempt to bully Dr. McLeod is still fresh in the memory of the profession of the metropolis. Medical men the writer has spoken with on the subject, the only surprise they express is, that nothing had cropped up before. Now, if this is the man's character, what cruelty and tyranny may he not have exercised over prisoners who had and have not the means at command Captain Hearsey has to make public their grievances? As far as he dare go in cowardice to insult a man who, in his official capacity, he was in duty bound to care for, he did. He has grossly misused his official power, in all probability to please his friend Chesney. He has forfeited all claim to rank as a respectable member of his profession.

From Captain Hearsey's first letter to the *Statesman* of 7th March last and his dialogue with Dr. Hall,

it may be inferred Hall is a Scotchman. It may not be generally understood in India that an Englishman to be understood is allowed to speak once, an Irishman twice and a Scotchman till he is understood. It must not be inferred there is any probability, that Hearsey did not allow Dr. Hall to speak till he was understood, and that Captain Hearsey did understand the gratuitous unprovoked insult he was compelled to submit to, but the writer being himself a Scotchman is anxious the readers of *Reis and Rayyet* should know there are not amongst Scotchmen, as among other nationalities, a variety of characteristics. The writer is a native of that part of Scotland where not angels fear to tread but Jews, and can say without fear of contradiction there are but two characteristic qualities in a Scotchman. Either he is good or he is bad. If the former, he is the essence of goodness,—witness our amiable chairman of the Chamber of Commerce Sir Alexander Wilson, Kt. If he is bad, he is without ceremony classed as d—d bad,—witness, Dr. Hall.

Before closing this article, we would draw attention once more to the impracticability of medical men filling the dual positions of Superintendent and medical officer. These should be entirely distinct and separate, and doctors should have no connection with the Jail Superintendence. In common there is evil only in such an amalgamated office, and the union is only prompted by motives of false economy. Another and not less crying evil is the power of a Magistrate held by Jail Superintendents. This is a function which gives the Superintendent power to commit cruelty to an unknown degree. Punishment, except for the most trivial offences, should not be inflicted by any Jail official. An honorary Magistrate should visit the jails once or twice a week, to enquire into and punish delinquents and breakers of jail rules. Dismissal alone is not sufficient punishment to meet the case of Dr. Hall. We hope it is not too late for Government to cause immediate and searching enquiry to be made in the interests of justice, and deal without fear or favor punishment for an offence of the most inhuman character.

ZITO.

#### THE MAHOMEDAN LITERARY SOCIETY.

THE Mahomedan Literary Society of Bengal is now one of the recognised institutions of the land. Next to the British Indian Association, it is the oldest society in the country. It has completed a quarter century of existence. Not long ago, it celebrated the Festival of its Silver Jubilee. Its first meeting after that event was necessarily an occasion of more than ordinary interest. The proceedings were of a character to arrest the attention of outsiders. It was a numerously attended meeting, held at the Calcutta Medressa, at 7½ O'clock on the evening of the 24th April, presided over by Prince Mahomed Ruheemooddeen, of the Mysore Family.

A resume in Urdu of the last quarter century of the Society's work was read by Moulvie A. F. M. Abdool Hufiez.

A number of Resolutions were then moved and carried, offering the cordial and grateful thanks of the Society to the officials who had given material assistance to it by their continued patronage, countenance and support,—to the members of the Committee of Management, especially the above named President, and the two Vice-Presidents, Princes Mirza Jahan Kadar Bahadur and Mahomed Nusseerooddeen Hyder, who had always evinced a great interest in the well-being of the Society,—to the Founder of the Society, Nawab Abdool Luteef Bahadur,—to the chief surviving co-adjutor of the Founder from its foundation up to the present moment, during which period he had delivered numerous lectures on subjects of practical interest, Moulvie Mahomed Abdool Rowoof,—and to the distinguished Mahomedan noblemen and gentlemen who had, on various occasions, during the period of the existence of the Society, delivered lectures and addresses

in Persian and Urdu on numerous interesting and useful subjects, such as Sir Syud Ahmad Khan Bahadur, K.C.S.I., Nawab Ahsunollah Khan Bahadur, Shumsool Ulama Shah Abdool Huck of Cawnpore, Moulvie Abdool Ghuffoor Khan Bahadur, Moulvie Fareedooddeen Ahmad Khan Bahadur, Sahibzadah Abdool Azeez Khan and Hafiz Mahomed Hatim. These expressions of thanksgiving were matters of course, perhaps. But there was a distinct departure from the practice of Europeans and of native societies after European models, in a separate motion, which was solemnly and unanimously carried, for offering prayers for the benefit of the souls of some of the most prominent Mahomedan gentlemen of the time who had taken an active part in the foundation of the Society in 1863, and who had for many years assisted the Founder of the Society with their hearty co-operation, as well as by reading learned and interesting discourses on a number of important subjects, namely, the late Moulvie Mahomed Wujeeh, Kazi Abdool Baree, Hafiz Ajeeh Ahmad and Moulvie Abdool Hukeem—as well as for that of the souls of the late Priuce Mahomed Azamooddeen, Moulvie Haji Karamut Ali of Jounpore, Hafiz Wuheedoon Nubbee Khan Bahadur, Syud Shah Ulfat Hosain, Mahmoodood Dowlah Moonshee Sufder Ali Khan Bahadur, Moulvie Abbass Ali Khan, Moulvie Duleelooddeen Ahmad Khan Bahadur Ihteram Jung, Moulvie Obydollah, Shaikh Asadoollah Shirazi, Mirza Rajab Ali Beg Saroor, and Hukeem Syud Ahmad Mirza, who were some of the eminent scholars and poets, who had, at different meetings of the Society, during the last 25 years, read discourses of great learning, merit and usefulness. To us, we confess, this was the most interesting and, we fear not to add, instructive, business of the evening. It was thoroughly indigenous and shows the abiding seriousness of the community of Islam. We wish Hindus, Parsees, Jews and Christians might take a leaf out of the book of our Mahomedan fellow-subjects.

The next most important incident at the meeting was the acknowledgment of the records of goodwill and appreciation of eminent European friends of the Society. The following letters to the Secretary were read at the meeting :—

“Belvedere, February 4, 1889.

My Dear Sir,—The Lieutenant-Governor desires me to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a pamphlet, entitled ‘A Quarter Century of the Mahomedan Literary Society of Calcutta,’ forwarded to him by you two days ago. His Honour has read with much interest this record of the Society's unfailing energy and continuous success, and hopes that the Society, that has done so much good work in the past, may live for many years more to promote the useful objects for which it was originally founded.—Your faithfully,

P. C. LYON,  
Private Secretary.

Camp Meerut, March 24, 1889.

My Dear Nawab.—I am much obliged to you for your letter of the 16th instant, and for the interesting pamphlet which accompanied it. It was a great pleasure to me to attend your *Conversazione* on the 28th January last at Calcutta, and I can understand what a satisfaction it must be to you, as the founder of the Mahomedan Literary Society, to see the ever-increasing interest which is taken by your co-religionists in the wonders of science. The large number of gentlemen that attended the last *Conversazione* shows conclusively how popular such meetings are, and there can be no doubt of the goodwill that is engendered by such social gatherings. It is not, however, only on the score of education that the Mahomedan Literary Society has my sympathies, but also because I recognize how good and powerful an influence it exercises in the cause of loyalty and order.

I trust, therefore, that you will express to your colleagues, and accept yourself, the assurance of the deep interest which I shall always take in the Mahomedan Literary Society.—Believe me to be yours sincerely,  
FRED. ROBERTS.

Cherwell, Edge, Oxford, March 26, 1889.

My Dear Nawab,—I thank you for your kind letter of the 5th instant. I read with very great pleasure the record of your twenty-five years of excellent work, and I congratulate you on your celebrating your 25th anniversary. The progress made by the Mahomedans during the past quarter of a century is alike honourable to themselves and hopeful for India. It seems difficult to realise that only twenty years ago the Patna trials were going on. I believe that the changes in Mahomedan thought and feeling, and also in regard to the more just views which Englishmen entertain towards Islam and your community, are in no small measure due to the efforts of yourself and your friends. With best wishes for the continued prosperity of the Mahomedan Literary Society.—I am sincerely yours,

W. W. HUNTER.”

These are all valuable testimonies, all equally warm with kindness, each more important than the preceding.

Meer Gholam Moostafa then read a number of extremely interesting letters in the pure Persian language, called the *Darri*, composed by himself.

After thanks being voted to him as well as to the chair, the meeting dissolved at 11 P. M.

## THE NUISANCE CASE IN COURT.

THE want of adequate amusements in this trying weather is occasionally compensated by the occasional condescension of our grave and reverend seigniors. The Nuisance Case in the High Court was signalised by a desperate farce in the High Court. Desperate in every sense. The Prosecution would not go on with the case, but the Judge would not listen to any such suggestion. The Advocate-General, in the exercise of his powers, would enter a *nolle prosequi*, but the court would not permit any such nonsense. It had apparently taken the pains to arrive at a decision, doubtless a worthy decision, and it would not be balked of its opportunity---of displaying its justice and wisdom and zeal for the welfare of the citizens in general. But let us give the instructive scene in the words of the reporters :---

"Mr. Phillips (Standing Counsel).---With reference to this case, the Advocate-General, I understand, does not desire to prosecute.

Norris, J.---I shall not allow the case to be withdrawn.

The Advocate-General.---Under the Code I have the power to do so.

Norris, J.---I do not know that this is a case in which you should appear ; it is a private prosecution.

The Advocate-General.---The parties do not wish to prosecute.

Norris, J.---If I have the power I shall not allow it to be withdrawn. I shall not allow the inhabitants of Calcutta to be poisoned by any body of men living. If I am obliged to allow it to be withdrawn by law, of course that is another matter.

The Advocate-General.---Your Lordship sees what the section lays down. It says : 'At any stage of any trial before a High Court under the Code, before the return of the verdict, the Advocate-General may, if he thinks fit, inform the Court that he will not further prosecute the defendant upon the charge.'

Norris, J.---What does the prosecutor say ?

The Advocate-General.---Mr. Beeby consents, and, under these circumstances, I am entitled to enter a *nolle prosequi*.

Mr. Beeby here interposed by stating that he, speaking on behalf of himself, consented to a withdrawal of the charge.

The Advocate-General.---The other people concerned do not seem to take any interest in the matter.

Norris, J.---I cannot help seeing what passes in the public prints of the day, that in the immediate neighbourhood of this tank a person has been---

The Advocate-General.---With your Lordship's permission before I enter a *nolle prosequi*, I wish to state that I have visited this place twice myself, last night being the last occasion, and the nuisance which existed, if it ever did exist, is now at an end. The whole of the ground has been filled up with earth to the depth of two feet nine inches, and there is only a little bit of a hole left which is now being filled up, and which will be finished by this evening.

Norris, J.---That may be so far as this one item is concerned, but what security have the public that the opinions of the qualified medical authorities, including the Sanitary Inspector, will be carried out by persons who may be eminently qualified to fill the offices of Chairman and Vice-Chairman to the Corporation, but who know little about the sanitary condition of the city ? What guarantee is there that they will follow or act on the advice of the Sanitary Inspector whose duty it is to advise and to see that human life is not recklessly imperilled ?

The Advocate-General.---The answer upon that subject is that your Lordship has heard only one side of the case.

Norris, J.---I have read the whole of the depositions.

The Advocate-General.---The Corporation did not go into their case at all, therefore the Chairman is not in that sorry plight of being so ignorant as your Lordship seems to think.

Norris, J.---If I am bound to allow a *nolle prosequi*, I must grant your application. I am bound not only not to go beyond the law, but I shall be the first to obey its terms cheerfully. But I cannot help thinking that it is a misfortune that this prosecution has been abandoned in this way.

The Advocate-General.---I can only tell your Lordship that what I have done has been done after full consideration, and if it is a misfortune it affects my judgment as well as that of the Chairman.

Norris, J.---After what has fallen from the Advocate-General, and as he desires to enter a *nolle prosequi*, it must be filed and handed in according to the regular way and entered on the record.

Mr. Phillips.---Of course your Lordship will consider whether there is any bar which would rather stultify it being entered on the indictment.

Norris, J.---Oh yes.

Prior to the rising of the Court the following ensued :

Norris, J.---Now I am ready to try this case.

The Advocate-General.---I propose to enter a *nolle prosequi* under the powers I have.

Norris, J.---Is anybody instructed for the prosecution ?

The Advocate-General.---On the part of the Government I am not going to prosecute, and I have told the private prosecutor if he

chooses he can do so. On this Mr Beeby said "You had better enter a *nolle prosequi*."

Norris, J.---I must go step by step. First of all ascertain if any counsel are instructed to prosecute.

The Advocate-General.---Mr. Phillips does not prosecute. Send for Mr. Beeby.

Norris, J. (On Mr. Beeby entering the Court)---Have you instructed any one to prosecute in this case ?

Mr. Beeby.---No, my lord.

Norris, J.---Upon what ground do you enter a *nolle prosequi*, Mr. Advocate-General ?

The Advocate-General.---I have done so under the section 1 quoted ; I am not bound to mention any grounds. I withdraw under the discretion given me under that Section.

Norris, J.---I must ask if you have read the depositions.

The Advocate-General.---I have read them and given advice in the matter. I have considered the subject, and I have come to that conclusion. I am not bound to disclose my grounds.

Norris, J.---You decline ?

The Advocate-General.---Certainly.

Norris, J.---This was a case sent up for trial by the Presidency Magistrate, on a charge against the Corporation of Calcutta of nuisance. The prosecutor before the Magistrate was Mr. Beeby, and he now tells me that he does not propose to prosecute, and has not instructed counsel. I learn, I must say with profound astonishment, that the Advocate-General of Bengal declines to give a Judge presiding at this Sessions the reasons which have led him, in the exercise of his discretion, to advise the Government, to enter a *nolle prosequi*. I have read the depositions carefully, and may say that in the face of the depositions there appears to me an ample case of gross nuisance, a nuisance endangering the health and lives of Her Majesty's subjects in Calcutta. I, of course, cannot interfere with the exercise of the discretion of Her Majesty's Advocate-General of Bengal if he chooses, in the exercise of his discretion after consulting with the Government, whom he has advised, to enter a *nolle prosequi*. Of course a *nolle prosequi* must be entered.

The Advocate-General.---I only wish to say---

Norris, J.---I don't desire any further discussions.

The Advocate-General.---I only desire---

Norris, J.---I desire no further discussion, neither do I invite it. Let a *nolle prosequi* be entered on the back of the indictment."

The Advocate-General has worthily maintained the dignity and independence of the English Bar. In fact, there has been no disappointment in the matter. Each has acted like himself.

## MOORSHEDABAD.

Moorshedabad, the 5th May '89.

Moorshedabad has been particularly unfortunate this year in point of sanitation and general prosperity. Since the advent of the hot weather, cholera has been making fearful ravages throughout the length and breadth of this district. The cause of such annual visitations is not far to seek. It is the foul water of the river which stealthily poisons the system, and unless steps are taken to provide the people with pure drinkable water, all measures to ensure better sanitation of the place will fail. It is therefore incumbent on the authorities to convene a public meeting of the inhabitants to concert measures for removing this dire want as also to collect subscriptions for the purpose. A small portion of the wealth of this rich district expended in this direction will produce a vast quantity of good to the people. The amount thus collected may be spent in one of the following ways : (1) the removal of the sandheads at Suti the place from where the Bhagirathi branches out ; (2) the cutting of an outlet from the Pudua in connection with this stream to keep a continual flow of water in it ; (3) the commencement of waterworks as in Calcutta, Dacca, and Bhagalpur ; and (4) the excavation of tanks and wells in different quarters of the city as required by the circular letter of the Sanitary Commissioner. It is hoped that this appeal on behalf of suffering humanity will not go in vain.

Fires are every day breaking out in some parts of the city. The number of houses burned down to date is about four hundred but mostly of those who live from hand to mouth and can not in these hard days have more than one meal per day. It is said that the fires are due to incendiarism. The police must be on the look out to arrest the culprits.

It is gratifying to learn that our much respected townsman Mohunt Gopal Das Maharaj of Jafarganj akra has, this year, too, with his renowned liberality and sympathy for the distressed come forward to help the needy by giving them straw, bamboo and ropes for the reconstruction of their thatched houses and have also supplied them with food and money sufficient to support each family for a fortnight. Be it said to his credit that his liberality has given shelter and relief to the annual sufferers from fire. His charity is well known. He distributes alms every day to the poor and feeds no less than three hundred mendicants



and pilgrims both morning and evening besides large hordes that occasionally seek his hospitality. He is also conspicuous for taking active part in movements of public utility.

With the rise in the price of the food grains, crimes of all sorts have made their appearance. The northern wards of the city are being infested by thieves and *budmasbirs*.

At a meeting of the Technical School Committee held on the 29th ultimo presided over by Nawab Zainulabdin Khan Bahadur, Moulvie Mahmud-ul-Nabi, Sub-divisional officer, Lalbag, was elected Secretary, Technical School, *vice* Baboo P. C. Mazumdar resigned. As the institution is in a miserable condition, it is hoped that the new Secretary will devote his time and energy to impart to it a healthy tone and improve its financial condition.

The weather is terribly hot and want of rain is greatly felt.

R. K. DAS.

### ISLAM AS A LIVING POWER IN EAST BENGAL.

Since the break-up of the established Government after the battle of Plassey in 1757, there has been a silent reaction in another direction. As a political power, Islam was extinct in Bengal; her political supremacy was gone; but as a religious force it was not dead. Silently it continued to mould the minds of the common people. It is doing the same. It is as strong now as it was during the best days of the political supremacy of Islam. Without any organised missionary effort, without any funds at its disposal, and without any recognised particular spiritual head, it has outlived and triumphed over the attacks of Christian missionaries on the one hand and the Brahmo revival on the other. Whether the Christian missionaries and their numerous agencies confess it or not, it cannot but be confessed that they have drawn away very few of the genuine followers of the Prophet of Arabia, during the course of almost a century, from these parts of Bengal. The Brahmo revival is only of recent growth, and the day is far distant when followers of Islam would stoop to adopt its teachings. Ignorant and humble as these people are, they enjoy a greater felicity in their unquestioning faith than their neighbours of other creeds, being calm and content as regards their spiritual welfare and salvation. They adhere strictly to the fundamental principles of the religion taught them and observe all its rites and ceremonies with exactitude, and they have nothing to disturb their minds. Metaphysical subtleties are above them; polemics with other religionists they avoid. They are happy in the consciousness that their religion is the best in the world. This is not the place for propounding religious dogmas. One or two social aspects may, however, be mentioned. Not the least noteworthy is the social equality that Islam offers to all followers without any distinction of rank, wealth or even learning. Islam receives and embraces all alike. Men like Canon Taylor have drawn the attention of Christian missionaries to the fact. The late Keshub Chunder Sen was no less emphatic in his testimony. If one desires to find Islam in its primeval simplicity, in its unadulterated form and in its simple grandeur, let him come to one of the districts of East Bengal and he will have ample opportunities to satisfy his critical faculty. As far as the followers of the Prophet are concerned, there is no fear of Islam being superseded in these parts. On the other hand, it is gaining new followers every day. It has been observed that there is a political danger to the Government in this revival of Islam. Let such alarmists

be comforted. No such danger is ever likely to give any kind of trouble to the Government or to any body. The danger rather lies in another quarter. The overzealous missionaries who go about preaching against the religions of the people, had better take warning; for, if any danger is to arise, it would be owing to indiscreet attacks on gods and Prophets by these preachers. A Bengal mob, though calm and quiet, is always sensitive on the subject of religion, and apt to resent insults to the objects of popular veneration.

A.

### A MARRIAGE ILLUSION.

Narail, May 6, 1889.

A curious event has taken place here. Some one here has married in haste and is now repenting at leisure. An old Brahman, who had counted 50 summers and who had hitherto observed the vows of celibacy, having got tired of the long monotony of his "single blessedness," suddenly took a fancy to take to his bosom a young sweetheart. No sooner thought than done. To gain his object he mortgaged his immovable property and, after raising a sum, went away to Calcutta, that great mart of fairies, to try his luck there in wife-hunting. There, through the malign influence of his evil stars, he fell into the hands of some consummate swindlers, who showed him a *bouri* of sweet sixteen. At the first sight he became enthralled by her charms and, without a second thought, he engaged himself like a true and henpecked husband to carry out the commands of that gazelle-eyed *perr*. His Senility then proceeded home with his newly-got better half and there seemed to recover once more his long lost youthful gaiety; in short he became a metamorphosed old boy. To the man time ran on merrily, but the lassie began to show signs of melancholia. The girl one day threw off her mask, evidently tired of the restrictions of conjugal life and more especially those of the *Purd*. The old man discovered too late to his utter bewilderment and confusion that he had hitherto been cherishing a harlot of the Calcutta Streets. Now that the charm is broken and the spell removed, the man is enjoying the fruit of his own folly. He has been excommunicated from society.

CHARU CHANDRA MITRA.

### MUNSHI HUSSAN ALI.

The perusal of the letter of "Well-informed" in your issue of 27th April last has pained me much. Your correspondent may be well informed; but I regret to observe that he is not well polished. I wonder that you should think it fit to insert such a letter in your paper.

I do not know how Moulvie Hussan Ali has offended him. The only fault the Moulvie has committed is that he preaches God's truth as taught by Islam. He was a schoolmaster, and a Brahmo---unpardonable offences according to the fine ethics of your correspondent---and for which he would hand him over to Mr. Clark. If your correspondent knew Hussan Ali well, he would not have been so uncharitable in his remarks. I only wish that Islam would send a few more missionaries of the type of Moulvie Hussan Ali. The result at any rate, would be the decrease of "well-informed" correspondents.

AN ADMIRER OF HUSSAN ALI.

The 5th May, 1889.

### CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Notice is hereby given that the lease and occupation for the term of three years, beginning from 1st June 1889, of a plot of land for carrying on the business of skinning the carcasses, boiling the carcasses and drying and crushing bones of animals collected from the Town of Calcutta and such like processes, will be put up to public auction at the Municipal Office, at noon of Monday, the 20th May 1889.

2. The purchaser will be required to sign an agreement and to deposit as security a sum equivalent to two months' rent, as soon as his bid is accepted, and thereafter the rent must be paid on the 5th day of each and every month following that in respect of which the rent is due.

3. The plot of land, which is of reasonable dimensions for the intended business, is situated at the east end of what is called the "Central Channel" running through the square mile, the property of the Corporation at the Salt Water Lakes.

4. The arrangements proposed by the lessee for carrying on his business will be subject to the approval of Municipal Commissioners.

5. The contract will include all cattle and carcasses brought to the platform from the

portions of the Suburbs which have recently been amalgamated with the Town as well as from Town proper.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

6th May, 1889.

### INTREPID AERONAUTS

Are strongly recommended, before making their ascents, to take a cup of our Orange Pekoe Tea at Rs. 1-3 per lb or our Pekoe Souchong at Re. 1 per lb, which are very stimulating and have a delicious flavour.

T. HILL & CO.,

Adjoining the Corinthian Theatre, Calcutta.

In Pamphlet, Price 4 annas

or 6 copies for a Rupee,

### ARMY REORGANIZATION

With special reference to the Question of

### A Reserve for the Indian Army.

By Capt. ANDREW HEARSEY.

Apply to Reis & Rayyet Office, Calcutta.

### REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

OF THE

Bengal Bonded Warehouse Association

FOR THE

Half-year ended 30th April, 1889.

1. Your Directors submit for examination and approval the accounts of the Association for the half-year ended 30th April, 1889.

2. On the 31st October last, the uncollected rent-bills amounted to Rs. 12,454-10-7; during the subsequent six months bills were issued for Rs. 55,585-14-6; of these two amounts Rs. 55,943-0-5 have been realised, leaving Rs. 12,097-8-8 outstanding.

3. The divisible surplus amounts to Rs. 33,755-2-0. Your Directors propose to set apart as usual the sum of Rs. 2,000 to the credit of the Repair and Building Fund.

4. Two of your Directors, the Hon'ble Rajah Doorga Churn Law, C.I.E., and Mr. D. Cowie, retire by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

5. The Hydraulic Lifts continue to work well and satisfactorily.

6. After deducting the sum to be set apart under the Act for repairs, the divisible balance will be Rs. 31,755-2-0. Of this amount your Directors recommend that Rs. 30,000 be applied in payment of a dividend of Rs. 15 per



share, and the balance Rs. 1,755-2-0 be carried to the next half-year's account.

A. E. HARRISS.  
D. C. LAW.  
DAVID COWIE.  
M. M. SAIN.  
W. J. M. MCCAW.

Calcutta 8th May 1889.

*At the Half-yearly Meeting of Proprietors of the Bengal Bonded Warehouse Association held at their Office, 102, Clive Street, Calcutta, on Wednesday, the 8th May 1889, at noon.*

PRESENT:

D. Cowie, Esq.; J. A. Crawford, by his Attorney, D. Cowie, Esq.; A. E. Harriss, Esq.; the Honorable Rajah Doorga Churn Law, C.I.E.; Joy Gobind Law, Esq.; W. J. M. McCaw, Esq.; G. H. Kiernander, Esq.

1st. *Proposed by The Honorable Rajah Doorga Churn Law, C.I.E.*

*Seconded by A. E. Harris, Esq.*

That Mr. David Cowie do take the Chair.

2nd. *Proposed by Mr. D. Cowie.*

*Seconded by Mr. G. H. Kiernander.*

That the Report of the Directors be received, and the Accounts passed as correct.

*Carried.*

3rd. *Proposed by Mr. Joy Gobind Law.*

*Seconded by Mr. J. A. Crawford, by his Attorney, Mr. D. Cowie.*

That the divisible surplus of Rs. 33,755-2-0 be appropriated in terms of the 3rd and 6th paragraphs of the Directors' Report, and that a Dividend be declared of Rs. 15 per share payable on and from the 15th instant.

*Carried.*

4th. *Proposed by Mr. G. H. Kiernander.*

*Seconded by Mr. Joy Gobind Law.*

That the Hon. Rajah Doorga Churn Law, C.I.E., and Mr. D. Cowie be re-elected Directors.

*Carried.*

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the Meeting separated.

DAVID COWIE,  
Chairman.

**Bengal Bonded Warehouse Association.**

**99TH DIVIDEND.**

The Dividend for the Half-year ended 30th April 1889 of Rs. 15 per share will be payable on and from the 15th instant.

S. E. J. CLARKE,  
Secretary.

Calcutta, 8th May 1889.

**\*FOR SALE**

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Cloth Bound	...	...	Rs. 5-8.

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**TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL**

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,  
BY

**SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,**

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDDOON JAH BAHADOOR,  
(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

Apply to Manager, "REIS & RAYYET"

1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street,  
CALCUTTA.

**OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.**

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridood Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and

enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*, October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most captivating description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no ungard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress

he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract].—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA, ENGLAND.

**ST. PETER'S COLLEGE FOR BOYS.**

University masters, specially suitable for Indian Children. Indian References. For Prospectus, address Principal.

C. RINGER & CO. have in hand the largest stock of Homœopathic Medicines, Medicine Cases, Medical Sundries, and Books, &c., &c., for sale at their Homœopathic Establishment, 10, Haie Street, Calcutta. Catalogue, free on application.

**Rivers Steam Navigation Co.  
"Limited."**

**ASSAM AND CACHAR LINE  
NOTICE.**

This Company's Steamer "BARODA" will leave Calcutta for Assam on Friday the 10th instant, and the Steamer.....for Cachar on Tuesday the 14th idem.

All cargo for shipment by the above vessels should be sent to the Company's Godown at Juggannauth Ghat not later than the previous day.

**DHUBRI & DEBRUGHUR MAIL SERVICE.**

The Steamers of this Service leave Dhubri daily immediately on arrival of the mails from Calcutta, and are connected with the E. B. S. Railway for booking of traffic through to river stations.

**GOALUNDO AND DEBRUGHUR DESPATCH  
SERVICE.**

A special tri-weekly service of Steamers is maintained between Goalundo and Debrughur, the steamers leaving Goalundo on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday, and Debrughur on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

**NARAINGUNGE AND CACHAR DESPATCH  
SERVICE.**

A tri weekly service is maintained between Naraingunge and Fenchhoogunge for passengers and light goods traffic.

All particulars as to rates of freight and passage by all the above Services to be had on application to

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1-2, Clive Ghat Street, Calcutta.

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## GLYCERINE - AND - CUCUMBER

For INDIA and all HOT CLIMATES this sweetly scented emollient Milk is INVALUABLE  
IT KEEPS THE SKIN COOL and REFRESHED in the HOTTEST WEATHER,  
Removes and prevents all SUNBURN, REDNESS, FRECKLES, TAN, etc., and  
RENDERS the SKIN DELICATELY SOFT, SMOOTH and WHITE.

It entirely prevents it from becoming DRY and WRINKLED, and PRESERVES the  
COMPLEXION from the scorching effects of the SUN and WIND more effectually than any  
other preparation. The IRRITATION caused by the BITES and STINGS of INSECTS is  
wonderfully allayed by its use. For imparting that soft velvety feeling to the skin, this  
delightful preparation has no equal! Sold by all Chemists.

Sole Makers M. BEETHAM & SON, Chemists, Cheltenham, England.

CALCUTTA AGENTS: SCOTT, THOMPSON & CO.

**"IT RECOMMENDS ITSELF."**  
All who suffer find sure relief from



### The Greatest Pain Cure Extant.

It has driven out from the system  
**Acute Rheumatism and Rheumatic Gout,**  
After years of semi-helplessness and suffering; while in **ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS, LUMBAGO, SCIATICA, FACEACHE, SPRAINS,** it is the surest and safest remedy for these complaints in their severest and most chronic form.

Its magic effect in affording instantaneous relief in

**Neuralgia in the Head, Face and Limbs**  
Is almost too remarkable for CREDENCE.

Are you subject to **HEADACHES** and the tortures of **TOOTHACHE**? A single application will relieve you.

In **Sore-throat** its power has been so rapid and complete that it is universally recommended as

### The Marvellous Sore Throat Cure.

Try this wonderful Medicine and let the result speak for itself.

The Oriental Balm is used by the best Physicians in the world in their practice. It has been pronounced a blessing in thousands of homes. By its intrinsic virtue, it has achieved a wide-spread popularity which no similar preparation has ever before attained.

Sold in Bottles at 1 Re. each.

Obtainable of all respectable chemists throughout the world.

Agents in Calcutta: Smith Stanistreet & Co. R. Scott Thompson & Co. and Bathgate & Co. Limited.

**HOLLOWAY'S PILLS & OINTMENT**

**THE PILLS**

Purify the Blood, correct all Disorders of the  
**LIVER, STOMACH, KIDNEYS AND BOWELS,**  
They invigorate and restore to health Debilitated Constitutions, and are invaluable in all Complaints incidental to Females of all ages. For children and the aged they are priceless.

**THE OINTMENT**

Is an infallible remedy for Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Old Wounds, Sores and Ulcers. It is famous for Gout and Rheumatism. For disorders of the Chest it has no equal.  
**For Sore Throats, Bronchitis, Coughs, Colds,**  
Glandular Swellings and all Skin Diseases, it has no rival; and for contracted and stiff joints it acts like a charm.

Manufactured only at Professor HOLLOWAY'S Establishment  
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(Opposite the Police Court,)  
THE CALCUTTA  
**HOMŒOPATHIC PHARMACY.**  
THE  
EARLIEST & STILL MOST EXTENSIVE  
**DISPENSARY IN ASIA**  
OF PURE HOMŒOPATHY ONLY,  
WHICH  
INTRODUCED TO THE EAST THE  
TRADE IN  
**INDEPENDENT HOMŒOPATHY**  
and maintains to this day  
THE DIGNITY AND INTEGRITY OF  
THIS  
**SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.**

B. & Co. beg to draw the attention of their constituents and the public to the neat little turned

### WOODEN CASE

in which every phial of medicine that goes out of their Establishment is packed.

These cases while they ensure the bottles against breakage will also be found very convenient and useful.

No EXTRA CHARGE.

## BERIGNY & CO.

12, Lal Bazaar, Calcutta.

### READ THIS CAREFULLY.

Strong, accurate, pretty, open-faced Nickel silver short winding Keyless Railway Regulators, of small size, jewelled, enamelled dial, bold figures and hands, showing two times with tempered machinery and dust tight cases for only Rs. 7-8 per V. P. P. with spare glass, spring, box and guarantee. Warranted to stand rough usage. Can be easily repaired. Have no appearance of cheapness about them. Others sell at double our rates. Mr. A. R. Mehta from Bandora says:—"The 7-8 watch I purchased from you two years back, gives correct time as yet." Acting Superintendent, Government Farm, Khandesh, says:—"A watch maker has valued your Rs. 7-8 watch for Rs. 15." Mr. J. Sutcliffe, R. W. Fusi, Regt., Lucknow, says:—"Some valued it at Rs. 15 and were completely surprised when I told them it only costs Rs. 7-8." Pretty Canadian Gold Chains, Locketts, Pencils, complete shirt Studs and Rings set with chemical diamonds, rubies, &c., at Rs. 2 each. Mr. J. A. Yelmore, Satur, says:—"The best goldsmith of this place values the chain for Rs. 7 and the locket for Rs. 10." Mr. G. Smith, Salt Inspector, Sanikutta, says:—"A German valued the diamond ring at Rs. 50 and the ruby at Rs. 30." WESTERN INDIA TRADING CO., BOMBAY.

### JEYES' SANITARY COMPOUNDS

In the various shapes of

### Liquid, Powder, Soap and Ointment

are invaluable in the Indian climate.

They are perfectly harmless, non-poisonous, and non-irritant.

They have proved efficacious in skin diseases. They cure wounds and ulcers. Even Lepers have found them valuable.

To the rich and the poor, the healthy and the sick, they are alike welcome.

They destroy the virus or contagion of small-pox, measles, typhus and typhoid fevers.

They cleanse your homes and clothes and purify the air. They keep your body clean, teeth strong and skin pure. Your bed free from bugs, your drains inodorous, and closets free from bad smells.

They may be used with safety and with happy results in sick-room, kitchen, and every other part of a house.

Preparing for the Press

## THE FALL OF MANDALAY, BY ZITO..

With which is combined a complete and practical Guide to Upper and Lower Burma.

The Author accompanied the last Expedition under General Sir Harry Prendergast, in November 1885, and remained in Upper Burma after the conquest until June 1887.

The work will probably be ready for delivery on an early date; meantime subscribers may register their names with

**Messrs. DIPPIE & Co.,**

298A, Upper Circular Road,  
CALCUTTA.

A limited space only will be reserved in the GUIDE for advertisement, for which early application is invited.

In consequence of the difficulty and delay in getting together reliable matter for the guide portion of the work and the preparation of numerous illustrations which must be executed in England, some delay necessarily will arise in the execution of the work. But intending subscribers should not delay in registering their names at the above address.

DIPPIE & Co.,

Agents and Correspondents for the author.

DR.

**J. N. MITRA, M.R.C.P.,**  
London,

Gold Medalist in **Medicine & Hygiene,**  
Stood 1st in the FINAL EXAMINATION  
CALCUTTA MEDICAL COLLEGE IN 1880.

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AND

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Advertisements (three columns to the page and 102 lines to the column) are charged by the space taken up, at the rate of 4 annas a line, each insertion. The lowest charge for any advertisement is Rs. 2, except Domestic Occurrences, the lowest charge for which is Rs. 5.

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No additional charge for inland postage or peon. For arrears an advance of 50 per cent. will be charged. Foreign postage separately charged at the rate of 4 annas a month or Rs. 3, a year.

Business Communications (post paid) to be directed to "The Manager," and Literary Communications and books and pamphlets (carriage paid) to "The Editor" of "Reis & Rayyet,"

OFFICE: 1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street, Calcutta.

# Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1889.

} No. 374

## MRS. BROWNING'S SONNET INSUFFICIENCY.

When I attain to utter forth in verse  
Some inward thought, my soul throbs audibly  
Along my pulses, yearning to be free  
And something farther, fuller, higher, rehearse,  
To the individual, true, and the universe,  
In consummation of right harmony !  
But, like a dreary wind against a tree,  
We are blown against for ever by the curse  
Which breathes through nature. Oh, the world is weak—  
The effluence of each is false to all ;  
And what we best conceive, we fail to speak.  
Wait, soul, until thine ashen garments fall !  
And then resume thy broken strains, and seek  
Fit peroration, without let or thrall.

## SUFFICIENCY—A REPLY. (By an Indian Poet.)

There are many beside me and many above me,  
I stand not alone as the Nightingale sings !  
But the love that inspires me doth shadow all things,  
And raise me above thee in this that I love thee,  
And love thee so, dear, that I only can love thee  
Nay, what canst thou more for me if thou wilt love me,  
Crush with thy burden these burdens of mine,  
Wash my salt tears sweet with tears of thine.  
Nay, hold me fast, love me true, let nought deceive thee.  
I love thee so, dear ! that I never can leave thee.

To—

Of powers on earth that make or mar man's life,  
Is chiefest woman. Conscience, honour, truth,  
Ambition, love of peace or love of strife,  
Religion, chance that comes when life is smooth,  
And turns its course awry, or fear of death,  
Are all most potent arms of destiny ;  
But woman crowns them all. From her a breath,  
A tone or token, touch, or glance of eye  
O'ermasters all. O ! Woman ! thou art Fate  
Without Fate's blindness. Not divine art thou,  
Yet surely nearest God in form and state  
Of all his works.

And when He carved your brow,  
Sweet friend ! and lit your eyes with light of day,  
He shed on you his most divinest ray.

**Holloway's Pills and Ointment.**—Travellers to and from distant climes would do well to bear in mind that these changes and the altered diet and surroundings of their lives entail manifold risks to health. Occasions are sure to arise in which they will need a remedy such as these renowned Pills and Ointment, and no traveller by land or sea should ever fail to have a supply at hand. Then he may truly be said to have a physician always at his call for the various emergencies of travel. Chills and fevers should be promptly treated, and the printed directions should be carefully studied at the commencement of any illness, for Holloway's remedies can be safely used in all climates.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

"ALT. Punjab will rejoice to learn," says the Lahore *Tribune* of the 11th instant,

"that Babu Pratulchandra Chatterji, M.A., B.L., Pleader, Chief Court, has been offered and has accepted the appointment of Judge of the Chief Court for three months, *vice* Sir Meredyth Plowden, who proceeds on leave on the 14th instant. Babu Pratulchandra joins his post on the 15th. The right of Indians to seats on the Chief Court Bench was first recognised by that high-minded and truly Christian ruler Sir Charles Aitchison ; but the ignoring of that right since the lamented death of Pundit Ram Narayan had raised doubts as to whether his successor was not opposed to such liberal policy. Those doubts have now been dispelled, and we, on behalf of all Punjab, thank Sir Broadwood Lyall for this appointment, though temporary, of an Indian gentleman to the Chief Court Bench."

We need hardly say, we concur, in every word. The same paper adds :—

"As so many as four Judgeships are going abegging, we think another appointment might have been given to an Indian gentleman—Lala Madan Gopal, M. A., Barrister-at-Law, would have been an excellent choice."

Jaishi Ram, from Dharmasala, writes to the same journal, proposing another—

"Lala Lal Chand, M. A., Pleader, High Court Allahabad, and Chief Court Punjab, who has now practised for about 10 years in the highest Tribunals of the N.-W. P. and the Punjab with marked ability and success ; whose College career was most brilliant, whose life has been most pure and virtuous."

∴

FROM an analysis of Examination results, the *Tribune* comes to the conclusion that

"while in Bengal 50 to 60 per cent of candidates pass, in the Punjab 17 to 27 only pass. In the B. A. only 47 per cent passed. A few years more of this wholesale slaughter will achieve the end which this policy has evidently in view—the closing of higher education."

The writer was not aware of the educational Bartholomew's Day which has since taken place in Bengal. Our tyrants have outheroded the Herods of the Punjab.

The Punjab students have memorialised the authorities. Their fellow-victims of these Provinces may adopt the hint.

∴

THE *Tribune* says :—

"Though *Reis and Rayyet* says that we made a mistake when in a recent issue of our journal we called the *Malabar and Travancore Spectator* an Anglo-Indian journal, we venture to think that it is our contemporary who is mistaken on the point. Last year when we advertised for a Sub, a European applied for the post from Calicut, and in his application he told us that he was then Editor of the *M. and T. Spectator*. He was appointed our Sub-Editor, and from him we learnt that the *Spectator* was owned by an Anglo-Indian gentleman. We still believe the paper is Anglo-Indian. Has not our shrewd contemporary noticed the Anglo-Indian use of the term 'Native' in the *Spectator* ?

Pending some possible explanation from the city of the Zamorin, that settles the matter. But where is the clever Madras formerly connected with the *People's Friend*, who took up the *Malabar* journal and gave it its present designation and all its importance ? In any case, we should be sorry to lose him.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

**THE Indian Witness**, a missionary journal, says that

"the Boys of Rugby School support a mission school at Masulipatam, South India, and it is stated that they now propose to support a mission work in the East End of London."

Poor lads!

THE following news has been going the round:—

"The ex-governor of Senegal, who after leaving four negroes on a desert island to protect the French flag, forgot all about them, so that they died of starvation, has been fined in Paris £6 for each negro thus left to perish."

Thereupon, the righteous organ of Neo-Brahmoism, the *Liberal*—

"Alas, £6 for a negro! Does it absolve the man in the sight of God?"

That is more than we men of the world pretend to know. Why does not our contemporary out with it at once?

THE *Dresden Tageblatt* reports the following remarkable litigation:—

"A rich man from Saxony, whose wife was dangerously ill, promised to give the doctor half his fortune if he would only cure the lady. The patient recovered under the doctor's treatment, and the husband sent a large sum of money as the fee. The doctor, however, refused to accept the sum offered, and claimed half the manufacturer's fortune. The latter showed no inclination to part with the moiety of his fortune of 2,000,000 marks or more, and the physician is now seeking satisfaction in a Court of Law."

The plaintiff is a veritable leech! As old Bishop Hall says—

No horse-leech but will looke for larger fee.

As for success, again cries the Bishop—

*Groat's worth of health* can amie leech allot?

NOTHING comes amiss now-a-days:—

"Large quantities of corn husks are now used in Austria for making coarse cloth and very tough and durable paper."

THE English papers report that Sir Alfred Lyall was offered and has refused the Governorship of Cape Colony. For a retired Indian with literary resources, there is nothing like a seat on the India Council.

It is said that Bateman, in his *Great Landowners of Great Britain*, puts the Duke of Westminster down as her Majesty's richest subject. His Grace is, according to a recent return of millionaires, worth £16,000,000. His annual income is set down in the return at £3,00,000.

It is highly honourable to the Amir of Bokhara, that he has made a stipulation with Russia that no spirituous liquors should be introduced in Bokhara, except for the use of the Europeans there.

LAST year, there were, in London, no less than five hundred children under ten years of age, taken into custody as "drunk and incapable."

PEOPLE in general have no idea of the great value set in Europe on works of art, letters or curiosity. The prices sometimes given for them appear fabulous. There is at least one book

for which a sum of 250,000 francs (£10,000) was paid by its present owner, the German Government. That book is a missal, formerly given by Pope Leo X. to King Henry VIII. of England, along with a parchment conferring on that sovereign the right of assuming the title of 'Defender of the Faith,' borne ever since by English kings. Charles II. made a present of the missal to the ancestor of the famous Duke of Hamilton, whose extensive and valuable library was sold, some years ago, by Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson and Hodge. The book which secured the highest offer was a Hebrew Bible, in the possession of the Vatican. In 1512, the Jews of Venice proposed to Pope Julius II. to buy the Bible, and to pay for it its weight in gold. It was so heavy that it required two men to carry it. Indeed, it weighed 325 lbs., thus representing the value of half a million of francs (£20,000). Though much pressed for money, in order to keep up the 'Holy League' against King Louis XII. of France, Julius II. declined to part with the volume."

UNDER power and jurisdiction—by Treaty, grant, usage, sufferance, and other lawful means—in relation to Her Majesty's subjects and others within the dominions of His Highness the Sultan of Zanzibar, Her Majesty the Queen in Council has ordered:—

"Where it is shown by evidence on oath, to the satisfaction of the Consul-General, that any British subject or British-protected person is disaffected to Her Majesty's Government, or has committed, or is about to commit, an offence against the Principal Order (the Zanzibar Order in Council of 1884) or is otherwise conducting himself so as to be dangerous to peace and good order in Zanzibar, or is endeavouring to excite enmity between the Sultan or people of Zanzibar and Her

Majesty, or intriguing against Her Majesty's power and authority in Zanzibar, the Consul-General may, if he thinks fit, by order under his hand and official seal, prohibit that person from being in Zanzibar, within the limits specified in such order, during any time therein specified, not exceeding two years."

The punishment for disobedience of the order is imprisonment for two years, without prejudice to the operation of the order of prohibition. The offender is also liable to removal or deportation.

CALLED to it by the death of his wife, the Hon'ble Colman Macaulay has sailed back for home on seven months' furlough immediately on his return to this country. Mr. Cuthbertson, the Officiating Under-Secretary, in addition to his own, acts as Financial Secretary to the Bengal Government till the return of Mr. Cotton who will undertake those duties and make them over to the permanent Secretary.

BABOO Aubinash Chunder Mullick has taken up the duties of the First Personal Assistant to the Commissioner, Mr. Smith, of the Presidency Division. Baboo Prankumar Dass, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is Gazetted as the 2nd Assistant, in place of Baboo Amar Nath Bhattacharjee on leave. Was not Baboo Tamey Kumar Ghose appointed to one of these posts?

THE Secretary of State having sanctioned the appointment, Mr. E. V. Westmacott, C.S., has been Gazetted, under Section 33, Act VII (B.C.) of 1878, Commissioner of Excise throughout the territories administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, with effect from the 4th April 1889.

THIS week's *Calcutta Gazette* publishes the Proposed Rules under the Inland Emigrants' Sanitation Act I. (B.C.) of 1889, which was hurried through the Bengal Council and has been assented to by the Viceroy. The matter being urgent, the Rules will be taken up for final consideration by the Lieutenant-Governor on the 20th. Objections or suggestions must reach the Government by the 18th.

LOCAL Auditors on the staff of the Examiner of Local Accounts in Bengal, have been exempted by the Lieutenant-Governor from service as jurors or assessors in criminal trials held in any district in Bengal.

FOR facilitating the registration of rayyets' leases, &c., the following rules, with the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor, have been added to the Rules framed under Section 69 of Act III of 1877 (the Indian Registration Act.)

76A.—Any person having occasion to procure the registration of any considerable number of instruments in the same form, such as leases, agreements, or bonds, shall be allowed to deposit in any registration office any number, not less than 50, of printed or lithographed forms of such documents.

76B.—Provided that these forms must be printed or lithographed lengthways on hand-laid paper of medium size. Blank spaces must be left in the body and at the foot of the instruments to fill in names, amounts of money, areas, boundaries, and any other variable particulars. A margin must be left of one inch on the left-hand side for binding. No margin is necessary for copying endorsements, as in the case of other registers, but the forms must contain a blank space of not less than one side of a half sheet of the paper on which the endorsements shall be copied.

76C.—Before use, such forms must be bound into volumes, and paged in the Registration Office, and a certificate be written of the number of pages contained in the volume. One volume shall be kept for each depositor, and his name be noted outside. The volumes shall be numbered and treated in all other respects as volumes of Book I or Book IV, as the case may be.

76D.—On the presentation of a document being an exact duplicate of any form deposited, and being executed by, or in favour of, any one of the depositors, it shall be copied into the volume appropriated to that depositor's forms: that is to say, the blank spaces in the form deposited shall be filled up so as to make it an exact copy of the deed presented.

76E.—As an exception to the general rule, priority may be given to the registration of documents presented under these rules. If possible, the document should be returned to the presenter before he leaves the office."

MR. G. H. Simmons has been re-appointed a Port Commissioner and Vice-Chairman of the Commissioners.

THE third Criminal Sessions will commence on Monday, the 17th June next.

THE *Indian Planters' Gazette's* Calcutta Currency officer says:—

"People who have been long in India do not as a rule faint when they see a coolie with nothing on but a *dhooti*. It is quite another thing, however, when a native person who no doubt believes he is a

gentleman drives in an open carriage right through the crowd of carriages at the Eden Gardens with his body bare to the waist.

"I regard an exhibition of this sort as a positive and deliberate insult to European ladies. The police on duty should have turned the fellow out till he had put on more clothes."

This "native person" should have been turned out, but not by the Police. The less Police, the better in all cases. Why will not English persons themselves warn such nude people off, and if they prove insolent give them a drubbing? The Baboo Dhooti should be mercilessly suppressed as a public costume. The man who exhibits his nakedness on the course is a barbarian, deserving of no mercy.

THE *Tribune* learns that Bakhshi Ram Dass Chibber, second Master of Bishop Cotton School, Simla, has been honored with being appointed Persian tutor to Her Excellency Lady Lansdowne.

THE Saturday Mail begins to-day.

GAREH and Co, builders and contractors, sued J. R. Bellhios for Rs. 547-7-3, the balance of account for timber sold, and Rs. 227-8-9 interest. The balance was admitted. The contention turned on the interest. The defendant denied that there was any stipulation for interest, in fact, it was distinctly understood that it was not to be charged. The plaintiff swore that it was agreed that interest would run. It was an oath against oath. Mr. Sconce, the officiating Chief Judge, Small Cause Court, decided in favor of the plaintiff, saying "The practice of the trade was to charge interest, and defendant had offered no testimony beyond his own in support of his statement that he was not to pay interest."

Is the practice so universal that it should be accepted in every case without proof?

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Lieutenant-Governor left yesterday for the hills by the ordinary mail train.

THE Court of Archbishops has decided against the Bishop of London. It is of opinion that the Archbishop of Canterbury has jurisdiction to try the Bishop.

THE Shah of Persia is on his European tour. His Majesty has arrived at Tiflis en route to St. Petersburg.

A GRAND personage in Hyderabad has dropped. Maharaja Narendra Pershad, grandson of the famous Chundoo Lal, is dead. The head of the Hindu interest in the State, he was associated with the late Sir Salar Jung in the Regency, and was, on the latter's death, for sometime the Senior Administrator, and virtually all in all. He did not do, however. The popularity of the deceased minister and the interest of his family as well as the strength of the Hindustani element proved too much for an enfeebled old man without genius or modern culture to cope with. It was during the latter period, that Sir John Gorst was invited from England, at an enormous fee, on a professional visit, to advise—on nothing, and maintain the Maharaja at the head of affairs. That object failed, and latterly, Narendra Pershad being assailed in respect of the fee paid from the Treasury, he stopped inquiry by allowing it to be written off against him, and it has been repaid out of his salary. A wealthy noble, he was, we believe, above the taint of personal avarice or corruption in office.

THE Third Prince of Arcot, Azim Jah, died on Thursday at the age of 65.

THE Deccan Mining scandal still hangs fire. The Secretary of State has not yet been able to make up his mind as to which of the two alternative schemes he should sanction. One thing is certain, though, Mr. Watson declines to give up £150,000 of the concession money.

THE House of Commons has rejected, by 284 votes against 231, Mr. Dillon's motion for disestablishment of the Church in Wales. The motion of Mr. Picton for abolition of the duty on tea has shared the

same fate. The votes in this case were 215 to 120. Lord Hartington, speaking at Bury on the 15th, exhorted all parties to join and settle the Irish land question. There was no peace for the country while the question raged.

At the Queen's Bench Division, Mr. Justice Stephen delivered the judgment of the court (for himself and Mr. Baron Huddleston,) declaring that women could not be elected to fill Municipal offices, since, had the Legislature intended to bestow upon them such a right, and to make an exception to a general rule of long standing, it would have done so in perfectly plain terms, and not have allowed the matter to rest "on ambiguous language, and to be inferred from combining together forty or fifty different Acts of Parliament." This judgment is subject to liberty to appeal, if exercised within one week, by Lady Sandhurst. The decision is considered satisfactory by the public. It can be upset on technical grounds only. It has hitherto been accepted that though women can vote at Municipal elections, they are not eligible for seats on the Town Councils. As regards the School Boards, the right to sit was conceded to them in express words. Under the circumstances, Parliament could scarcely have intended to create an anomaly so glaring as that which would be produced were they allowed to become members of County, but not of Municipal, Councils.

A BILL has since been introduced into the House of Commons declaring the eligibility of women to be elected and to act as County Councillors and Alder—women. It is intended to make the law retrospective, without, however, interfering with any express judicial determination. There is little chance of success for the measure. In any case, there is none for Lady Sandhurst. The Bill is in the hands of Mr. Bernard Coleridge. Whatever the reception of it by Parliament, he is sure of the good graces—such as they are—of the blue-stockings and political petticoats. He will be if not the ladies' man of the day, at least the frights—if any body envies Mr. Bernard Coleridge.

BEFORE going to press, news comes by cable that the judgment of the lower court has been upheld on appeal.

THE result of the Entrance Examination is very poor indeed. The percentage of success is about twenty. About 7,500 students appeared and only 1,475 have passed, namely, 211 in the first, 581 in the second, and 683 in the third or last division. The ages of the students, as printed in the *Calcutta Gazette* and reprinted in the *Gazette of India*, vary from 5 years to 91 years and ten months! The precocious lad is a town development of the Hindu School. The nonagenarian hails from Barisal, belonging to the local Zilla School. Crediting these to the wickedness of Mr. Edward Morris Lewis and his assistant d—ls in the Bengal Secretariat, we come upon a figure which brings us to a halt. The Rungpur Zilla School returns a boy of only 12. Master Asutosh Roy must be a too-much-knowing boy to have passed successfully in the second division. We find many others below the age of 16. The withdrawal of the restriction of age must have been a great stimulus to early education. We are assured that a boy once passed at the still lower age of 11. In glancing over the list, it strikes us that the mofussil schools shew a better result than our town institutions. This is not the first time though that Calcutta has been beaten in the race. Notwithstanding the wholesale massacre of the innocents, a mofussil school—the Brojamoan Institution, Barisal, has brought out all the students except one successful—returning as many as nineteen. Only two ladies, Olga Schmidt from the Loretto Priory, Hazaribagh—and Margaret Amy Young—a Private Student—have passed in the first division. Eleven are shewn in the second, and four are returned in the third. The Bethune Collegiate School has passed only three in the second division. One old Calcutta academy, which has for the last 31 years been figuring in this examination, is completely ignored this year. The school had sent up two dozen boys, some of them very promising, and the school authorities are, we understand, in communication with the University on the subject. We hope they will determinedly probe the matter to the bottom. They may just succeed in bringing to book open secrets to the great relief of the public.

At the end of this month, the Maharaja of Kappoorthala, accompanied by two of his officers and his doctor, will visit Cashmere. Preparations

had been ordered by the ruler of Cashmere for his reception on a grand scale. But Kappoorthala would have none of it, none of these mummeries. He has prevailed on the Cashmere Durbar to give up all thoughts of pageantry and profusion. He wants to see and enjoy and learn, and this can be done only by going in a quiet, unostentatious way. He insists on being treated as a private visitor.

WE are authoritatively informed that Mr. Boehm has commenced the bronze statue of Lord Dufferin. The portrait of Lady Dufferin has been entrusted to Mr. Shannon. The marble bust of Her Ladyship, to be placed in the Lady Dufferin Hospital, will be taken in hand in the autumn.

THE insane proposal to increase the pay of the superior municipal officers, on the plea of the new areas added to the town, has been knocked on the head. At their meeting of Monday, the Commissioners, almost to a man, rejected the proposition from the chair that the augmentation of the city gave the officers a *prima facie* claim for augmentation of salary. Such of them as might have to bear additional travelling expense, would, however, be remunerated to that extent. The town has been saved a great scandal, and we congratulate the Chairman and the Commissioners on the return of good sense. Sir Henry Harrison did not press his motion on the Commissioners and asked them, if they were not now disposed for any increase, to reject the proposition totally, leaving no room for future applications on that behalf.

THERE is a feeling in the municipality against Mr. Harrington's offer to burn the Calcutta refuse. He offered an experiment at his own cost, provided the municipality entered into a contract with him for ten years, in case the experiment succeeded. A committee was appointed to arrange the preliminaries and a contract drawn up. As usual in this municipality, there was a Pandit raid. At the last moment, Messrs. Garlick Brothers offered to do the work more expeditiously and cheaply. The Engineer of the Corporation recommended the second as the better method, and the Chairman asked the Commissioners to reconsider in the Committee the first offer along with the second. Some of the Commissioners freely expressed themselves against any such innovation on the present disposal of the refuse, considering the destructors a nuisance by themselves. Before the experiment, that is a premature opinion, bred of ignorance and alarm at all innovation.

THE Hon'ble the Legal Remembrancer carried his protest in the Select Committee against the Mahomedan Burial Board Bill to the Council itself. It was weak in the extreme. The Bill was not sent back for reconsideration, but verbal amendments were carried to meet his objection by addition of certain words to the name and style of the Bill.

THE Fisheries Bill has passed through the Council. It was emasculated in the final stage. Dr. Rashbehary Ghose moved and carried an amendment which struck at the root of the Bill. The original object was to nullify the recent rulings of the High Court that fishing in private waters was not an offence under the Penal Code, which had been hitherto treated as theft and punished accordingly. The learned Doctor pointed out that nothing was an offence when the intention was not dishonest and that the Penal Code recognized that principle of law. The Advocate-General in charge of the Bill with a lawyer's instinct accepted the amendment and the Lieutenant-Governor himself voted for it. It was carried by 6 against 5. The exception runs in these words:—"Provided that nothing herein contained shall apply to acts done by any person in the exercise of a *bona fide* claim of right, or shall prevent any person from angling with a rod and line or with a line only, in any portion of a navigable river." In one sense, it was a superfluity, but in a country where Magistrates are so little informed and consider their opinion as law, it is well that the exception has been embodied in the law itself, that there may be less excuse for the courts to go astray.

THE *Prattian*, of Berhampore, writes feelingly on the inefficiency and evil of the Police. Our contemporary quotes, with warm thankfulness, the remarks made in a late issue of the *Englishman* admitting the inadequacy of the pay of the subordinate officers, as compared with the enormous power for mischief reposing in their hands. Not that

our native brother has any personal interest in enhancement of pay, but that he therein sees the root of the Police inefficiency. He is right. How can an utterly uneducated man, say a Head Constable on Rs. 10 a month or a Sub-inspector on Rs. 50, perhaps risen from a Head Constable on Rs. 10 or a constable on Rs. 6, be expected to rise superior to the temptations in his way? It is out of the question. As we have always said, make a clean sweep of the present diseased carcass and reconstruct a new and pure body untainted by previous training or traditions and officered by men of some decent education.

The best thing of all is, of course, to abolish the old-world nuisance altogether, root and branch, now and for ever. But that is too advanced a conception to be readily received yet by our thinkers, official and non-official.

THE same provincial paper protests, with equal power, against Sir Stuart Bayley's answer to the address at Chittagong not to expect any assistance in the matter of roads, &c., from Government, on the plea that the revenues are inadequate for these luxuries, for which they must tax themselves again. The *Prattian* speaks in the following strain:

"The rate at which the people of this country pay taxes, over and over again, times without number, making good every Rupee, down to annas and pies, leaves the Government no room for saying that the revenue is not sufficient to meet all the wants of the country. After paying all these taxes, after paying cess for roads and cess for public works, after being relieved of the last farthing to pay taxes, are the subjects to be again required to make roads, bridges, &c., by subscription among themselves? Truly, life is not worth living for them. Verily, it is a case of swimming across after paying for the boat. A country which was the favoured sanctuary of the Goddess of Wealth, is now, thanks to European science, converted into the very home of perpetual famine. Between exhaustion of soil and over-exportation, the people are reduced to cry aloud in distress. The Government will do nothing to relieve this poverty and these miseries. You must do it for yourselves, though, of course, you must pay a sufficiency of taxes and all manner of demands. Yes! pay taxes for roads and bridges, pay taxes for preventing famines, and then make your own roads and bridges, and, if famine overtakes you, smack your lips in quiet, or, at the worst, quietly give up the ghost."

That is, no doubt, an exaggerated statement, and its political economy is questionable. But it would be uncandid to deny the truth that underlies it. The faith of Government has not been so scrupulously kept as our loyalty might wish, and the worst effect of the present financial tightness is to lead the authorities to make light of their promises and pledges.

THE *Morning Post* writes:—

"Candidates for the Forest Department take warning. Nobody lives long in it, according to the *Englishman*, which advocates improved pension rules on this very ground. An impecunious Government may, however, reply that if the foresters die off before they can enjoy the fruits of long and faithful service, the necessity of any pension rules, leave alone improved ones, is not very apparent. The Government is mean enough for anything."

Except, of course, towards its well beloved cousins of the Civil Service. Happy is Bureaucracy in India—a Happy Family. Nothing comes amiss to it. The greatest calamity to the Empire may be a godsend. Drought, inundation, progressive barrenness of soil, absolute famine itself, or war, raises the wind in its favour. Anything and everything may be an excuse for putting money in the purse of the Celestials.

Are we drawing a fancy picture? Just look at the *St. James' Gazette*. At a time of financial embarrassment like this, when the cheese-paring of Government is bringing distress to numerous households, and economy in many directions is being carried to the stoppage of down-right improvements and necessary public works, and the hurt of administrative efficiency, the Indian Civil Servants are clamouring for increase to their slender salaries. But the most wonderful thing about the suggestion is the occasion for it—the ground on which it is advocated. One would have thought that the Service would at the present juncture have the decency to suspend its pretensions. Since the administration of Lord William Bentinck, when the covenanted officials were caught in the act of flagrant bribe-consumption in the shape of costly *Daluchs*, the Indian Civilians have never been in worse repute. At a time when a great Civilian in Bengal and another no less eminent member of the Service in Bombay have been condemned on unquestionable testimony of breach of law and honour,



and the latter of even corrupt practices, it required Heaven-born assurance, not to say "cheek," to put forward a claim to enhancement of the already fat pay the members of the Service are allowed to draw, and to support it by the evidence of their own guilt. It is admitted that Mr. Crawford borrowed money of his subordinates and the people in his jurisdiction wherever he went, but, poor man, what could he do? He was so scantily paid, that he could not make both ends meet. And then those "globe-trotters"—they are coming in shoals now to India and they must be housed and fed and treated with the best champagne, to keep the traditions of the Service. If the poor Civilian is not to rob or receive bribes or even to borrow, the fat Indian peasant must come to the rescue. Such is the irresistible argument! Could there be a stronger case for increasing the pay of the Indian Civil Service all round?

THE following gossip is from the "Home Notes" of the *I. P. G.*—

"The Marquis of Ely, who died abroad recently, and whose remains are to be brought to England for cremation, enjoyed the distinction, in company with the Duke of Roxburghe (then Marquis of Bowmont), Earl Cowper, the Marquis of Hartington, and the Marquis of Lorne, of being placed on the list of selection when Her Majesty decided to bestow the hand of the Princess Louise on the scion of some English noble house rather than on some obscure and impecunious German princeling. It was well known in Society at the time that Lord Ely and Lord Cowper, to bar even the possibility of their being so nearly allied to Royalty, without a moment's delay became engaged to be married, while the Duke of Roxburghe's father flatly declined the honour for his son, and Lord Hartington was then, as now, not a marrying man."

These revelations are sufficiently strange. So it was not the Queen that descended to give her daughter to one of her subjects, but the subject that obliged his sovereign by accepting her offspring. The truth is that, in the West as in the East, genuine noblemen rather fight shy of connection with royalty, just as some proud untitled gentry do not ally with the ennobled *parvenus*. Among the

Plantagenets,

Hapsburgs, and Guelfs, whose thin bloods crawl

Down from some victor in a border brawl!

our Queen, however, is of ancient and illustrious lineage. Yet an alliance with royal families is *ab initio* irksome and even degrading in some way or another, and sure to prove an intolerable burden in the end.

REPORTING the death of Rao Saheb V. N. Mandlik, our young contemporary of the *Calcutta Chronicle* writes:—

"A remarkably public spirited man, a profound lawyer, and the proprietor of a well-edited and influential journal, the *Native Opinion*, his loss would be regretted by whole India."

That reminds us of a passage in Mr. R. C. Dutt's book on the Literature of Bengal, which originally appeared in the Rev. Lal Behari Dey's *Bengal Magazine*, in which a well-known author in Bengali is thus noticed—"Baboo Ranga Lal Banerjee is a poet and a Deputy Magistrate." Literature, like history, repeats itself. Or else, the celebrated characterization of Robert Boyle would have been the first and last instance of that form.

The learned reader scarcely needs to be reminded, that an attempt was made to fix on Pope an instance of bathos by his far from contemptible victim, Colley Cibber. But, although the latter's parody on the Poet's lines on Lord Mansfield in his *Imitations of Horace* has been praised for its felicity, Pope is not really chargeable with the nonsense attributed to him. On the contrary, the original passage is very fine, and even tender. It is mere vindictiveness that could make fun of it. However, Cibber's couplet is not bad, though it has no right to distinction as an example of "chaff" against the great author who has made him immortal as the butt of his satire. We quote it as a warning against *sinking*:—

Persuasion tips his tongue, whene'er he talks,  
And he has chambers in the King's Bench Walks.

BYRON called *stars* the poetry of Heaven, and the brilliant Anglo-Indian bard and essayist David Lester Richardson, with equal truth, called flowers the poetry of the earth. Since then, the appreciation of flowers and beautiful plants has advanced enormously. Science, however, has looked upon flowers with an equivocal eye. Though ready to describe them with minuteness and to determine their tribe and caste, it nevertheless regarded them with a sneaking distrust. The idea has long prevailed that flowers were not good for the health. Men and specially children were reported to have died from sleeping in an apartment in

which flowers were left. Not so in the East. There, flowers and perfumes have always been looked upon as efficient auxiliaries of medicine in the cure of the ills that flesh is heir to. At length, Europe is coming round to Asia—in every sense and all matters. So far from flowers being the horrible deadly little charmers that the West was wont to consider them, they are gradually being recognised as capable of affording not only moral enjoyment but also physical comfort. And scientific men go so far as to discern the specific virtues of breathing certain flowers and scents in subduing particular complaints. The following is going the round of the press throughout the world:—

"A. M. Ungerer believes the flowers and the perfumes distilled from them, have a salutary influence on the constitution, and may be regarded as a therapeutic agency of high value. He says that residence in a perfumed atmosphere forms a protection from pulmonary affections, and arrests the development of phthisis. He adds that in the town of La Grasse, where the making of perfumes is largely carried on, phthisis is rare, thanks to the odorous vapours exhaled from the numerous distilleries."

THE Darjeeling correspondent of the *Englishman* lately told a capital dog story:—

"Soon after dark a dog, sometimes of one colour and sometimes of another, would, without previous bark or warning, spring on to a poddar's platform, now in this part of the bazaar and next in that, and grab all the gold mohurs or rupees it could in its mouth, and then dash away with its prize into darkness. Men with sticks were stationed all over the bazaar, but the thefts went on all the same, and the dog could neither be hit nor caught. The bazaar began to be abandoned, and the poddars to close their shops at dusk. The Cantonment Magistrate was at his wit's end, and communicated his trouble to the Officer commanding the Cavalry Regiment, who agreed to send him 3 dozen mounted men for an hour or two every evening. The dog was chased more than once, but always got away in the direction of the barracks. At last the troopers were ordered to use their pistols, and the poor doggie, black on this occasion, was bowled over while dashing away after one of his raids. On examination the black dog turned out to be a white one belonging to a soldier in one of the Regiments. The man was arrested, and most of the money, to the value of hundreds of rupees in gold and silver, stolen by the dog, was found in his box. He made a clean breast of it, and explained that he had trained the dog to commit these thefts. The Court-Martial admired his smartness and intelligence, and gave him six months for his roguery."

There is nothing new under the sun, however, and we are constrained to deprive the ingenious British private of his pretensions to originality. If the whole story is not a mess-table myth, the trick related is an old one in India. There are traces in Sanskrit literature of animals being put to a variety of curious uses unknown in these vainer times. The art of degrading the noblest of our dumb brethren to a disciple of St. Dismas still exists, we are afraid. At any rate, before the opening of the railway it was a common thing for thieves to employ dogs to rob the native passengers at Shergotty, mostly poor pilgrims to Gya. They lurked in the neighbouring bush and sent out their dogs into the sheds at night where the tired travellers lay stretched on the floor with their heads on their respective bundles of change of wear and all their little effects. The dog breathed on the sleeper and sometimes licked him and, to make sure that he was fast asleep, softly scooped out the bundle without awaking the owner and carried it to his master waiting outside and returned for repetition of the operation. This was a well-known nuisance, and travellers on the Grand Trunk Road in that part were warned by their friends.

THE English papers contain a story of how a military gentleman had dreamed he would be winner of the late Lincoln Handicap. He formed the resolution of trying to find out the winner by an earnest course of dreaming. He told his idea to his friends and became their butt. But he had faith and set himself to dream. And he dreamed no dream so to say. Thrice in the night of the preceding Monday, he dreamed the same No. 13 as the winner. He believed in his reveries and he backed the "Wise Man," the horse No. 13. That horse won, so that the backer had dreamed to good purpose.

"Such stuff as dreams are made of!" doubtless, many will exclaim. But no! The matter is not to be dismissed with a shrug of incredulity. We for our part see nothing inherently improbable in that account. The boast of science is all bosh before the mysteries of the consciousness. The pride of science itself has been humbled from her own advancing enlightenment. The scepticism of the Eighteenth Century has been succeeded by a more reverent disposition. It is no longer so common to hoot what we cannot easily explain as heretofore. Within the last few years, the English Society of Psychical Research are patiently enquiring into the phenomena of dreams, including the very class to which this dream of the turf-man belongs. A large body of

evidence has already been collected bearing upon the point in question. It seems now admitted that dreams are not necessarily mere illusions, that in many cases they convey true messages, sometimes even prophecies. The difficulty is about their *modus operandi* and their *rationale*.

THERE is off the coast of New Guinea a small group of islands called the Lousiade group. Since the discovery of the goldfield at Sudest, they have attracted the notice and longing eye of the new colonists, and they are being vigorously prospected. The few natives scattered over them will doubtless be quickly stamped out, for there is not room enough for them to retire to in the interior. Considering the character of the wretched lot, it is difficult to sympathise with their summary extinction. One of the group, in especial, Rossel Island, bears a horrible reputation. About

"thirty years ago a Portuguese vessel, with 300 Chinese on board was wrecked. All hands got ashore, and the white crew left in the ship's boats for Timor Island to get assistance, leaving all the Chinese on the island. The crew were absent about two months, during which time the natives of Wolla had made prisoners of the Chinese, fenced them in, and afterwards taken them to Rossel Island, where they killed and ate them at the rate of three per day. On a vessel coming from Timor to rescue the castaways, it was found that only three of the unfortunate Celestials were left of the original 300."

It was all very well for Dryden to moon about his "noble savage," or for Rousseau and Raynal and others to dream of the virtues and happiness of primitive barbarism. We *know* better. An ounce of the miseries of civilization is worth more than a ton of the glories of the starving tribes who roam about in woods, in trembling terror or vindictive ferocity, always in desperate struggle with Nature. The savage is only a savage.

NOTWITHSTANDING all the activity of science during all these centuries, the art of medicine remains in almost its primitive inefficiency. We refer, of course, to Established Medicine. For, some unrecognised medical schools in the West have made considerable progress, and here in the East we have from time immemorial at work systems which, however defective in anatomy and physiology and weak in chemistry and surgery, are unquestionably rich in therapeutic resources and specially in drugs. In the absence of a real advance in the art of healing, the world is from time to time amused with barren scientific theories. Although Swift's elaborate imaginative satire has been discredited by the great strides made by science in our times and the marvels really achieved, yet the description of Laputa, as containing a core of universal truth, may still be studied with profit. The microscope had not been invented in the great Dean's time, or else Captain Gulliver would surely have been introduced to a Professor of Microscopy, who would have anticipated as well the genuine discoveries as the stark vagaries of these days. To us, at any rate, these cat-eyed seers into the invisible are going at a terrible rate. They are always coming upon —mares' nests. They have a wonderful eye for punctuation, and an extraordinary *pénchant* for assessing its syntactical value beyond all rational bounds. Not but what they may see the commas and colons, semicolons and full points, only we see no reason for the importance they attach to these living minutæ. We distrust them on *a priori* grounds. Had these imperceptible intruders into our system, of which millions and billions are floating in the air or creeping on the ground about us, been such terrible enemies and absolute destroyers, poor encompassed humanity would long since have perished, without leaving a single wreck behind.

We do not despise the efforts of science in this direction, we only wish scientific men should observe more caution, and the public should not be bullied into unconditional surrender of their reason at the sound of science. A little patience will be good to both sides.

Already, within four years, Koch's cholera theory has been shelved, and Pasteur's mad dog is having its day since. And now another threatens to elbow him out.

The craze of the day seems to be to attribute all diseases to living punctuation. Professor Verneuil derives the dangerous convulsions attended with lockjaw, known as tetanus, from a bacillus communicated by horses. He has been at it for several years, and announced his discovery in 1885. He seems to have failed to attract much notice, but subsequent researches have, as usual, only confirmed him, and he again boldly proclaims it—for what it may be worth.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1889.

### THE PERSECUTION OF DEATH.

THE NECROLOGY OF THREE WEEKS.

WE are in sackcloth and ashes. Death has, of late, been particularly busy in our household and among our circle of friends, far and near.

Insatiate archer! could not one suffice?

Thy shaft flew thrice; and thrice *our* peace was slain,  
And thrice, ere thrice yon moon had filled her horn.

"Thrice," did we say? It flew four times and more, and in quicker succession, within less time than the space of three moons. And the relentless hunter shows no signs of "sad satiety." In about three weeks' time or so, he has bagged a variety of noble game, felling several of our dearest and best. And he is at it still. No doubt, destruction is his allotted mission, but there is a propriety in everything, and the sterner the vocation, the more is the need for moderation and pity. It is true,

This world a hunting is,  
The prey, poor man; the Nimrod fierce, is Death;  
His speedy greyhounds are,  
Lust, Sickness, Envy, Care;  
Stuff that ne'er falls amiss,  
With all those ills which haunt us while we breathe.  
Now, if by chance we fly  
Of these the eager chase,  
Old age with stealing pace  
Casts on his nets, and there we panting die.

But the great Tyrant, to whom all must, sooner or later, succumb, might at least distribute his havoc, so as not to cause a paralysing panic or absolute despair among those he meant to spare for the time. The executioner of Nature might well be expected to take and give breath to his victims. There is no use, to be sure, in crying over spilt milk, yet one cannot help a natural emotion. It is all very well to bid us,

Let the dead past bury its dead,  
Act —act in the living Present,  
Heart within and God o'erhead!

But our dead is the dead present, not past. God overhead is God the most worshipful Almighty and Allrighteous, to whose decrees we must submit. The heart within is lacerated, however, and it will tarry over the open grave, to drop the involuntary tear, even though it be but a useless tribute. The necessity of repeating the sad office, without a sufficient interval for recovery of elasticity, becomes a real grievance. Nor do we see any immediate prospect of relief. There is, at this very moment, in Calcutta, a dear soul on the rack. The struggle has been going on for full two months, but it cannot be prolonged much farther. The end is certain. The oil of life has been consumed, and only the wick remains to be burnt out. It is a question of days, and soon the land, already in mourning for so many recent losses, will lose another son of rare worth—one of the most valuable lives in Bengal.

✓Among the Brahmanocracy of Bengal, no names are so well known as Banerjee, Chatterjee, and Mookerjee. They constitute the progeny of three of the five illustrious sages, who, some ten centuries back, were invited from Upper India to emigrate and civilise Bengal. The number of those who claim these patronymics is very large, and accordingly there are all sorts and conditions of men in their ranks. Yet, it is unquestionable that, among the bearers of these names, are to be found the flower of Hindu worth in the Province. Confining ourselves to the Chatterjees, they deservedly hold some of the best offices open to the sons of the soil. One is a Judge

of the Metropolitan Small Cause Court, and another, who is Sub-Judge at Alipore, is one of the ornaments of his Service. Indeed, the Judicial and Executive Services and the learned professions are crowded with Chatterjees, Banerjees and Mookerjees. The Chatterjees have the proud distinction of giving Bengal her greatest living author. They are just now, however, in a bad way. The evil eye of the Fates is on them. Death is having his sanguinary Saturnalia among them. Within a few days—by one shot as it were—he has brought down to the ground more than one of their best members. And the greatest Chatterjee has been the greatest sufferer. Baboo Bankim Chunder Chatterjee, the great Cham of Bengali literature, has been left brotherless. He has at one time to mourn for two brothers, one following the other with fraternal haste to join him! One, a retired public officer, was of no public distinction besides, but he was to him a good brother all the same. The other is a public loss as well. Baboo Sanjib Chunder Chatterjee was a well-known literary man, as the editor, after his surviving brother, of the famous periodical the *Banga Darsan*, whose publication was an era in Bengali literature, just as the establishment of the *Edinburgh Review*, in 1802, was in English literature. He was a man of fine taste and of great conversational powers. As the centre of a circle of Bengali authors and aspirants, he exercised a guiding, chastening influence. He was averse to work and wasted his opportunities, thus leaving few cognisable permanent marks on his generation. But he was a good writer, chaste, pellucid, flowing. His prose is a model of vigorous idiomatic writing, without vulgarity as without affectation. He had uncommon powers of narration, and it is a pity he did not engage himself on a serious history. His historical essay on the famous Claimant of the Burdwan Raj, Pratap Chand, will always be read as a fascinating story delivered with equal spirit. For once, he took pains and hunted up all the traces of a fading tradition.

Bengal has suffered another lamentable loss, in another eminent member of the same clan. Baboo Tara Prasad Chatterjee was only a Deputy Magistrate, and not perhaps the most successful as such, but his worth was out of all proportion to his professional status. Not that he was what in familiar parlance is called a "duffer," but he was far from a "brick," either. He was not remarkable for management, specially the management of superiors. He was too modest to show himself off, and the chiefs of the Administration are too occupied to discern light buried under a bushel. He was well versed in knowledge—in all sorts of knowledge—perhaps, he had too much of it for his limited sphere, and appeared sometimes to be overburdened by his possessions. He wanted decision, seeing too much not to be dazed. And his keen sense of justice made him halt in presence of conflicting claims. He was, in fact,

too good  
For human nature's daily food.

But he was a man of high intellectuality and wide culture. He showed the promise of his after-life in his boyhood, while he was a charity boy in the Baraset School. He was sent thence with a scholarship to the Calcutta College, where his career was distinguished. He was one of the first batch of graduates of the University, and one of its best through all time. As Bankim Chunder, so Tara Prasad simply took his Bachelor's degree and passed out to the world. They both belonged to the pre-

University period and system, and were connected with the University almost by accident. The Calcutta University at best is a board of examiners only—a mere name with scarcely a local habitation, and certainly without an academic atmosphere. When these Chatterjees finished their education, such things were out of the question. Yet, none of the hundreds of graduates of all grades, who fill the Calendar, surpassed them in academic accomplishments or in the true academic spirit. Tara Prasad was indeed more of a Pandit than a Government official. Yet it is remarkable, and speaks volumes of the baseness or crass ignorance respecting the country of high officialism, that, while every ignoramus and imposter who haunt the antechamber of Power are permitted to degrade the gown of learning, Tara Prasad was never called to the councils of his *alma mater*, any more than Bankim.

Tara Prasad's gifts were a good deal neutralised by a constitutional diffidence, and so he has left no productions to speak of. But he wrote tersely and like a scholar, in both Bengali and English. He was *en rapport* with the highest thought and science of the times, and his contributions to the press, few and far between, were among the most valuable. He was one of the original band of writers with which the *Banga Darsan* started. He wrote the series of papers on Positivism which first introduced the vernacular reading public to the mysteries of the philosophy of Auguste Comte. He was one of the writers on the *Bengalee* before it became a receptacle of twaddle. An article of his, in the *Bengal Magazine*, on White Brahmans attracted some notice. His latest contribution was his account in Bengali of a trip to Ceylon, published in the *Navajiban* magazine. It is a most interesting and valuable series, whose republication would enrich Bengali literature.

He was, in fine, a type of the best Bengali manhood—no man of action but a pure-minded honourable man of thought, shedding the very best influence on all around. He was not without his mistakes and trials in his service career, but in no instance, we believe, was his honour in question. In private life, he was gentle and innocent as a lamb. At a time when blatant pretension and fuss is all the rage, it was something to have the example of such sterling worth.

On the other side of the country—in the Western Presidency—Death has reaped in a single victim a very considerable harvest. The Grand Old Man has fallen. For, the late Rao Sahib Vishwanath Narayan Mandlik was unquestionably the oldest and most distinguished of all our public men, on this side or that. There may be one or two senior in age, but they are comparatively obscure, or have not reached quite his stature. Narayan Mandlik was no Pandit confined with his *pothis* in a corner, nor shy politician nursing his public spirit in secret, nor publicist condemned all life long to air his eloquence and political information and wisdom through anonymous journalism, or on the non-official platform, but a recognised public man. He was a representative and leader of the people, known and accepted as such. He was not only sure of a hearing, but was even invited to say his say. As much as a man of the soil could lawfully aspire in a British dependency, he had aspired and had succeeded. He had attained to as near a statesman's status as is open to a pure Indian. He was not to be suppressed or passed over. He was not the man to keep himself, or to be kept, in ob-

scurity. He had no unmanly hesitation or maudlin modesty. He knew what he was, and *would* be himself. Having a good opinion of himself, he expected others to share it. Believing in his claims, he took every opportunity to advance them. He was, however, no vulgar braggart, pressing himself forward in season and out of season, but a Brahman gentleman and man of the world, disciplined in the school of an alien service. In fact, without a fine judgment and a native tact, he could not have risen so steadily as he did. The British constitutionally dislike and distrust intrusion, and in India their national character, from undue indulgence among a subject population, is apt to develop into extreme hauteur and touchiness. Any undue aggression might have sealed the Brahman's chances for ever.

He was not only venerable in age, but imposing in presence, fair and attractive in person, and august in personality—in fine, the Grand Old Man. He was a king among men. Successful according to his countrymen's political status, he was the one native of Bombay best known throughout the Empire, perhaps our chief politician after the death of the late Kristo Das Pal. In some important respects, he was the Bengali's superior. He was a politician without a stain—*sans peur et sans reproche*. He raised the profession of politics, if it can be called one. He was, however, no common demagogue or agitator, but a patriot all the same—a grave thinker on public affairs, speaking and writing with a responsibility and the weight of a well-earned position. A scholar and mathematician, a profound Hindu jurist and lawyer in general, well-grounded in principles and apt in details, thoroughly acquainted with the country, enriched with experience in various offices in different districts and provinces, he raised the tone of public discussion. Such a man is rare in any country, and rarer still in this, where we suffer from dearth of genuine talent and specially of adequate information.

He was not perfection, to be sure. His very excellence and accomplishments had degenerated into vice. His tastes and pursuits were confined. His learning was only professional. The devotion to a single department which enabled him to produce results necessarily cramped him. His affections were probably not warm—certainly his sympathies were not wide. He never cared to cultivate the graces. His habits were simple, but they were all primeval. At home he was a Hindu of Hindus—of the old school, with just the surroundings absolutely required of his position in mixed society. He lived in a fine beautifully situated house, elegantly furnished, stored with a very good professional and political library, but he hardly seemed capable of enjoying these enviable advantages, except the last. He no doubt started like the rest of us as a reformer. But he early changed, and soon matured into a thorough Conservative. As he advanced in years, he was less and less capable of sympathising with the aspirations for domestic and social freedom of the younger spirits and the bolder sages (like, say, Ranade.)

He was not popular. Such a man can never be—one of strong individuality untempered by ardent sympathy. He was perhaps too stern and aggressive. But he was thoroughly respected for his sincerity and his independence. This latter quality was shown under peculiar disadvantages. For, though he was a Legislator, he was but a minor servant of Government, and, though he was rich, he was not regardless of money. He was a patriot and, both in

Council and in the humbler sphere of the Municipality, he served the public with uprightness and patient diligence. The death of such a man is a loss to the Empire.

His career, like that of Kristo Das Pal, is a mournful commentary on British Rule. He was one of our best men—one of the ablest and noblest subjects of Her Majesty's worldwide Empire. And he succeeded, as much as he was permitted. For he was respected of both the nation and the Government. Yet, what did his success amount to? He closed his blameless life and brilliant career as Government Pleader of Bombay—a minor provincial law officer. Under a Bajee Rao III, he would in all likelihood have been Premier. Under any other European Power in the East, he might have been in the Ministry, if not in the Cabinet.

Within the same brief period, we have sustained another and no less serious loss. On the 25th April, in England, died Colonel R. D. Osborn. He was the leading English publicist on Indian affairs. His brilliant pen was always devoted to the good of the Indian people and the British Empire. His death leaves us poor indeed!

#### DENATIONALIZATION OF MAHOMEDANS.

It is much to be regretted that the Mahomedans in Bengal are losing their national vitality. The activity they are displaying in educational matters is bringing ruin to the cause of Islam. Their forward move in the race of intellectual progress is a retrograde one from the national point of view. In fact, as a nation, once proud and highly honored, the Mahomedans are rapidly going down from bad to worse. They have thrown themselves out of the frying pan into the fire. Their desire for worldly gain and wealth made them renounce their national identity and faith. At first they were unacquainted with Western science and arts and now they are ignorant of their national literature and the doctrines of Islam. Following the example of the Christians, they are trying to bring about a change in the Mahomedan constitution which has been based on the principles laid down in the *Koran*. They think that, by non-performance and non-observance of the religious rites and ceremonies, one cannot lose his nationality, nor is it incumbent on a judge or jurist or a leader of society to be the follower of any faith or the faith of his party. These English educated Mahomedans are not aware that the English constitution is quite different from and in opposition to that of ours. The *Koran* is our worldly and heavenly guide. Our constitution is based on it and the *Hadis*. We cannot adopt non-Mahomedan constitution nor can we make any irreligious change in that of ours. One who attempts to bring about such a change or even considers it practicable, at once ceases to be a Mahomedan. Such Mahomedans are no better than Giaours.

Most of the Mahomedan Barristers, M. A.s., B. A.s., B. L.s., and a large number of undergraduates of the present day are not Mahomedans in the strict sense of the term. In their manners and dealings, they consider themselves free from all sort of religious obligations. They do not care for religion nor have they any respect for Islam. They want to pass for a Mahomedan without possessing the required qualifications. From these deceivers and pretenders, the Mahomedans as a nation cannot derive any good, nor can they be proud of these apostates winning distinction and honor. By the elevation of one or more of these apostates to the highest Bench or the Legislative Councils of the realm, there will be no ground for the Mahomedan community to be proud of. The number of irreligious and corrupted Mahomedans is increasing year after year. Finding themselves unable to pull harmoniously with the followers of the holy Prophet, they formed themselves into a body politic, assuming a name well suiting their deceiving propensity. For the sake of brevity, I do not wish to deal with the internal and external constitution of this body. Those who are personally acquainted with the prime movers of this political association, need not require to be told that they are not the followers of the Prophet and have no regard for Islam.

Now the question is Why do the young Mahomedans go astray from the path of their forefathers and bring ruin to the cause of Islam? For the simple reason, that they receive a most defective education. To be more explanatory, it is necessary to take a retrospective view of Mahomedan education in Bengal. In 1829, or about half a century after the foundation of the Calcutta Medressa, the English department was opened in this Mahomedan institution

to enable the Mahomedan boys to avail themselves of Western education and to learn the language of the rulers. The English-reading students then used to attend the Arabic classes as well, for the sake of their national classics, without a respectable knowledge of which a Mahomedan was not considered a gentleman. After a period of about 25 years' trial, it was found that the plan of giving pure Western education was not conducive to the success of the new department, and, in consequence, in the year 1853, it was converted into an Anglo-Persian one, with the object of imparting elementary English education up to the Junior English Scholarship standard, and a sufficient knowledge of Persian language and literature. But since that time the educational authorities never made any attempt to adapt this institution or other institutions of the kind and the system of education there, to the needs of Mahomedan life or the peculiarities of Mahomedan society.

Nawab Abdool Lutef Bahadoor, C. I. E., the pioneer of Mahomedan (Western) education and the advocate of the cause of Islam in India, has supplied us with ample materials in the short account of his assiduous and indefatigable "efforts to promote education especially among the Mahomedans" to conclude that he had always been busy in bringing to the notice of the authorities the cause of the Mahomedan institutions under the direct control of the Government and the system of education there not being in accordance with the requirements of Mahomedan life or the peculiarities of Mahomedan society. And whenever he got opportunities he suggested means for the rectification of the same and for putting Mahomedan education on a useful and sound basis. Had the wise suggestions of the Nawab Bahadoor been adopted, the Mahomedans would not have been so backward in the race of intellectual progress, nor the result of Western education would have been detrimental to the interests of Islam in India, specially in Bengal. When he began to inculcate the usefulness of Western education among his co-religionists, the Nawab must have thought that the time would soon come when the apathy of the Mahomedans to English education would disappear from this land and the Anglo-Persian department of the Calcutta Medressa and its Branch School would flourish with the children of the Faithful, and other similar institutions would be founded by energetic Mahomedans in different parts of the country. Anticipating a happy outcome of his endeavours, in planning his scheme for national reorganization, he thought and naturally calculated that this new desire for Western education would diminish the ardour for the national classics, and fearing the bad effect such a state of things would produce and in the hope of avoiding the pending evils, he tried his best to make the Anglo-Persian Department of the Calcutta Medressa suitable to the needs of the Mahomedan society, and to put the Arabic Department in such a condition that the Mahomedans could easily master their national classics and turn out useful members of society and a help to Government. But alas! the unkindliness and the indifference of the head of the Educational Department became a stumbling block to the healthy progress of Mahomedan education.

Though the Calcutta Medressa is a Government institution, its constitution is not of public utility. It is a sectarian one like the Sanskrit College. It is solely intended for the Mahomedan youth. It is, therefore, much to be regretted to find the demoralizing and denationalizing effect of the education here imparted.

It has already been mentioned that there were two objects in view when the present Anglo-Persian Department was first started, *viz.*, imparting English education and Persian language and literature. The last object, which is of first importance to the Mahomedans as a nation, is miserably lost sight of. Owing to the defective system of training, the students are very imperfect in that language. Unlettered Mahomedan boys come to the Medressa and begin to learn the alphabets of this language as well as those of the English. In the junior as well as in the senior classes, little attention is paid to the Persian and the Vernacular. In the absence of proper training, the Urdu, the *Lingua franca* of the country, has become as difficult to them as any other language. They cannot write a couple of sentences in that language correctly. Nor have they any aptitude for reading any Urdu or Persian book.

It is a pity that no encouragement is given to them at the Medressa in this direction, nor can they get any substantial help at home for want of means. Our poverty has made us out incapable of bearing the double cost of educating our children at school and at home. We can ill-afford to engage the services of competent English tutors to help them in preparing their class lessons, and on account of this the foundation of the mental culture of our young is not sound. This defect is telling very heavily on the success in life of the Mahomedan youth in general. Our financial circumstance does not permit us to employ theologians to give religious instructions to our boys at home, nor is such kind of training allowed in the Medressa, consequently Mahomedan boys have no opportunity to learn the doctrines of Islam. This compulsory ignorance of religion deprave the minds of our school-going boys of the present day to such an extent that they do not know the difference between a Sunni and a Shia. It is getting hard for the headmasters of schools to give a correct return of the Sunni and Shia students.

If this state of things continues, the Director of Public Instruction will in a few years be obliged to do away with the "Sunni and Shia columns" in his "annual return." The Calcutta Medressa, the centre of the Mahomedan education in Bengal, and where about a thousand Mahomedan boys are learning Western education, is a true picture of the above. Now can be better imagined than described the moral and religious condition of the boys in the mofussil.

As to the observance and performance of the religious obligations and duties, the English-educated Mahomedans, old and young, saving very few, never repair to mosques for the performance of daily prayers, nor are they ever seen at the congregation of the Faithful on Fridays. The youngsters are ashamed to go to any place of worship, for they do not know how to perform the ceremony. They do not know which is lawful and which is not. They eat and drink anything they get, without the least fear of committing sin, and utter anything they like without the slightest apprehension of becoming Kafir (infidel). In this connection I may mention that, in some quarters, it is hoped that when the youngsters finish their academical course and enter the world they would themselves learn the doctrines of Islam and become useful members of the Mahomedan community. To allow boys to grow old without religious instruction, is a suicidal policy, and the hope thus entertained is as good as to throw a man overboard who does not know how to swim and expect that he would surely reach the shore in safety. Literally, these men are throwing their children into the ocean of atheism and irreligiosity, in the absurd expectation of their coming out pious men.

Such being the religious state of affairs, can any sensible man expect that the cause of Islam will receive any help at the hands of any of these English educated men? Instead of becoming a useful member of the Mahomedan community, his mere retention of the name given to him at the time of *Ikka* is a shame and reproach to Islam.

Without going further into the subject of demoralization and denationalization of the Mahomedan youth, I beg to draw the attention of the Government and the Mahomedan Literary Society to the facts I have recorded here, and earnestly request them to adopt proper and prompt measures to remedy the crying evil, by reorganising the Anglo-Persian Department of the several Medressas in Bengal to meet the requirements of the Mahomedan society, and by putting the Arabic Department on a useful and sound basis. Thinking that the educational authorities in Bengal cannot reasonably object to making the necessary changes, I beg to suggest that in junior classes English be taught as a second language and other prescribed subjects be taught as the through the medium of the Urdu, and the Persian be considered principal subject of study. Arrangements should also be made to enable the students of the Anglo-Persian Department to attend the Arabic classes in the literature hour, and the Arabic students to attend the A. P. Department in the English hour. The Calcutta Medressa being a sectarian institution, religious instruction should be encouraged and time should be fixed for the same as it is the case in the Christian institutions. By drawing up a plan on this line of teaching, I am sure, the existing evils will greatly be minimised if not thoroughly remedied, and the rising generation will become useful members of the community and loyal and submissive subjects of Government in accordance with the teaching of the *Koran* and the *Hadis*.

KHAJA KHEZIR.

5th May 1889.

## THE CRAWFORD COMMISSION.

LORD CROSS'S DESPATCH.

India Office, London, 29th March, 1889.

My Lord,—I have considered in Council the letter of your Government, No. 8, Revenue, dated 1st instant, forwarding a copy of the Report of the Commission appointed, under Act 37 of 1856, to enquire into certain charges of the corrupt receipt of money and of improperly borrowing money on account. Mr. Arthur Travers Crawford, C. M. G., of the Bombay Civil Service, and Commissioner of the Central Division of that Presidency, together with a copy of the report of the proceedings and the evidence.

2. The Commission find Mr. Crawford is not guilty on the charges of corruption, but your Excellency in Council is unable to accept their conclusions in their entirety, being of opinion that the evidence establishes beyond all reasonable doubt that Mr. Crawford did accept illegal gratifications for showing favour or forbearing to show disavour in the exercise of his official functions. You observe, moreover, that Mr. Crawford is shown to have borrowed largely in contravention of the rules of the service, and you give it as your opinion that he is, under the circumstances described by you, disqualified for the service of Government.

3. With regard to the charges of corruption, whatever might have been my opinion if I had been called upon to decide this matter upon the printed evidence alone, I feel bound to attach great



weight to the fact that they have been enquired into by a very strong Commission, the members of which, during a sitting of no less than 67 days, had the advantage (which neither the Government of Bombay nor the Secretary of State could have) of seeing and hearing the witnesses, and that in their opinion none of the charges of corruption are established. That being so, I am not prepared to overrule the Commissioners as to any of these charges, and I have decided not to disturb their finding on them so far as it concerns Mr. Crawford personally.

4. As to that part of the case, however, which relates to improper borrowing of money, the conclusions at which the Commissioners have arrived are most unfavourable to Mr. Crawford.

5. The Commissioners find that between the 12th of February, 1887, and the 19th June, 1888, Mr. Crawford borrowed from certain natives of India, within the division of which he was in administrative charge, various sums amounting to about Rs. 66,000.

"The thirty-third charge consists of two parts: the first part charges Mr. Crawford with having borrowed money from certain persons—native-born subjects of her Majesty—within the division of which he was in administrative charge. Mr. Crawford, when pleading to this charge, admitted having borrowed from several persons mentioned in the charge, and no other cases were established.

"It was necessary to call evidence only to show the amounts borrowed, and that the lenders were at the time of lending within the Division of which Mr. Crawford was in charge.

"It was shown that Mr. Crawford borrowed from Santapchand Navalchand, carrying on business in Poona under the firm of Sobhachand Mankchand, the following sums: Rs. 9,000 on the 10th September, 1887; Rs. 3,000 on the 10th January, 1888; and Rs. 5,000 on the 7th May, 1888.

"He borrowed from the Poona firm, Kenning Amarchand, Rs. 20,000 on the 13th February, 1887; Rs. 2,500 on the 8th September, 1887; and Rs. 6,000 on the 12th March, 1888. He borrowed from Sorabjee Cowasjee Captain, of Poona, Rs. 8,000 on the 10th December, 1887, and Rs. 6,000 on the 9th June, 1888. He borrowed from the firm of Jastap Panamchand Rs. 4,000 on the 29th October, 1887."

(Page 119 of Report.)

or, indeed, of the due performance of his public duties anywhere.

6. The Commissioners say in their report:—"During the whole time that he has been Commissioner of the Central Division, as well as before that time, Mr. Crawford has been continually borrowing money in Bombay, Poona, and elsewhere. He has kept no accounts, and has, we are satisfied, no real knowledge of his pecuniary position. The prosecution, under charge No. 33, showed borrowings within the division in 1887 and 1888, amounting to Rs. 66,000, of which there is some evidence to show that about Rs. 40,000 came to Mr. Crawford's hands in cash; but, on the latter point, we cannot speak with certainty. Of these loans not less than Rs. 40,000 is still due for principal. For the defence, borrowings have been shown to the nominal amount of about Rs. 1,50,000. Most of the transactions proved belong to the later part of the time over which they extend and a very large part to 1888. There is strong reason to think that, as Mr. Crawford says, these transactions are very far from exhausting his borrowings. We can form no opinion as to how far these borrowings resulted in actual cash paid to Mr. Crawford, and how much was of the nature of renewals: nor do we know how far the cash that he did receive had to go to pay off earlier loans by other persons and how far it was available for his own use. Amid all this confusion two things seem to us to stand out clearly. Mr. Crawford was in a state of extreme embarrassment. This is plain from the disproportion between his income and his expenditure. It is shown also by the fact that he had to employ several agents to raise money for him and to borrow in several different places, and by the further fact that in 1888 he was borrowing at a rate of interest of 24 per cent, per annum. For the purpose of raising

loans and dealing with his creditors, Mr. Crawford employed several agents, and one of the agents so employed was Hanmantrao Raghavendra, the man who is alleged to have been a general agent to obtain bribes. He was employed to deal with the Poona lenders.

All who know anything of this country can understand that Hanmantrao was thus placed in a very dangerous position. One who is intimate with, and is supposed to have the ear of, any dispenser of patronage is naturally an object of attention on the part of candidates for appointments. If such a person be corruptly inclined, he has always a chance of making his position a means of obtaining money, and the danger was especially great in the case of a man who, like Hanmantrao, was Mr. Crawford's agent for raising money. We think it clear that what might have been feared happened in the present case. We think it is shown that that mixture of corruption with some degree of extortion, which in this country springs up so readily and spreads so rapidly if the circumstances be favourable, was prevalent round Mr. Crawford. Nor do we see any reason to doubt that Hanmantrao took an active part in it. However, so far as Hanmantrao is concerned, the responsibility of placing him in a position in which he could improperly obtain money rests upon Mr. Crawford.

Again it is said in the Report, page 15:—"Another point we have had to consider in its bearing on the general case is the extreme disproportion between the share of Mr. Crawford's pay available to him for his own use and the amount he is shown to have expended including his remittances to the Comptoir d'Escompte and to Messrs. Watson & Co., as well as his personal expenditure. The suggestion was that the difference must have been obtained corruptly, but he had another source of supply in extensive borrowing. We have already given the facts and figures so far as they could be ascertained. Our opinion is, that down to the date of his suspension—16th July, 1888—Mr. Crawford was still in a stage on the road to ruin at which he found it possible by borrowing, not only to satisfy or silence old creditors, but to meet his current expenditure as well. The bearing of the evidence as to Mr. Crawford's pecuniary position upon the charges of corruption appears to us to be this: a man so embarrassed as he was is under a greater temptation than other men. On the other hand, we cannot but think that in the mind of any man of Mr. Crawford's antecedents, and holding the position he held, there must be a wide gulf between the most reckless borrowing and actual corruption."

7. That this part of the case is not put by the Commissioners in a light by any means too unfavourable to Mr. Crawford is shown most clearly by the evidence given by Mr. Crawford himself in the course of the trial of Hanmantrao and also before the Commission of Inquiry.

8. Having given this unfortunate matter my most careful consideration, I have no choice but to agree with your Excellency in Council that Mr. Crawford is disqualified for the public service and to order the removal of his name from the list of Bombay Civil Servants.

9. I desire to say that I fully appreciate the efforts which have been made by your Excellency in Council to ascertain, under painful and difficult circumstances, the truth regarding the many serious charges of corruption which have been the subject of this inquiry. The information placed before your Government was such as to render it necessary that an inquiry should be held in order to maintain and vindicate that purity in the administration of public affairs which has been so marked a characteristic of the Civil Service in India.

10. This despatch, as will be perceived, refers only to the charges against Mr. Crawford, so far as they affect him personally. Other questions have arisen incidentally which your Excellency in Council is treating separately, and which will be considered by me hereafter as soon as I shall have been put in full possession of your opinion regarding them.

11. I authorize the publication in such manner as you shall think proper of this despatch, together with your letter to which it is a reply and the Report of the Commissioners.—I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servant,

(Signed) CROSS.

## Rivers Steam Navigation Co. "Limited."

### ASSAM AND CACHAR LINE NOTICE.

This Company's Steamer "CASHMERE" will leave Calcutta for Assam on Friday the 17th instant, and the Steamer.....for Cachar on Tuesday the 21st idem.

All cargo for shipment by the above vessels should be sent to the Company's Godown at Juggannauth Ghat not later than the previous day.

### DHUBRI & DEBROOGHUR MAIL SERVICE.

The Steamers of this Service leave Dhubri daily immediately on arrival of the mails from Calcutta, and are connected with the E. B. S. Railway for booking of traffic through to river stations.

### GOALUNDO AND DEBROOGHUR DESPATCH SERVICE.

A special tri-weekly service of Steamers is maintained between Goalundo and Debrioghur, the steamers leaving Goalundo on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday, and Debrioghur on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

### NARAINGUNGE AND CACHAR DESPATCH SERVICE.

A tri-weekly service is maintained between Naraingunge and Fenchogunge for passengers and light goods traffic.

All particulars as to rates of freight and passage by all the above Services to be had on application to

MACNEILL & CO.,  
Agents.

1-2, Clive Ghat Street, Calcutta.



## NOTICE.

The undermentioned lots of surplus lands, the property of the Commissioners of Calcutta, will be put up for sale by public auction, if not previously disposed of, at the Municipal Office, on Monday, the 17th June 1889, at 1 P.M.

Lot No.	Nature of land.	Area more or less			
		Bs.	Ks.	Chs.	S. ft.
1	Land on the east of premises No. 65-1 Mirzapore Street ...	...	2	12	36
2	Land on the east of No. 2 Putootola Lane ...	...	1	5	39
3	Portion of Old Dhurumtollah Market, tenanted land, originally lot No. 20 ...	...	10	10	38
4	Land on the south of No. 116 Cornwallis Street ...	...	4	15	0
5	Land on the east and north of 116 Cornwallis St. ...	...	7	1	28
6	Land on the east of No. 120 Cornwallis Street ...	...	...	5	40*
7	Land on the east of No. 121 Cornwallis Street ..	...	6	9	5*

N.B.—\*These lots to be sold to the adjoining owners at reasonable prices.

## CONDITIONS OF SALE.

1. The Commissioners' limit will be kept in a closed cover, and the highest bidder above this limit is to be the purchaser; if any dispute arise as to the last or highest bidding for the lot, the same shall be put up again and resold.
2. A deposit of 25 per cent. on the amount of the purchase-money is to be made by the purchaser immediately upon the lot being knocked down, and in default thereof, the premises to be immediately put up and resold at the risk of the first purchaser.
3. The title to the property will be a conveyance from the Commissioners.
4. The residue of the purchase-money shall be paid within 15 days of the date of sale; and in case of default in payment of such residue, the purchaser shall forfeit his deposit, which shall be received and taken as and by way of liquidated damages. The sale to such purchaser shall be wholly at an end, and the Commissioners shall be at liberty to resell the same without any reference to such first purchaser but at his risk.
5. The Commissioners will, if required, furnish a deed of conveyance, such conveyance being prepared by the solicitors of the Corporation at the expense of the purchaser, who will likewise have to bear the cost of the stamp duty and registration, and of any attested copies of deeds or covenants to produce those that may be required.
6. The Commissioners will enter into no other covenant than that they have done no act to encumber.
7. The plan of the several lots may be inspected at the Municipal Office from the undesignated.

JOHN COWIE,  
Secretary to the Corporation.  
The 13th May 1889.

In the goods of Bany Madhub Tagore deceased of No. 3, Mooktaram Baboo's Street, Calcutta.

An application has been made by S. M. Gribala Dabee, of No. 66, Pathumaghatta Street, in Calcutta, the only daughter of the deceased abovenamed, for grant to her of Letters of Administration with Will annexed in the above goods.

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## TRAVELS &amp; VOYAGES IN BENGAL

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SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDDOON JAH BAHADOOR,  
(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,  
Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

Apply to Manager, "REIS &amp; RAYYET"

1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street,  
CALCUTTA.

## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridood Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News* October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who, being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr.

Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course:—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract.]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA, ENGLAND.

## ST. PETER'S COLLEGE FOR BOYS.

University masters, specially suitable for Indian Children. Indian References. For Prospectus, address Principal.

C. RINGER & CO. have in hand the largest stock of Homoeopathic Medicines, Medicine Cases, Medical Sundries, and Books, &c., &c., for sale at their Homoeopathic Establishment, 10, Hare Street, Calcutta. Catalogue, free on application.

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It has driven out from the system  
**Acute Rheumatism and Rheumatic Gout,**  
After years of semi-helplessness and suffering; while in **ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS, LUMBAGO, SCIATICA, FACEACHE, SPRAINS,** it is the surest and safest remedy for these complaints in their severest and most chronic form.

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Are you subject to HEADACHES and the tortures of TOOTHACHE? A single application will relieve you.

In Sore-throat its power has been so rapid and complete that it is universally recommended as

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Try this wonderful Medicine and let the result speak for itself.

The Oriental Balm is used by the best Physicians in the world in their practice. It has been pronounced a blessing in thousands of homes. By its intrinsic virtue, it has achieved a wide-spread popularity which no similar preparation has ever before attained.

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It keeps a cowshed pure and sweet. It improves the coat, destroy vermin, keeps fly off, stamps out all infectious diseases.

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THE  
**FALL OF Mandalay,**  
BY  
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With which is combined a complete and practical Guide to Upper and Lower Burma.

The Author accompanied the last Expedition under General Sir Harry Prendergast, in November 1885, and remained in Upper Burma after the conquest until June 1887.

The work will probably be ready for delivery on an early date; meantime subscribers may register their names with

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In consequence of the difficulty and delay in getting together reliable matter for the guide portion of the work and the preparation of numerous illustrations which must be executed in England, some delay necessarily will arise in the execution of the work. But intending subscribers should not delay in registering their names at the above address.

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**J. N. MITRA, M.R.C.P.,**  
London,

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CALCUTTA MEDICAL COLLEGE IN 1880.

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# Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1889.

No. 375

## CONTEMPORARY VERSE.

### LE ROI D'YVETOT.

(From the French of Beranger.)

THERE was a King of Yvetôt once,  
But little known in story ;  
To bed betimes, and rising late,  
Sound sleeper without glory :  
With cotton night-cap, too, instead  
Of crown, would Jenny deck his head—  
'T is said,  
Rat tat, rat tat, rat tat, rat tat,  
Oh, what a good little king was that !  
Rat tat.

Snug in his palace thatched with straw,  
He ate four meals a day ;  
And on a donkey, through his realm,  
Took leisurely his way,  
Frank, joyous, from suspicion free,  
One dog alone his guard to be,  
Had he.  
Rat tat, rat tat, rat tat, rat tat,  
Oh, what a good little king was that !  
Rat tat.

One single onerous taste was his—  
A somewhat lively thirst ;  
But the king who heeds his subjects' good,  
Must heed his own the first.  
A tax at table to allot,  
Direct from every cash he got  
One pot,  
Rat tat, rat tat, rat tat, rat tat,  
Oh, what a good little king was that !  
Rat tat.

Since maidens of good family  
With love he could inspire,  
His subjects had a hundredfold  
Good cause to call him sire.  
Four times a year the roll was beat :  
His men at targets to compete,  
Would meet  
Rat tat, rat tat, rat tat, rat tat,  
Oh, what a good little king was that !  
Rat tat.

He sought not to enlarge his states,  
To neighbours kindness showed,  
And, model for all potentates,  
Took pleasure for his code.

Thus had his people shed no tear  
Till, dying, they in grief drew near  
His bier.  
Rat tat, rat tat, rat tat, rat tat,  
Oh, what a good little king was that !  
Rat tat.

And still of that right worthy prince,  
Oft is the portrait shown,  
The sign of a famous drinking house,  
Through all the province known,  
And many a fête-day crowds will bring  
To tupples there before "The King,"  
And sing  
Rat tat, rat tat, rat tat, rat tat,  
Oh, what a good little king was that !  
Rat tat.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

YESTERDAY, Her Majesty reached the Biblical age allotted to humanity  
Long live the Queen !

THE Birthday was observed in India, as usual. There was the State dinner and Levee at the Viceroyal Lodge, Simla, the parade of troops in Fort William, and the Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation held a Garden Party at his residence in Kyd Street.

KING Humbert is on a visit to Berlin, accompanied by the Prince Royal Victor Emmanuel and Signor Crispi. There was a grand review of troops. The review over, their Majesties and the principal Generals lunched together. Toasts were drunk to the armies of Italy and Germany.

REUTER reports the rejection in the House of Lords of Lord Meath's Bill declaring women eligible as members of County Councils.

THE *Volks Zeitung* is to be prosecuted for "insulting the King's majesty." It appears that this German paper had published an article reflecting on the late Emperor William. The present Emperor William has declared that he is "at one" with the policy and aspirations of his grandfather ; hence, whosoever insults his grandfather insults him. Thank God, we are subjects of another Teutonic sovereign ! It were well, however, if our colleagues on the Native Press laid the lesson of the incident to heart.

*Native Opinion* of the 16th instant circulates a good likeness of its eminent proprietor, whose recent death is being mourned throughout India, with this inscription at foot, "The Hon. Vishwanath Narayan Mandlik, C.S.I. Born 8th March 1833—Died 10th May 1889." It is a print from a chalk-drawing from evidently a cabinet size photograph. We hope the Bombay firm which has executed it will advertise it for sale, being confident that it will meet with a ready demand in all the Presidencies and Provinces of the Empire.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.



THE Government still shirks any question about Upper Burma. Replying to Mr. Bradlaugh, the Under-Secretary of State for India denied, in the House of Commons, that there was widespread discontent and distress in that newly-acquired country, and that, therefore, there was no occasion for any investigation. The redoubtable junior member for Northampton is not likely to let the matter drop. Meanwhile, the Government should seriously consider the situation and prospects in Upper Burma, which, though conquered, is far from subdued. For ourself, we can only repeat what we said before. There is but one effectual solution of the difficulty—a native *régime*, under British protection, or even tutelage.

That idea is, of course, gall and wormwood to the almighty Bureaucracy and the whole brood of British place-hunters, *in esse* and *in posse*. But what is the use of a statesman from the flower of the English nobility at the head of the Government in India, if he will not rise superior to the Services?

MR. LABOUCHERE has not been successful in his motion for abolition of hereditary peers. The House rejected it by a majority of forty-one votes. It is too early in the day to think of depriving Great Britain of its nobles. The Englishman may like to see a bold man "pitch into" the Peers, but he dearly loves a lord for all that, and loves to be one above all things.

GENERAL BOULANGER has arrived in England. He has taken a fine house in London for six months, showing that his future movements are uncertain. He is a great friend of Lord Randolph Churchill, but otherwise he does not seem to be popular. He lately visited the House of Commons. Another distinguished stranger's advent is announced—that of the General's black horse.

NOTHING escapes party vindictiveness in Europe. They have discovered the political pedigree of the most noted Frenchman of the day. The *Star* has gone to the pains to find out that so far back as 1794, among the eighty-five political criminals who were beheaded on the guillotine, St. Just, and Couthon, was that of one Brigade-General S. B. Boulanger. He was only thirty-seven years of age and had once been pronounced innocent by the Convention. He was again charged with "conspiracy against the liberty and safety of the French people," with "agitation for the production of a civil war, the destruction of the Republican Government, and the subjection of France to a new tyranny."

THIS is Mr. James Payn's deliverance, in the *Illustrated London News*, on Maharaja Dhuleep Singh's letter to Her Majesty demanding the "Koh-i-noor" or its price.

"The Eastern mind is too full of gorgeous imagery to have much room for humour. The jokes of an Indian potentate are always of a practical kind, and generally take the form of punishment, 'something lingering and humorous,' such as 'boiling oil.' But when he has been 'under the influence of Western civilization' *z. c.*, has learned to wear a top-hat, drink champagne, and bet on the races, he naturally improves in this respect. The Maharaja Dhuleep Singh is an example of it. He has written a letter to the Queen, really full of fun, though it must be owned, rather cynically expressed. Finding that his endeavours to stir up rebellion against her in his native State come rather expensive, he has applied to her for the sinews of war. Money, it seems, he doesn't expect, but he would feel obliged—no; he doesn't even go so far as that—he requests her to return him his Koh-i-noor. It is no more his than it's mine; but that's a detail. He wants it. 'Therefore, believing your Majesty to be that most religious lady whom your subjects pray for every Sunday, I do not hesitate to ask for this gem, or else that a fair price be paid for it out of your privy purse.' If I might venture to suggest a reply to this modest request, it would consist of an extract from a species of literature very familiar to the Maharaja—'Vivat Regina. No money returned.'

That is a poor joke and a worse argument. This cavalierly treatment of a question of *meum* and *teum* is more worthy of a cavalier of industry than of an Englishman of letters, who would go to court if one of his tales of fiction were adapted to the stage and put on the boards, without payment to him, and who complains that his books are reprinted, without his permission, in another country beyond the ocean.

THE "Inland Emigrants Health Act (I., B.C., of), 1889" received the assent of the Viceroy on the 7th and came into operation on the 15th May 1889, when it was first published with such assent in the *Calcutta Gazette*. The local Government was anxious to pass this

law for the better sanitation of emigrants, during their passage through Bengal to the labour districts in Assam. But does the law itself improve matters? There is nothing in it which can have any immediate operation. It only defines certain words, such as Agent, Dependent, Emigrant, Emigrate and Labour districts, and then leaves to the local Government to frame rules about the routes, depôts and rest houses, mode of travel, food, water supply, clothing, medical treatment, disposal of the dead, &c., and all to give effect to the purposes of the Act. The only enacting portion properly speaking is the provision that breach of the rules to be made by the Local Government is punishable with a fine of Rs. 500 and an additional fine of Rs. 50 for continuing the breach. It supposes an expenditure of public money in the event of default on the part of an agent to comply with any rule, and then authorises the officer making it to recover the amount without limiting it with simple interest thereon at the rate of six per cent. yearly, under the provisions of the Public Demands Recovery Act, 1880. That is the whole law, if law it can be called. No true legislative assembly would sit over such a Bill of dates. The tendency of modern legislation in India has been to leave everything to bye-laws and rules under an Act and to empower the Government to frame or sanction those bye-laws. This may be convenient, but it is not legislation. There may be a precedent for the law under notice, but then the work of legislation is reduced to sanctioning in anticipation the orders of the Executive. The Government would have shown a greater respect for the legislature of its own creation, by submitting for sanction the rules it proposes to make.

O for a Barnes Peacock to maintain the integrity of our legislative councils!

FROM March last, a very interesting little addition has been made to the Indian Press in the *Kayastha Gazette*, "a weekly Journal devoted to Kayastha Interests published every Wednesday at Bankipore, Patna. It is the organ of the local Kayastha Association. It shows considerable vigor and is thoroughly worthy of the support of the great community whose mouthpiece it is and of the consideration of other communities. But in order to command influence, it must show more enterprise. It is too tiny a thing, being equal to a single leaf of the standard native weekly. This may be prudent to begin with, but it cannot be satisfactory to any side concerned. It is a disappointment to the reader and a embarrassment to the contributors. The more readable such a paper is, the more interesting it proves. The editor himself is so pressed for space that he frequently uses supplements which are always an irritation on readers, and a positive nuisance when, as in the *Kayastha Gazette*, they are not uniform in size with the paper. Instead of a couple of narrow strips, of two columns each, the management might at least give two additional pages of the usual size, with three columns to the page. For the national policy, under the circumstances, is to enlarge the size of the periodical.

With regard to the literary standard, we wish our contemporary had not so early in its career made a plunge into Kayastha polemics. But somehow the recondit and obscure subject of Kayastha origin seems too fascinating to the scribes of the scribes of Hindoo society, and between the English-speaking modern Editors of the *Calcutta Gazette* and the young Baboos of the *Calcutta Gazette*, they are hammering away at the question: Are the Kayasthas Kshatriyas? For ourself, we prefer to mind our own business and preserve the unimpaired integrity of our proboscis. Whatever the strictness of the case on the special issue, it is matter of history, though unfortunately a history that is not generally cultivated, that the Kayasthas throughout India have often wielded the sword with more or less success. But the pen is the peculiar weapon of this people and a formidable one, and we better keep ourself out of its range.

Meanwhile, we are ready to learn. The *Kayastha Gazette* mentions a book called *Kayastha Itinerary*, said to be very popular in Upper India, which seems to be the Kayasthas' *va-de-meum* and chief weapon in the controversy. We have never come across it. The *Gazette's* citation is vague in fact, we suspect the writer himself is far from familiar with it, but we presume it is in Hindi, if not in Kayastha characters. What, then, is its proper name? And where is one to get a copy? The writer speaks in general terms of "numerous books and pamphlets" in which the subject of Kayastha origin has been "ably and fully discussed." We know there are many books and pamphlets in Bengali from the old *Kayastha Kaustubh* downwards, and we are aware that there have been many similar publications of

late years in Upper India, but these latter are not known in this part of the country which is deeply interested in the subject. We would ask our contemporary to supply the public with the bibliography of the Hindi side of the literature.

ON the 30th March, we reported the painful occurrence of a young mother burying alive her own child—to cover her shame. She was tried for murder at the last Howrah Criminal Sessions, last Monday, found guilty and sentenced to transportation for life. She pleaded not guilty, alleging that the child had accidentally slipped into the tank and was drowned. She could not confess her guilt—in more senses than one—but the Jury knew what it was and found her guilty and the Judge passed the lesser sentence for murder fixed by law. Both the Jury and the Judge acted under the law. They had no choice in the matter. Ought not the law to view more leniently such cases? With the evidence of her illicit love, the girl could not live in society, and she did the unnatural act for mercy to herself and the child. Indian society has not yet grown to tolerate illegitimacy. No law can suppress that feeling, and the Penal Code should be more in accord with the popular sentiment.

THE *Indian Planter's Gazette* lately, in its Home News Notes, wrote :—

"The attitude of the Opposition all along on the question may well be summed up in the words of Pope's sneer at Afficus :—

'Willing to wound and yet afraid to strike,  
Just hint a fault and hesitate dislike.'

The quotation is all right, except perhaps for the omission of a comma after "fault." But the "words of a sneer" where only "sneer" is meant and would have been quite enough, is a lapse into the penny-a-liner's temptation, that mars the production of a respectable pen. And why "sneer" at all? That is a misbecoming description of an elaborate historic attack by one great contemporary on another—one of the finest damning likenesses, with all the scars on—nought extenuated and everything set down in malice perhaps—in the whole British gallery of literary portraits. As for "Afficus," it is a bad hand or—the devil!

VERILY he is a devil and the printing establishment a Pandemonium! Between him and his worthy ally the proof-reader, they have, in the *Indian Daily News*, succeeded in giving an old English worthy a Mongolian patronymic. Our contemporary quotes Sir Henry Wotton. Is he any relation of the Marquis Tseng or one of the Burmese traitors? If a Celestial may receive from Western liberality or ignorance—a Marquisate, a Knighthood or even a baronetcy may well fall to an Omrah of the Golden Foot; for Wotton is unmistakably Chinese. Luckily for the credit of the writer, the lines he quotes are famous in English literature. We have a bone to pick with him on them, however. We are neither partymen nor extremists. Still less are we worshippers of that contemptible fetish which, to the shame and misfortune of our countrymen, has been blindly accepted at the hands of a knot of wire pullers for adoration—Marquis of Ripon. Although we embraced the Local Self-Government Resolution and still believe in it, we have never concealed its imperfect working or even its disastrous result wherever such has happened. Nevertheless, we cannot allow any sinister sneer at the principle to pass without reproof. We regret to find the *Indian Daily News* open to this charge. Our contemporary writes :—

"When Lord Ripon and his quosone following started the idea into life, they acted under the impression that great things would follow—that the people, grovelling under the yoke of irresponsibility, would find in their handwork the sesame to national independence. So far, their anticipations have proved a dead failure."

That is not a fair description of the matter, either in its origin or its outcome in its personal or its public aspects. The Ripon Government did not start the idea. It was nothing new. It existed before the Marquis landed on these shores. It was as old as the race. There was no originality in the measure. It was at best a revival and a development. It would seem that the Viceroy had at first formed some extravagant expectations

THE London Correspondent of the *Indian Planter's Gazette* speaks of a new book by Mr. Henry C. Burdett named "Prince, Princess and People," which seems to have created an unusual interest in "Society." It is devoted to our future King and Queen, and is intended to show the arduous nature of the social and public duties of Royalty in chrysalis.

WE have not seen it, but we suspect it to be a plunge in obsequiousness and snobbery. Nor are we disposed to respect the literary capacity of the writer. Our contemporary's Correspondent quotes a passage as a favorable specimen of Mr. Burdett's work, to wit :—

"The quotation," adds the Correspondent, "being of the beautiful lines—

'He mourns the dead  
Who lives as they desire.'"

Mr. Burdett is not evidently an over-modest man, speaking as he does as an expert.

THE *Indian Daily News*, in its opening leader of Thursday on the rejection by the House of Lords of the Bill to legalise the admission of women to the County Councils, quotes Mr. Goldwin Smith's attack in the *St. James's Gazette* against political women and says :—

"Evidently, the rejection by the Upper Chamber of Lord Meath's Bill will command the hearty approval of at least one Englishman, who will not regret that the sprag has been applied to the wheel of women's political progress at a stage short of the female suffrage he so greatly dreads."

Many readers, in India at all events, will be struck by the word "sprag." One ordinarily expects "spoke" in the connection. Why then, "sprag?" That is a local term for a young salmon. It is also a local word for a nail, and it is doubtless in this sense that our contemporary has used it. But *this* local usage is ignored by the best authorities. And why a local word where a universally recognised and known word was ready to hand? Which part of Britain does the writer hail from? The information might fix the geography of "sprag" as synonyme for "spoke."

DR. ERASMUS DARWIN, the scientific Poetaster who begat the *savant* of that ilk of our day—The Darwin, in fact, of all time—sang of the Sexology of the Botanical Kingdom. The wits of the *Anti-Jacobi* quizzed the poor bard with their *Loves of the Triangles*. A greater poet has since charmingly sung the Loves of the Angels. But no man of song has yet worthily treated of the Loves of the Schoolmaster and Schoolmistress. Old Roger Ascham's *Schoolmaster* is a prose Essay and almost a professional treatise. And poor Shenstone's *Schoolmistress*—which, by the way, the author originally put forth as a burlesque in the Spenserian stanza—though a respectable poem has no love in it. The author of *Dr. Syntax* has only allowed his hero the liberty of a kiss twice in the course of his peregrinations. In this neglect of literature to pourtray the pedagogue's tender passion, it is something to have the following characteristic love-letter, which is now making the round of the press. It is from a swain armed with the ferule (instead of the crook) popping the question in right pedagogic fashion :—

"Madam,—If there be yet no *proposition* towards a *conjunction* with you, be pleased to admit of this *interjection* of my respects. I do not pronounce *adverbium*, that I desire to be *adjective* to you in all *cases*, for I *positively* declare that, *comparitively* speaking, I should be *superlatively* happy should I agree with you in all *moods* and *tenses*. I hope you will not think me *singular* at desiring to have a *plural number* in my family, for I am too *masculine* to be *neuter* with regard to the femines—the substantive good of earth. Therefore do not *decline* this *conjugation*, though I am not the *first person*, the *second person*, nor the *third person*, who has solicited you to be subjunctive to love. I presume you will not be in the *imperative* when I am in the *potential*. It will make a *participle* of happiness if you will engage your *voice* to be *passive* hereafter. Instead of *syntaxes*, believe that I will pay all the debts of duty, so that we need be afraid of no *accidence*. My whole income shall be *dative* to you for the *present*, nothing shall be *accusative* of you for the *future*, and your sweet name be ever my *coative*, till cometh death, the great *ablativ* of all things to turn our policy into a prosodie."

MR. LAMBERT as Deputy Commissioner of Police drew Rs. 1,500 a month. As full Commissioner, he is allowed Rs. 2,000. On the separation of the two offices of Chairman of the Corporation and Commissioner of Police, the Bengal Government suggested the pay of the head of the Calcutta Police to be fixed at Rs. 2,000 rising to Rs. 2,500 with free quarters. The Government of India was for Rs. 1,500—2,000 and recommended accordingly to the Secretary of State. Mr. Lambert naturally enough thought he deserved more, and the local Government of Sir Stuart Bayley, obliging to a fault to a *protégé* of his deceased official Gamahel, did not hesitate to move the superior Government to reconsider the pay as originally proposed. The India Government, with a better sense of the fitness of things, has, we understand, declined to reopen the question, and we think rightly. With free quarters, the present pay of the Commissioner of the Calcutta Police comes up virtually to Rs. 1,750—2,250, if not more. Whereas,



A Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Bengal, is allowed Rs. 1,500 and the Inspector-General draws only Rs. 2,500. They have no separate house allowance. The pay of the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, is less than Rs. 3,500. There has been no addition to the jurisdiction, to raise even a plausible claim to increased allowances. Hardly any additional responsibility has been thrown on Mr. Lambert, and there is no better detection of crime in Calcutta. The thieves flourish as ever. We speak from personal knowledge as the Police know.

NOTWITHSTANDING the announcement, in the *Englishman*, of Mr. Amn Ali's elevation to the High Court, we can scarcely believe that the Government had, with open eyes, committed such a serious mistake. If the fact be as our contemporary represents it, all we can say is, that Government have invited trouble. They may do just as they please with Hindus, but Mahomedan orthodoxy is not always insulted with impunity.

The time has no doubt come for a Mahomedan Judge on our High Court. Hitherto, no such appointment could be made on the ground that there were no eligible men. Luckily, no such plea holds now. We were ourself under the same impression with Government and the Judges, but we have since found reason to change it. Inquiry has discovered to us, and will discover to the authorities, more than one suitable man in the Bengal Provinces. There is at least one senior Pleader practising under the eye of the Court who has sufficient knowledge of English and general information, whose life is pure, who is a Believer and correct Mussulman, without being a bigot, who has all the liberality and accommodating spirit of a man of the world, and who is the greatest Mahomedan lawyer in the Calcutta Court, really versed in the original sources of the law of Islam, and who is the only lawyer in it who cites the original authorities in the original tongue and translates them there and then.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1889.

### LORD STANLEY ON FACTORY LEGISLATION FOR INDIA.

ON the 25th February last, in the House of Lords, Lord Stanley of Alderley asked the Secretary of State for India whether his statement at Oldham, on the 25th January, was correctly reported, adding that, on the 5th November last, the Manchester Chamber of Commerce passed a resolution, by a majority of 10, recommending that the British Factory Acts, so far as they related to women and children, should be extended to British India, and that Mr. Stuttard, the seconder of the resolution, since expressed himself, by letter through the *Manchester Courier*, in the following terms: "Surely it will be better for the physical welfare of the Hindoo to remain in agricultural employment and give us plenty of cotton, rather than be attracted to the ranks of mill operatives." There were in that Chamber of Commerce, however, men who had had Indian experience and who knew the position of things and understood well what hidden influence was at work. It is due to these members to acknowledge the simple truth that, themselves interested in Manchester's supremacy, they nobly stood the test. True to their colours, they would not conceal the truth. To this honest minority, we are indebted for the exposure of this clap trap philanthropy of the rest of their brethren. Although the Resolution was carried by 28 votes, it was supported only by those who were conspicuous in displaying their ignorance of the condition of things under which the Bombay mills worked.

The object, for which, we were told, the Resolution in question was promulgated by the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, was simply humanitarian. Our brethren of Lancashire, out of their profound sympathy with the Bombay operatives, were urged by

a strong desire to reduce the hours of labor in correspondence with the Factory practice at Home. Such, if we could believe it, was this slippery transparent Resolution, supported by men wholly ignorant of the existing system of things guiding labor in this country. Incapable of judging of the probable fitness of their suggestions, they obtrude their offices when these were neither needed nor sought for, alleging as a reason for their intrusion that they were acting purely in the interests of the Indian operative, while, in reality, the motive was to check rival competition by the Indian manufacturer!

We are indebted solely to Lord Stanley for unmasking this nest of philanthropic selfishness at Manchester, and drawing from the members of the Chamber of Commerce and the Manchester press their true motives. The result has since been a timely explosion of the absurd pretence set up by the men of Lancashire. Had the cause of humanity alone moved the Chamber of Commerce at Manchester, why should they amuse themselves in removing a grievance where none existed? What brilliant opportunities still exist for a humane body of men such as the Chamber of Commerce of Manchester profess to be, Lord Stanley well pointed out, emphasizing the neglected calls from the Assam Tea districts, the great mortality amongst coolies *en route* to the Tea gardens of Assam, and inefficiency of cooly hospitals in Assam.

Had the Government of India conceded what the men of Manchester wanted, it would have failed terribly in its duty to the Indian manufacturer. It would have concealed the most important fact that no complaint had ever been made by the Bombay operative. We have no desire to throw cold water upon or damp the spirits of any body of philanthropists, but we certainly have a decided objection to its being made a *Tommy Noodle* of, for the amusement of men who speak on matters of which they possess no knowledge, and, to serve their own avaricious ends, misrepresent facts, wilfully prevaricate and pervert the truth.

At a meeting of the Bombay Mill-owners, held on the 19th December last, the Manchester Chamber of Commerce was completely check-mated in its tactics. It was stated at that meeting that better than two-thirds of the hands employed in Lancashire were women, while in Bombay the work was performed by men. It is not denied that the working day is longer in India than in Lancashire by 4 hours and 13 minutes in the longest day, and two hours in the shortest, but the working hours are restricted to daylight, and the operatives in no instance kept nor can they be kept to their work in India as they are in Lancashire or any part of Europe. While, on the other hand, it takes four hundred operatives in India to turn out what one hundred operatives will do in England.

Lord Stanley of Alderley, in his speech, observed:— "For sometime in India there has been a limitation of hours of labor for females and children, notwithstanding the hours are longer there than at home; the natives of India love to dandle over their work, and cannot be kept teeth and nail to it as the Lancashire operatives are kept to it. There never has been any complaint of long hours, since the work is so very much lighter on the whole, from four times the number of hands being employed in India over that necessary to the performance of the same amount of work by one hundred hands in Lancashire or any other similar manufacturing district in Europe."

Lord Stanley pointed out the absurdity and inconsistency of a Chamber of Commerce which professed

free-trade opinions, seeking protection for one British interest alone, not from the foreigner, but against our Indian fellow-subjects. The impropriety of Lord Cross encouraging such hopes was highly culpable. It cannot even be pretended in its behalf that it was a mistaken attitude adopted in ignorance or inadvertence. It were almost superfluous to comment upon such conduct—it were frivolous to attempt to palliate it: justification is out of the question. It was both undignified and unworthy, if not a fencing with truth, on the part of the Noble Viscount, while the notorious fact stared every man in the face that party leaders found themselves so cornered that unresistingly they moulded their private opinions to the demands of Parliamentary exigencies, and instrumentally forwarded and promoted their own party interests as to unrestricted imports. Many reasons may be adduced to show why the Secretary of State should not have played fast and loose with the Manchester Chamber of Commerce. It was highly unbecoming in the responsible Minister of the Crown to have a feeling in common with these interested agitators, not the least objectionable feature of the business being his unceremonious treatment of Lord Lansdowne, who, on arrival in India, assured the public he would do his utmost to encourage native industries. Lord Cross has not the candour to admit Government obligations to give India justice, but on an electioneering *bout* will sympathize with the Oldham voters. Against this reasoning, the Secretary of State for India cannot answer "No." Viscount Cross, when speaking at Oldham on the 25th January, being himself a Lancashire man, made it a convenient season, surrounded as he was by his own countrymen and friends, to give expression to his thoughts and intentions, a demonstration as unnecessary as it was useless. But though injudicious and ill-timed, it served its end, by denoting, if proof were wanting, how little regard is shown by the Home Government for our condition in India. When the country gave up so large an amount—nearly a million of money—on cotton duties, purely on the ground that they protected native industry against English, we were justified in looking for an equivalent in some shape as a reasonable off-set by permitting free competition. But the present administration of the Government of India, to make good unexplainable deficits, after our excessive generosity, saddle us with an increased salt tax, and reimpose the infamous income tax, which had to be abolished in consequence of its arbitrary and despotical working. Such shamelessness was before, it is now, and it will ever be, a positive danger to the State.

There is no piece of jobbery, political or other, which Lord Salisbury, Lord Cross and Mr. Maclean would not undertake to serve their own ends, either individually or collectively. The *Bombay Gazette* of the 28th February 1876, while Mr. Maclean occupied the editorial chair of that journal, said, "Give Manchester what she wants or go." In the same language, Lord Salisbury addressed the Viceroy of India. In plain, unvarnished English, thirteen years ago, both Lord Salisbury and Mr. Maclean, without deliberation, without weighing or examining the reasons for and against such a measure, would have sold India's interests to Manchester. This Lord Cross would do tomorrow, if he had the courage to venture on such a campaign, disavowing and renouncing any knowledge that when he became Secretary of State for India, he also became the guardian and trustee of the interests

of the people of India, that desiring to be just he would think of them before thinking of Lancashire. We take the advantage of Lord Salisbury and Mr. Maclean's own word and convict them out of their own mouths. Can there be anything more undignified and damaging to the reputation and honor of the Premier of England, than giving expression to such language?

With regard to Mr. Maclean, we should have been surprised had he turned up in any other light than the enemy of India, a country he is indebted to for the position he now holds, and the very means that keep body and soul together. It is men of Mr. Maclean's stamp who do much to injure India's interests. He is an Anglo-Indian, one of those cynical nobodies, who, either in the cause of justice or injustice, can make their voices heard, do much harm and little good. Honest and truthful English statesmen, in their attempts to deal justly with us, have men of Mr. Maclean's stamp to contend with. Such men do a great amount of injury, they misrepresent facts, deliberately and coolly give utterance to monstrous untruths. It is this spirit of injustice that influences and warps the opinions of people at home. Mr. Maclean never was in touch with the natives of India. But for our holding India as a field of enterprise for European energies, these men would have lived and died unknown outside their own limited petty walks in life.

We have looked in vain for a satisfactory answer, from the Secretary of State for India, to the question of Lord Stanley of Alderley, but the reply of Lord Cross was of the customary stereotyped evasive character. Lord Stanley's question was perfectly plain, unaccompanied by any high-flown expressions, "Was the noble Viscount's statement at Oldham on January 25th correctly reported?" Lord Cross, replying, said—"the noble Lord did not ask him whether he made the statement but assumed that he did so." We are of opinion Lord Stanley assumed nothing, and but for the omission of the word "made," furnished an opportunity for Lord Cross to fence with truth, which, in his usually spirited manner, he made the best of, but at the best he failed miserably in convincing Lord Stanley that his speech at Oldham was incorrectly reported, and we are convinced that the Secretary of State for India's expressions did convey, and carried the construction Lord Stanley placed upon the noble Viscount's speech, that it was not the health and lives of women and children he cared a fig to protect, but that the Lancashire manufacturers he felt bound as the Secretary of State for India to protect against Indian manufacturers.

Lord Cross, continuing, said—the noble Lord further asked whether steps had been taken to see the coolies of Assam and Bengal were properly treated. What Lord Stanley did say on this point was that, if the Government of India conceded the Manchester request, it would lay itself open to a charge of hypocrisy for taking thought of humanity at Bombay, where none was needed or asked for, while the calls of humanity from Assam Tea Gardens and Bengal coolies were being neglected. Replying, Lord Cross said, an act had been passed sometime ago in connection with this subject, and he found that great improvement had been effected by the Act. For the better information of the Secretary of State for India, we give an extract from the last *Assam Gazette*. According to the mortuary returns, the cholera epidemic seems to be unusually busy in most of the Assam districts during the month of April. In Sylhet alone there were 635 deaths from cholera, 53 in

Cachar, 9 at Goalpore, 10 at Darrang, 31 at Sibsagar and 10 at Lakinpore. The total deaths numbered 750 and averaged 25 deaths per day. The above fearful mortality compels us to ask Wherein lies the great improvement which the Secretary of State for India found in the better protecting of cooly emigration to Assam?

While we write, a gentleman from Bombay, who has had some 15 years' experience in the labor market there, and has an intimate knowledge of the Mill-owners' question, and to whom we have read a portion of this article, agrees in every word we say, but informs us, and we consider it our duty to add as well, that although the mill operatives do not complain of the labor hours and that these are not excessive, there is room for, and should be, some Government supervision over the paymasters. The information our friend lays before us on this point is certainly of sufficiently startling a nature to attract the attention of Government. The amount of speculation that is carried on by those intrusted to pay the operatives, is alarming to a degree, and we regret to have to say Europeans are also not above fraudulently appropriating a portion of the operatives' pay, by a convenient want of small change.

We sincerely trust this may attract Lord Stanley's attention, and that something may be done to secure the operative the full benefit of his earnings.

ZITO.

#### THE FUTURE OF THE SUBORDINATE EXECUTIVE SERVICE.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY has issued a judicious Resolution on the recruitment for the Subordinate Executive Service. The Resolution deals, in the first place, with claims of candidates for appointment in the service, which are already recorded in the Secretariat, and which have more or less been recognised by the Government. It then proceeds to lay down a scheme for the future recruitment of the service, which is expected to be a final settlement of the question. In both these respects, Sir Stuart's treatment of the subject, whatever may be its fate as to finality, is characterized by a fair regard for all the personal interests concerned as well as the interests of efficient administration. The subject has always been beset with difficulties, and every successive Government of Bengal has dealt with it in its own way, and laid down its own scheme of appointment. But, although there have been continual changes of system in past years, one thing seems to have escaped attention all along, namely, the necessity of restricting selected candidates to the requirements of the service. Whatever methods of recruitment be adopted—competition pure and simple, or combined with nomination—the list of those selected by such methods should be scrupulously restricted in number with reference to the capacity of the Government for providing them with employment. That capacity is, of course, a known and limited quantity. The average number of vacancies in the Subordinate Executive Service, occurring in each year from ordinary causes, is only 8, while the restrictions of a definite *cadre* make it impossible for the Government to augment the number of appointments constituting the Service. This being so, the Government could not entertain a large number of applications from candidates for employment, without being guilty of creating hopes which it had no adequate means of fulfilling in a reasonable period of time. This very guilt has, however, been incurred under the natural operation of the different systems of appointment which have prevailed under

past Governments, and Sir Stuart Bayley is now obliged to expiate it frankly. He points out that, no care having hitherto been taken to restrict the number of names registered in the Secretariat with reference to the number of appointments likely to be available within a reasonably definite time, it has become inevitable that he should now cut down the list to such a number as he could well provide for. This was inevitable sooner or later, and it must be accepted to be a better arrangement than the present system of long deferred hope and heart-sickness. In justice to past Governments, it may, however, in passing, be remembered that, whatever circumspection might be employed in limiting the number of selected candidates, by an almost inevitable law, that number has a persistent tendency to increase. Shake off as firmly as you may, there are impracticable *protégés* who will stick. The exercise of patronage has its attractions as well as its temptations—its sweets and its bitters, and, however strongly you may resist the temptations, the thing has a way of asserting itself which is invincible.

After reviewing the changes of system for appointment to the Service in past years, Sir Stuart Bayley observes: "Each change has given rise to a fresh set of claims, and has thereby enhanced the difficulty of satisfying the claims already on record. The registers of candidates for appointments in both branches of the Subordinate Executive Service are overloaded with names, some few promises of appointments have been given; many vague expectations of obtaining appointments have been formed, and to some extent recognised; and distinct conditional pledges of promotion for good service have been only imperfectly fulfilled." The state of things is thus highly unsatisfactory. The list of candidates for appointment by nomination has been continually receiving accession of new names, till at the present time it contains no less than 84 names. To this have to be added 42 Sub-Deputy Collectors who, under the terms of Sir George Campbell's scheme of Native Civil Service Examination, are entitled, for their success in the higher grade of that examination as well as for subsequent good service, to promotion to the rank of Deputy Magistrates. This constitutes a number of claimants out of all proportion to the number of appointments available in each year. The average number of vacancies and the restriction of a fixed *cadre*, limit the patronage to an exceedingly small compass, so that the question of satisfactorily dealing with the claims, which have already received a more or less recognition, becomes one of extreme difficulty and delicacy, while there remains the further question as to the future. Something must be done to check the admission of future claims, so as not to repeat the mistake of the past.

Sir Stuart Bayley's Resolution deals with the subject in a manner that, so far as the future is concerned, will prevent the accumulation of claims on the part of candidates, and of pledges and obligations on the part of Government such as has occurred in the past. There will be no examination in 1889, appointments in the present year being given partly to Sub-Deputy Collectors with the best claims and partly to candidates in the registered list in the Secretariat, so as to absorb and dispose of as many of existing claims as possible. In 1890 and 1891, there will be examinations held to which, besides new candidates, the rest of registered candidates will be admitted, under favorable terms as to University distinction and age. After the latter examina-

tion, the register of candidates for appointment by nomination kept in the Secretariat will be regarded as closed, and appointments will be made by a combined system of competition and nomination, care being taken that the number of candidates obtained by such competition and nomination does not swell up as in the past.

We fully approve of Sir Stuart Bayley's decision to retain the principle of nomination in the present circumstances of things. We quote his remarks on this subject : —

"Notwithstanding the attempts made by successive Lieutenant-Governors to organise the recruitment of the Subordinate Executive Service on a permanent footing, Sir Stuart Bayley is compelled to express a doubt whether the question has yet been finally disposed of. Several radical changes of system and various temporary expedients have been tried and found wanting. Each change has given rise to a fresh set of claims, and has thereby enhanced the difficulty of satisfying the claims already on record. The registers of candidates for appointments in both branches of the Subordinate Executive Service are overloaded with names; some few promises of appointments have been given; many vague expectations of obtaining appointments have been formed and to some extent recognised; and distinct conditional pledges of promotion for good service have been only imperfectly fulfilled. In any scheme that is to be final, the principle of competition must occupy a prominent, perhaps the most prominent, place. But competition alone will not meet all our wants. We have to consider the diverse character of the population with which we are dealing, and to guard against a single race or class obtaining a virtual monopoly of the service by which a large proportion of the everyday work of administration is done. At the present time, and probably for many years to come, the immediate effect of recruiting the Subordinate Executive Service on an exclusively competitive basis would be to debar Mahomedans, natives of Behar, and natives of Orissa from any reasonable chance of obtaining appointments. Not only would this be unfair in itself and contrary to established policy, but it would tend to encourage feelings of race jealousy and antagonism, which have already begun to show themselves, and which might at any time give rise to serious difficulties. It is as true now as it was when Sir Richard Temple wrote his Minute of the 22nd September 1875, that 'there may be many good reasons, besides the winning of a place in an examination, for appointing native gentlemen to the higher grades in the public service.' Social or representative position, family connexions, distinguished University attainments, meritorious service in other branches of the administration—these are some of the qualifications which may give a claim to appointments by nomination."

The desire of the Government by means of judicious selections to encourage the progress of less advanced races and tracts, and sometimes to satisfy the claims of individuals, will commend itself to all practical and right-minded men. Nomination, by doing justice to claims which a Government cannot afford to overlook, will usefully supplement the competitive examinations which must be the chief method of recruitment. Sir Stuart has also shown his regard for the efficiency of the Service by insisting upon a high standard of University acquirements for admission to these examinations. The examination for the Subordinate Executive Service will be of the same standard as that of the Statutory Civil Service, which is threatened with absorption into the Provincial Service.

The future being thus provided for, Sir Stuart Bayley had a still more difficult task in dealing with the past. He had to decide about the claims which have been more or less acknowledged in the past, namely, those of the candidates borne on the Secretariat register and of the Sub-Deputy Collectors above referred to. The matter being one in which much interest is widely felt, we give the Government decision on this point in the words of the Resolution :—

"The list of candidates for appointment by nomination to the upper branch of the service shows 84 names, many of which have been on record for several years.....Following this principle, the Lieutenant-Governor has after the most careful consideration selected from among the list of Sub-Deputy Collectors who passed the Native Civil Service examination, twenty-two officers whose claims to promotion to the superior branch have been placed on record in the Secretariat, and will be dealt with in order; those who are special Deputy Collectors being promoted as occasion may offer to be probationary or officiating Deputy Collectors, and being seconded by Sub-Deputy Collectors whose claims have similarly been recognised.

The list of candidates for appointment by nomination presents far more serious difficulties.....Careful scrutiny of the papers of each individual case has, however, enabled the Lieutenant-Governor to distinguish two

classes of candidates—those to whom specific promises of appointments have been made by his predecessors, and those who, though holding no specific promises, have nevertheless indisputable claims upon Government in virtue of University distinctions, of good work done in other departments, of their social or representative position, and of important services rendered by members of their family to the Government, and have been given to understand that these claims have in some measure been recognised. From among these there have been selected for appointment this year, should vacancies permit, the names of six gentlemen, three of whom appear to have received assurances of a more or less definite character approaching to specific promises, while the other three have independent claims of a high order to the special consideration of Government."

We have already expressed our approval of the proposed curtailment of the registered list. It will no doubt be unpleasant to many, but the rude awakening from a practically illusory state of hopefulness would have come sooner or later. Better it should come sooner, that they may betake themselves to fresh fields and pastures new.

The rules of the examination, which will be held in future from the year 1890, will be settled in communication with the Government of India, and published afterwards. Selections made upon results of these examinations will be regulated by the number of vacancies likely to occur in the year, and if the whole of the number so selected are not provided with appointments, the names of those who remain unemployed during the year will be carried forward to the list of successful examinees for the subsequent year, a proportionately smaller number of outside candidates being declared to have passed for that year. A small number of appointments will, of course, be made by direct nomination.

#### THE ANNUAL HARE SRADII.

No Bengali with any pretensions to education or public spirit, we hope, needs to be reminded that the first day of the next month is the anniversary of the great Scotch philanthropist David Hare. On the 1st June 1842, at the age of 67 years, Hare was suddenly cut off by cholera, to the intense grief of all Bengal. For, in that almost unlettered watch-maker the country lost its Father of Education. No man, native or alien, has ever, before or since, been so truly mourned, with demonstrations loud, yet deep. High Caste Hindoos who unceremoniously flee from even a dead relation as from a dangerous stinking pollution, bore with loving alacrity the corpse of this poor *Altehhia* mechanic to its last resting place. And those who were not allowed the distinction of chief mourners pressed forward in successive crowds to touch the feet of the dead Briton, in the teeth of Manu and all the makers of Sastras and against the frowns of all the three hundred and thirty millions of the Hindu Pantheon.

This day next week is the forty-seventh anniversary of David Hare's death. The public meeting annually held in his memory has, for some years, been appropriately held in the Hall of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, founded by the energy and self-sacrificing zeal of our illustrious countryman Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar. This year's meeting too will be held there, next Saturday, at 4 in the afternoon. We hope, specially after this timely notice, to see a large attendance and appropriate demonstration of national gratitude to the First and Greatest Enlightener of India. What native, be he Hindu or Mussulman, Bengali or Sikh, Parsee or Pathan, who will not respond to such a call? There will be business too, on the occasion—the appointment of a Committee. And a feast of reason, if not also a flow of champagne, will be offered into the bargain, in the shape of an Address on Technical Education by our leading man of science Dr. Sircar himself. That ought to conquer the normal Bengali inertia and the faint-heartedness of any one of us. And shall we add the crowning consideration—*admission free?*

*Apropos* to the subject, we have much pleasure in laying before our readers the fine little poem written by our own Gamaliel, the late Major Richardson, better known in Anglo-Indian literature by his initials, "D. L. R." It is the best thing ever published on the subject, reviewing the life and character of the Philanthropist and showing the estimation in which he was held by native and European. This Poem was once in every mouth in Bengal, but it is now so forgotten that it does not occur in a Life of Hare published by one of his contemporaries—the late Peary Chand Mitra.

## LINES TO THE MEMORY OF DAVID HARE.\*

TO BE RECITED BY A HINDU.

O'ER the vast waste of waters—from a land  
Small but renowned—a proud undaunted band,  
Stirred with the thirst of conquest and of gold,  
Came—traded—triumphed! History never told  
Of monarch-merchants—heroes wandering far—  
A stranger tale of traffic or of war.

But can the busy mart, the battle field,  
The dearest wealth—the brightest triumph yield?  
Ah no! e'en now our generous rulers claim  
A prouder guerdon and a purer fame.  
Though gold was gained and martial glory won,  
They knew their noblest task was not begun.  
They held our lands, but could not hold our hearts,  
Till, changing force for kindness, arms for arts,  
They proffered the rich wisdom of the West,  
And poorest minds with priceless treasures blest!

In this divinest duty many a heart,  
With holy zeal, hath well sustained its part—  
All these our guides—an honor to their land—  
To our's blessing—grateful love command;  
But in the glorious list, beyond compare,  
In types of light, behold the name of Hare!

Ah, warm philanthropist! ah, faithful friend!  
Thy life devoted to one generous end—  
To bless the Hindu mind with British lore  
And truth's and nature's faded lights restore—  
If for a day that lofty aim was crost,  
You grieved, like Titus, that a day was lost.  
Alas! it is not now a few brief hours  
That fate withholds—a heavier grief o'erpowers  
A nation whom you loved as if your own—  
A life that gave the life of life is gone!

Yet oh! my countrymen, why weep in vain?  
If aught may cause an earth-freed spirit pain,  
'Tis when it sees in fond hearts left below  
An unresigned and unavailing woe.  
Be sighs above the grave breathed forth no more;  
The gods are deaf when men the past deplore;  
But let a friend's true merit best be proved  
By imitative zeal in acts he loved.  
His memory thus with loftiest lessons rife  
May well complete the purpose of his life,  
And while our Hindu youth Mind's blessings share  
They'll learn to venerate the name of Hare!

PATNA.

Patna, May 14.

Patna has been in a state of panic, for the last two weeks. Fearful rumours are afloat about murders and dacoits. Sensational reports are flying about like wild-fire. Everybody is suspicious and consequently on his guard. He starts at his own shadow. Terror seems to have seized one and all. They have got grave reasons to explain their conduct. They have not pinned their faith on mere marvels. Dread realities have caused this alarm. I don't mean to say that all the rumours current in the bazar are "stubborn facts," of course there is a mixture of actual reality and popular belief, and you can sift the one from the other. Three murders have occurred within this short time, some of them dreadful enough to make one's blood curdle in his veins. Actual cases of travellers being waylaid by armed ruffians, have been reported from the interior of the district. Such is the rumour that the dacoits have "pitched upon" Patna as offering a very nice field for one of their "marauding" expeditions. And what is more, all the notorious districts are emptying their ruffians, who are swarming in here from all sides, to carry out their nefarious plans. To crown all, the "big men" of this place are putting their dwellings in a regular state of defence, which lends an air of probability to the popular belief. Guns are fired every night to scare away the burglars and to frighten the dacoits. The common people when they see these preparations only shake

their heads mysteriously and declare that something awful is about to happen. I have made these remarks to bring your readers up to date regarding the state of affairs up over here.

Of the many rumours current here, the most sensational and one that is talked about everywhere is a story connected with one of the many murders mentioned above. It excites ones interest all the more as the heroine is a Hindu woman. It is a tale of courage and fidelity. There is a halo of romance about it. It shows how even the meek, timid and much-abused Indian wife can be, as it were, goaded to desperation when she finds her honor at stake. The story runs thus. A bridegroom was returning with his young bride, the fame of whose charms spread far and wide, and, as ill luck would have it, reached the ears of the native Sub-inspector in charge of the nearest police station. The police, as we know, are almost a power in small villages. Everybody is at the beck and call of the "Daroga Sahab." His will is law. No body dare disobey him. He is "the monarch of all he surveys." His authority is undisputed. The girl had excited his evil passions. He must have her at any cost. She must be sacrificed to satisfy his beastly lust. He was determined to catch Opportunity by the hair as she passed him by. The night was dark. As the bridal procession passed by an out of the way place, the "police wallahs" who were on the look-out came down on the party. The bridegroom was accused of kidnapping the bride. In vain did the men who formed the bridal party declare that they were lawfully married, in vain did the bridegroom himself say that the girl was his newly married bride, the "police wallahs" turned a deaf ear to their entreaties. The Police suspected crime. The case could not be decided at that very moment and on that very spot. They must be taken to the thanah and if what they said proved true they could be set free the next morning. In short, the newly-married couple were locked up in two different cells. Now comes the most sensational part of this story. The bride's state of mind can be better imagined than described. Separated from her husband, locked up in a cell, she was now in the clutches of a set of villains with whom even her honor was not safe. The "Daroga Sahab" on the other hand was of course in high glee. His plan had succeeded. The girl was now in his power. Success was now certain. He had only to make one more effort. With visions of victory in his head, he entered her cell. She saw the danger of her position at once. Her honor was in peril. She must keep it at any risk, though she might die in the attempt. Death, she thought, was better than disgrace. Despair gave her courage. An idea flashed in her mind. Was it not better to throw the scoundrel off his guard? There was a faint glimmering of hope. Her mind was made up. He was armed. She met him with a smiling face and told him that he would be more welcome without his weapons which were enough to frighten a tender girl. His passion had got the better of him. He was no more master of his own actions. He did as he was told to do. As soon as he had put down the weapons, quick as thought, the girl flew at his sword. There was a rush—a blow—and a fall! In the twinkling of an eye, her tormenter lay dead at her feet. The tables were turned. Just retribution had overtaken her persecutor. It was a terrible revenge. A woman had stained her hands with blood, to save her honor.

It is said and with much truth, that these troubles and crimes are due to scarcity which is making progress in these districts. One can see easily that these rumours have also much to do with the failure of the crops which is working dreadful havoc among the poor. The prices of corn have been raised very high by the corn merchants. These men, who are generally of the Bania class, and whose insatiable desire for wealth is proverbial, always find such a nice opportunity of making money with delight. To them famine is nothing but fortune in a dreadful form. Popular dislike of these men is very great. It is only to frighten these men into terms that the "budmashes" of this place are fomenting the popular excitement and circulating these rumours. The distress is increasing. Grain has gone up higher than its usual rate, depriving many of their daily bread. These poor wretches when they find starvation staring them in the face, are naturally driven to these crimes.

RIP.

## DENATIONALIZATION OF MAHOMEDANS

A REPLY.

One could afford to pass over the earlier cogitations of your correspondent "Khaja Khezer," at most costing him a pshaw or two. But the rather frequent visitations of this pretender to the name of that immortal are more than can be tolerated. "Khaja Khezer" should learn that we live in an age, when the railways and stage coaches have pre-eminently superseded the interference of that species of guides. He is bitter against English education and the Mohamedans who have received it because, indeed, to him they appear to be indifferent to their religion. Such a feeling would, at first sight, seem to have emanated from a strong religious zeal,

\* Written at the request of several Native gentlemen.—D. L. R.



but judging from some of the ill-concealed personal allusions in his correspondence I cannot help doubting his disinterested motive. While he warms up with the teachings of the Islamic scripture and holds the "English educated Mahomedans" guilty of their non-observance, he does not tell us wherein lies the connection between such individual transgressions and the welfare of the community. Even taking for granted his crocheted anent the impiety of the "English educated Mahomedans" it is difficult to see how it has helped to bring about the "denationalization" which "Khaja Khezer" wishes to remedy by reorganizing the Anglo-Persian departments of the Madrasahs. When he advocates the learning of English, why does he object to the means by which that end could be achieved with perfection. It is a miserable wish that seeks to know a thing and yet not to know it well. A student of Arabic would learn the language better and with greater facility if he lived in Arabia and among its people. And would he not return to his country with a flowing *abbi*, turban and kamarband, cat with his servants out of a bowl of hodge-podge and promenade the streets with a chibouque in his mouth? He would as readily denounce, O thou modern Khezer! thy silken chapkan of rainbow hues, thy stuck-on one-side gold laced domelike caps and thy wide-skirted inexpressibles, as he would abhor thy eternal pán-chewing and spitting the refuse thereof in all imaginable directions. This novel imbibber of *ál-e-hayát* (water of life) would have us believe that Islam consists in the wearing of a particular costume or the eating in a prescribed form, and that it depends for its profession upon the membership of certain societies and the worship of "Khaja Khezer's" idol. I am here strongly tempted to test his eulogistic effusion with reference to that same idol, his ideal "pioneer" of Mahomedan everything, but I resist and leave my silence to speak for itself. Except this "indefatigable" promoter of all that "Khezer" needs he would have none rise to the Bench or the Council. Coming from an immortal, this proposition has a weight worthy of Lord Cross's consideration. Happily, however, that nobleman is far beyond the reach of the fawning flatterers and the vindictive scandal-mongers of this description. What more idiotic than to deny that these "English educated Mahomedans" infuse spirit into the rising generation and shed a refreshing influence upon the old? In obtaining English education they have only acted upon what Bacon strove hard to prove, namely, "Knowledge is power." Even taking English education to be hostile to the injunctions of the Mahomedan faith, it is like strengthening our own camps with the knowledge of the secrets of the enemy's. Looking at it from that point of view, the English education gives thought a larger scope and the mind a more independent turn. The ideas no longer pace the limited area of the few books written in an unfamiliar language; but they move about and keep up with the times. Mere liturgic and religious instruction will only produce *Mianjis* and *Moskies*—and, maybe, a few more "Khaja Khezers" and his patrons. But to raise the community from the mire of indolence that it now lies in, requires an energy that no amount of Anglo-Persian Departments will ever inculcate. If this body of "corrupted Mahomedans" have not been able to feed ignorance and support indolence, they have, at least, wished them well. They have not done them harm in the guise of a friend, nor kept them down with a "promoter's" mask. It is not they who have poisoned the ears of the Government when it wished to do justice to some merit or reward a talent. On the contrary sincere attempts have been made to ameliorate the secular condition of the Moslems in a way that would best suit the age and the country they live in. Without the extrinsic "qualifications" of a Mahomedan, the want of which "Khaja Khezer" deplures, there yet beats a truer Moslem heart under a lounge coat than within the folds of a bright green silk chapkan. Faith and principle are the chief elements of Islam. Both are psychological facts of which "Khaja Khezer" can have no certain knowledge. This cowardly attack and vile denunciation are, therefore, meaningless. He grudges the "English educated" even the retention of their names, thinking, perhaps, that his short-sighted and chin-shaven idol and its offspring deserve it better. It "is a shame and reproach to Islam," says the wise Khezer. The propriety of a downright abuse is open to question; but this is scarcely a fit place. I fully sympathize, however, with the suggestion of a better system of religious instruction for the Mahomedan youths. This, after all, is a well meant object, but I fear our good Khezer has chosen a bad line of action. Such sweeping declamations respecting a body or a community invoke a great doubt on the *bona fides* of the writer. "Khaja Khezer" is either un-informed or mis-informed. In either case he should follow the golden precept of Polonius, "give every man thine ear, but few thy voice," &c.

ABSIT INOVIDIA.

\* This letter, we regret to say, is in wretched taste, and all the more lamentable as coming avowedly from the English son of a returned with finished education and manners from the *Madrasah*. We give it insertion because that was due to the provoked party. But if the Khaja is six, his assailant is just half a dozen and no more. But no more of this bother!—  
ED. R. & R.

#### OFFICIAL VAGARIES AT RAMPOREHAT.

Permit me, through the medium of your much esteemed and valuable newspaper, to bring to the notice of the authorities and the public the irregular and arbitrary way in which things have, of late, been allowed to take place in the above sub-division of the district of Beerbhoom. But, before introducing the subject matter of the present correspondence, I should like to introduce your readers to the antecedent circumstances which have, in some measure, misled a portion of the inhabitants to rise and conspire against an innocent man, in order to enable them to understand clearly the reasons for which the latter had unfortunately been subjected to gross insults. In the jurisdiction of the subdivision is Taluk Mallarpur, originally belonging to the Burdwan Raj, but at present owned in *patti* by Mahanta Gopal Das of Jaffraganj, Moorshedabad, in whose possession it came about 18 years ago. As a rule, a change of master led to a change in policy, and a fresh survey of lands, followed by an assessment of rent, was made with the sanction of the district authorities, which passed off quietly in almost all cases, even the Sontals gladly submitting to it owing to the unusually low rate at which they were allowed by the new proprietor to hold lands notwithstanding that strings of opposition were being pulled from behind by a person of high position and respectability who thereby wanted to serve his own interests. Dissatisfaction began to show itself. In a village named Damra, owning more lands than he paid rents for, one Isan Chunder Ghoshal boldly obstructed the survey, alleging them to be rent-free, such as *Debutter*, *Sebutter*, *Lakshraj*, &c. He, however, produced no documentary evidence to establish his claim. He found his followers in two of the Mandals of the village who were big tenants and through whom he influenced the people all round to flock to his standard. Thus at the head of a vigorous band, he began to preach crusades against the new proprietor and to harass his men by every means that lay in his power, even by the institution of criminal cases against them when occasion required, resulting though ultimately in his own discomfiture. A good opportunity to further strengthen his party was at last found. In May last, the younger brother of a railway servant sent to the said Isan Ghoshal for some mangoes which were to be sent as presents to a European railway official. The Ghoshal, acting with extreme shrewdness, had them plucked from the trees of the Mahanta's garden which lay close by. The trespassers were arrested and handed over to the police with the mangoes stolen. They were, on trial, convicted of theft and punished with rigorous imprisonment, Isan Ghoshal having for 12 days suffered confinement in the lock-up was afterwards acquitted. Mr. W. Montriou, the Sessions Judge of Beerbhoom in his appeal judgment remarked that the case disclosed a plan of opposition to the new Zemindar. The host of enemies which this suit created now swelled Isan's gang. These, under the patronage and counsel of a former European manager of the estate and of the Railway servants and officials thus provoked, some of whom had in their evidence before the Civil Court admitted their bearing grudge against the Mahanta, raised a new standard of rebellion. They instigated the Sontals to petition the Lieutenant-Governor against the Mahanta and so misrepresented matters as to bias the mind of the sub-divisional officer against him. The Mahanta has been depicted by the petitioners as a great tyrant. But he is known throughout the country for his pious habits, his extensive benevolence and law abiding conduct. During the last famine, when relief works were opened by the Government throughout the province, the rayets of his Zemindary enjoyed the exclusive privilege of his bounty in being provided with the necessities of life. Moreover remission of rent for the disastrous year was also granted to them. Labouring under the wrong impression imbibed from his predecessor and from those around him that the Mahanta was a bad man and ought to be put down, the Magistrate of Ramporehat has done all he could to bring the poor man to grief. Failing to satisfy his whims, he at last issued a summons against the supposed oppressor calling upon him to submit, within a week, all the *Jama bandee* papers of his Zemindary. As the time allowed for the purpose was insufficient to get the required documents ready for transmission, the Mahanta, through his pleader Baboo P. C. Lahory, representing the difficulty, prayed for an extension of time. This circumstance so enraged the Magistrate that he not only disallowed the prayer but threatened to issue a search warrant directing the police immediately to take possession of all the papers in his *Catchery*. The Magistrate did not stop here. He hauled up the Naib on a charge of rioting, and, on the evidence of persons who had, as above stated, formed themselves into a clique against his master and who could really be said to be the prosecutors, fined him Rs. 1,000 and ordered him to be bound in the sum of Rs. 2,000 and to offer two sureties for the same amount. To avoid further disgrace and falling into the clutches of his enemies, the Mahanta has removed all his principal officers from the Zemindari, leaving it to be preyed upon by the discontented folks. It is a pity that such high-handedness of big officials is allowed to pass unnoticed!

Ramporehat, 19th May, 1889.

A SYMPATHISER.



**In the goods of Bany Madhub Tagore  
deceased of No. 3, Mooktaram Baboo's  
Street, Calcutta.**

An application has been made by S. M. Gimbala Dabee, of No. 66, Pathuriaghata Street, in Calcutta, the only daughter of the deceased abovenamed, for grant to her of Letters of Administration with Will annexed in the above goods.

**Rivers Steam Navigation Co.  
"Limited."**

**ASSAM LINE.**

This Company's Steamer "BENGAL" will leave Calcutta for Assam on Friday, the 24th inst.

All cargo for shipment by the above vessel, should be sent to the Company's Godowns at Jugganauth Ghat, not later than Thursday, the 23rd idem.

**CACHAR LINE.**

We have now resumed our main line sailings to Cachar for which cargo will be received until Tuesday evening.

**DHUBRI & DEBROOGHUR MAIL SERVICE.**

The Steamers of this Service leave Dhubri daily immediately on arrival of the Mails from Calcutta, and are connected with the E. B. S. Railway for booking of traffic through to river stations.

**GOALUNDO AND DEBROOGHUR DESPATCH SERVICE.**

A special Tri-weekly Service of Steamers is maintained between Goalundo and Debrooghur, the steamers leaving Goalundo on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday, and Debrooghur on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

**NARAINGUNGE AND CACHAR DESPATCH SERVICE.**

A Tri-weekly Service is maintained between Naraingunge and Fenchooingunge for passengers and light goods traffic.

All particulars as to rates of freight and passage by all the above Services to be had on application to

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**TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGA**

PICTURE

*Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,*  
BY

**SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,**

*Formerly Minister to the late*

**NAWAB FARIDDOON JAH BAHADOOR,**  
(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,  
Behar and Orissa.)

*Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.*

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CALCUTTA

**OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.**

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little *brochure* written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridood Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the

Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman. *The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*, October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers: those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who, being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts hints upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mid-age, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlightening description. He says in one of his letters, and Mr. Mookerjee is correct, and when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch of his way on the river. [Extract]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course. — [Extract]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract] *The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view is a rare one, by the way, for he is given even to punning; but he is a good deal more in the line of degree. "A naked Whiteman" haunts his imagination; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight "such had such far-reaching long eyes." But he is nothing if not anthropological, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in. *The Pioneer*, Dec, 1887.

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Have no appearance of cheapness about  
them. Others sell at double our rates. Mr.  
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7-8 watch I purchased from you two years  
back, gives correct time as yet." Acting Superintendent,  
Government Farm, Khandesh, says:—"A watch maker has valued your  
Rs. 7-8 watch for Rs. 15." Mr. J. Sutcliffe, R.  
W. Fusli. Regt., Lucknow, says:—"Some valued  
it at Rs. 15 and were completely surprised when  
I told them it only costs Rs. 7-8." Pretty  
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shirt Studs and Rings set with chemical  
diamonds, rubies, &c., at Rs. 2 each. Mr. J.  
A. Yelsmore, Satur, says:—"The best goldsmith  
of this place values the chain for  
Rs. 7 and the locket for Rs. 10." Mr. G.  
Smith, Salt Inspector, Sanikutta, says:—"A  
German valued the diamond ring at Rs. 50 and  
the ruby at Rs. 30." **WESTERN INDIA  
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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1889

} No. 376

## CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

JOHN BRIGHT.

DEAD—no, not dead—the darkness of the grave  
Shrouds thee indeed, invisible below,  
And hushed those tones of passionate pure glow,  
Foes of the sophist counsels which deprave,  
Free champions of the weak and of the slave,  
Sound not for one dim hour of tearful woe.  
To-morrow shall our human world re-know  
That voice, enduring as the earth and wave.  
For thine was the deep eloquence of soul,  
Which, like the steed owning one kingly hand,  
Obedient to its master's sole command,  
Held the mute spell-bound gazers at control,  
With that swift fusion of the heart and mind,  
Parental of those thoughts which shake mankind

E. H. R.

"LIVE TO DO GOOD."

BY GEORGE W. BETHUNE.

LIVE to do good ; but not with thought to win  
From man reward of any kindness done :  
Remember Him who died on cross for sin,  
The merciful, the meek, rejected One ;  
When He was slain, for crime of doing good,  
Canst thou expect return of gratitude ?

Do good to all ; but, while thou servest best,  
And at thy greatest cross, nerve thee to bear,  
When thine own heart with anguish is opprest,  
The cruel taunt, the cold averted air,  
From lips which thou hast taught in hope to pray,  
And eyes whose sorrows thou hast wiped away

Still do thou good ; but for His holy sake,  
Who died for thine, fixing thy purpose ever  
High as His throne, no wrath of man can shake .  
So shall He own thy generous endeavour,  
And take thee to His conqueror's glory up,  
When thou hast shared the Saviour's bitter cup.

Do nought but good, for such the noble strife  
Of virtue is, 'gainst wrong to venture love,  
And for thy foe devote a brother's life,  
Content to wait the recompense above ;  
Brave for the truth, to fiercest insult meek,  
In mercy strong, in vengeance only weak.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

NEWS comes all the way from Europe to the effect that Sultan Murad Khan, Chief of the Kunduz Usbegs, has emigrated, at the head of about three thousand Usbeg families, to Bokhara territory, for the purpose of joining Ishak Khan, with whom he is on close terms of friendship, at Samarkand.

THE Chiefs of Hunza and Nagar have invited a British officer to visit their territory. It is said that Captain Durand and Dr. Robertson will shortly go there

WE read :—

"Shahzada Abdul Malik Khan, of Tora, now at Abbottabad, has sent a pair of *murghizarin* (golden fowl) as a present for the Ameer of Afghanistan, with some other curiosities, through Naib Muhammad Ashur, Bokhari, his servant. The man left Peshawar for Cabul on the 9th May."

Abdur Rahman has, no doubt, a zoological *penchant*. But his chief weakness is pecuniary. At this moment, the British goose, which lays any number of gold *mohurs* in a month, would be more welcome to His Highness.

THE *Advocate* informs the public that Raja Shiam Singh, of Bijnor, was to have left, on the 28th of last month, for Paris to see the Exhibition, returning after spending six months in Europe

THE same paper reports that "Mr. Alexander, Collector of Etawa, has earned the gratitude and thanks of the Mahomedan community in general by giving a donation of Rs. 300 for the repairs of a mosque." Is he a Mussulman, or is the mosque any architectural curiosity?

MR. JUSTICE CHUNDER MADHUR GHOSH has taken a month's extension of his furlough of one month and fifteen days. He has grown sick of the Lewis Jubilee Sanitarium and *Reis and Rayyet*. The ungrateful man !

AFTER all, the *Advocate* is glad to learn that Sir Rana Shanker Buksh Singh has contributed Rs. 25,000 and the Raja of Bhunga Rs. 20,000 towards the funds of the Institute in honor of Sir Auckland Colvin.

AT a meeting, at Benares, on the subject of the scheme of drainage, it was resolved to ask the Government to reduce the rate of interest to 3 per cent. and fix ninety-nine years for repayment of the loan.

COLONEL S. T. TREVOR, R. E., having retired, Mr. E. J. Martin has been confirmed as Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Public Works Department.

IT is said that Mr. W. Rockhill, formerly Secretary of the American Legation at Peking, is at this moment travelling in Thibet. He dresses and behaves himself as a Thibetan and speaks the language fluently.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

THE Lieutenant-Governor has very properly commuted the sentence of death passed upon one Mithu, of Bithoor, near Cawnpore, and confirmed by the N.-W. P. High Court, to one of transportation for life. The man had murdered his wife for infidelity.

THE Nattore Ferry Case—Raja Jogendro Nath Roy vs. Mr. H. A. D. Phillips—has come up to the High Court. It will be taken up by Messrs. Justices Tottenham and Bannerjee, next Wednesday. Mr. Bannerjee appears for the Raja and Mr. Phillips for the Civilian.

A EUROPEAN, by name Stewart, was brought up before the Chief Magistrate, for riding a tricycle on the Secretary's Walk, in the face of the Police order prohibiting it. The defence urged that a bicycle or tricycle was not a carriage, as was held in *Williams vs. Ellis*, 5, Queen's Bench Report. The prosecution contended that, in the case cited, it was decided that a bicycle was not a carriage for purposes of toll, and referred to *Taylor vs. Goodwin*, 4, Queen's Bench Report, where such vehicle was held to be a carriage and a person who gets upon it is considered to drive or ride it. Mr. Marsden was of opinion that a tricycle is a carriage within the meaning of the Police Act, Sec. 66, clause 8, and simply warned and discharged the accused, as it was a test case.

THE Belfast *Ulster Echo* accused Mr. Labouchere of having aided Pigott in his escape. There was an action for libel. It has, however, been settled. The *Echo* withdraws the charge, apologises for it, pays all the costs as between solicitor and client, and hands Mr. Labouchere a cheque for £100 for the fund for Pigott's children. It is very good of English charity that it does not forget the poor urchins in indignation against the father's sins. Pigott himself was not so base as he was poor.

THE following is going round the press as a great curiosity:—

"A Rangoon correspondent writes to a contemporary that two legal gentlemen in Upper Burmah, whose united ages are said to amount to 120 years, have recently married two young ladies who barely make up 40 years between them!"

We don't see anything extraordinary in it at all. The gentlemen may be each about 60 years of age, and the ladies about 20 years each, and such unions are common enough. The former may indeed be congratulated on having done a stroke of business in the matrimonial line—made a bargain—whatever may be thought of the taste of the latter. But after all, mere age is not the only or the chief factor in the matter. It is possible that the bargain is just the other way. The prospect of being a "virgin widow" with a fine jointure from an old valetudinarian of a husband who leaves the world and all his estate and effects, after a brief nominal married life, must be fascinating to many sirens.

Are these gentlemen and ladies polyandrists that their union is lumped together by this Rangoon Correspondent? They are in a country in which the relations between the sexes are of a primitive order. Why does not the writer enlighten the public on the mysteries of married and quasi-married life among the British in Lower Burma? He has a large and scarcely cultivated field there.

HERE is a prospect for our still struggling Tea industry! It appears that in America,

"the eating raw tea is now said to be the latest fancy which has found favour with the go-ahead residents of the United States. The habit, it is alleged, is gaining ground everywhere, and is far more pernicious than taking alcohol to excess, for its effects are more marked upon the nervous system, and ultimately prove more injurious to those addicted to it. The raw leaves, when taken in large quantities, produce a sensation of pleasurable excitement and exhilaration, like other stimulants; and then a wild form of intoxication, transcending anything experienced by those addicted to ardent spirits and strong drinks."

We hope that is no Yankee Doodle for the sale of the dotard Eastern Hemisphere. Cousin Jonathan is go-ahead all round—even in *Abkari*. Here is a new field nearer and dearer home for Messrs. Caine, Samuel Smith and Boozing Philanthropy!

AT Comtesse de Kersaint's last ball, there was a complete revolution in the masculine dress. "The black swallowtail and long trousers gave way to coats of bright hues, with gold, silver and even diamond buttons. The waistcoats were in satin, some of them being exquisitely embroidered, satin knee breeches, black stockings, and low shoes with rosettes. The gentlemen's garb entirely eclipsed that of the ladies'.

though the toilettes of the latter were charming enough to turn the heads of the most blasé."

By and by, as civilization advances, they will all be Eastern.

THE longest railway—without a curve—is the New Argentine Pacific from Buenos Ayres to the foot of the Andes. For 211 miles, there is not a single curve, no cutting or embankment deeper than two or three feet. The line is ultimately to be extended over the Andes to Chili.

FROM the 15th instant, piece-goods and textile fabrics imported into Simla will be taxed, by the local municipality, at one per cent *ad valorem*.

A FEW days ago, the roof of the dining room in the Roman Catholic Presbytery, at Amritsur, came down with a tremendous crash. The resident chaplain had just passed through the room. The fall is attributed to the havoc by white ants.

THE negotiations about emigration from India to the Dutch East Indian Colonies, have fallen through.

THE Czar has just imposed on all goods, entering Russia from Persia or British India, a duty of 2½ per cent. *ad valorem*.

THE Shah of Persia is expected in England by the middle of this month. In London, the royal apartments in Buckingham Palace have been set apart for His Majesty's residence.

THE Parnell Indemnity Fund has come up to nearly £37,000, the unexpended balance in hand being about £17,000. Like Great Britain and Ireland!

THE following interesting personal account of the American humourist famous under the pseudonym of Mark Twain, we clip from one of our exchanges:—

"The career of Mark Twain, the American humorist, reads like a romance. He has been in his time compositor, pilot, clown, gold-digger, reporter, and private secretary. Even now, rich and famous as he is, he declares that the happiest days of his life were when he was a pilot on board a Mississippi boat. Mark Twain is humorous only on paper. In his taciturnity he is a Yankee of Yankees, and will sit for hours in silent contemplation with a cigar between his teeth. His humour is only an elaborate effort after all. He toils like a slave at endeavouring to be droll, and it is only after a fourth or fifth revise of his proofs that the pure gold of his fun becomes apparent."

THE High Court has ruled that—The practice of designating Subordinate Judges and Munsifs, where more than one is appointed to a District or Munsifi, as "1st Subordinate Judge," "2nd Subordinate Judge," and "1st Munsif," "2nd Munsif," and so on, according to seniority, will be discontinued. In future, in all such cases, each officer will be described in the proceedings instituted in his Court by name, with the addition of his title "Subordinate Judge of—" or "Munsif of—" and without any further distinction. And, where there are more than one Court of any class at any station, such Courts will be designated 1st, 2nd and 3rd Courts, but without any reference to the seniority of the Judges presiding therein.

THE *Englishman*, the day before yesterday, came out with a review of a Catalogue of Books relating to the East collected by Mr. Archibald Constable, a gentleman on the Oudh and Rohilkund Railway, about to retire, and now offered for sale by Messrs. Thacker, Spink & Co. But the Catalogue itself is not yet out, and our contemporary's contributor is evidently an *insider*. Meanwhile, many of the books have

*Holloway's Pills.* Pure Blood.—When the Blood is pure, its circulation calm and equable, and the nerves well strung, we are well. These Pills possess a marvellous power in securing these essentials of health by purifying, regulating, and strengthening the fluids and solids. Holloway's Pills can be confidently recommended to all persons suffering from disordered digestion, or worried by nervous fancies, or neuralgic pains. They correct acidity and heart-burn, dispel sick headache, quicken the action of the liver, and act as alteratives and gentle aperients. The weak and delicate may take them without fear. Holloway's Pills are eminently serviceable to invalids of irritable constitution, as they raise the action of every organ to its natural standard, and universally exercise a calming and sedative influence.

been sold. From the writer's account, we find a great number of interesting and rare books in Mr. Constable's library. We extract the cream of the information :—

"The collection of voyages to India is its great feature, and the list of these is, of course, headed with Marco Polo, Schiltberger, and Mandeville. Then come quaint old Coryat with his 'Cruities,' Linschoten (1598) the first book printed with engraved maps, and the first book that showed the source of the Nile, long before Speke, Burton, and Stanley were dreamt of. Then follow a host of old travellers of whom we can but mention the name :—

Van den Broecke (1648).	Ovington (1696).
Pinto (1653).	Flyer (1698).
Terry (1655).	Carré (1699).
Della Valle.	Lullier (1706).
Roe (Sir T.).	Chardin (1711).
Sandys (1669).	Catron (1715).
Olearius Mandelslo.	Symson (1715).
Baldæus (1672).	Carter (1719).
Dapper (1672).	Leguat (1721).
Vincenzo Maria (1673).	Hamilton (1724).
Heibert (1677).	Cope (1754).
Tavernier.	Mogime (1763).
Struys (1684).	Grose (1772).
Mocquet (1690).	Duperron (1776).
Havart (1693).	Gentil (1780).
Benier.	Forster (1790).

In addition, we find the grand collections of voyages by Astley, 4 vols., Churchill, 8 vols., Pinkerton 2 vols., Valentyn 5 vols., Purchas, Dapper, the publications of the Hakluyt Society, the very scarce 'Begin ende Voortgan' of the Dutch East India Company (1646), and a fine series of the 'Respublicæ' issued by the Elzevirs from 1630 to 1649.

The old histories of India appear in equal force. Goes, Dapper, Guyon, Heidenfeldt, Heydt, Maffei, Rennell, Tiefenthaler, Van Hoorn, Erasmus Franciscus, and a multitude of others are to be found. Mahomet and Mahometanism are represented by a collection of sixty old books, curious editions of the Koran, Lives of the Prophet, etc., which, if once broken up, would be extremely difficult to get together again. Another very interesting section is that devoted to the old accounts of the Jesuit missionaries in the East. In looking at this collection of annual reports, if they may be so called, one cannot help admiring the organisation of this Society, which so early as 1550 appears to have printed for public circulation accounts of its doings in the furthest parts of the world.

Mr. Constable, not content with the written accounts of the voyages, has had the courage to invest in the old atlases. It is true that they form the best authorities for the history of geographical discoveries, but their cumbrousness militates against bringing them out to India. Nevertheless, here we have Blaeu's Atlas, 4 vols., Jansson's Atlas, 10 vols., Mercator's Cosmography, Vander Aa's Atlas, Thornton's Sea Atlas, D'Anville's Atlas, and that magnificent work by Jomard 'Les monuments de la Géographie, ou Recueil d'anciennes Cartes Européennes et Orientales.'

Without having ever seen him in the flesh, we had noticed Mr. Constable, about twenty years ago, as an intelligent inquirer into the antiquities of the country and a collector. Although he has not cared to spill printer's ink, his library shows what rich use he has made of all these years. It would be easy to point out its deficiencies, nevertheless its importance and value are beyond question. It would be a pity were it to go out of the country or be dispersed. The collection ought to be kept for India.

THE late Major Evans Bell sacrificed himself for the good of India. It is satisfactory, therefore, to learn that an Indian Prince remembers the services done by the Major. Our Princes have special reason to be grateful to his memory, and none so much as the enlightened ruler of Mysore, who owes his throne and his country its recovered independence to poor Bell. The Maharaja of Mysore has done well and like a good Hindoo, in assigning a pension of £180 per annum for the widow and daughter left penniless. The widow will draw the pension during her life and the daughter till she attains the age of 25 years.

MR. DOSABHOY FRAMJEE, a Bombay Presidency Magistrate, has been taken in as the Chief Minister of the Jamnagar State.

THE Revd. Mr. H. Lorbeer, of Ghazipur, thinks the Tincture he was led to prepare "by different calculations and by some passages in the Bible" is an efficacious cure for snake-bite. He has tried it on fowl, dogs and men.

MOULVI Ahmad, Professor in the Presidency College, has been appointed Chief Moulvi to the Board of Examiners. He will hold this office in addition to his Professorship. There were many candidates for the post, and under the circumstances we are glad to be able to congratulate the public on the good appointment made, and Moulvi Ahmad on his success. The latter's claims, hereditary and personal, were superior to those of any other applicant. Son of the most learned

Arabic scholar of his day in Bengal (the late Moulvi Mahomed Wajih, Chief Professor of the Calcutta Mahomedan College), Moulvi Ahmad is a good scholar in Persian and Arabic and in English and a young man of modesty as well as parts. It is a pleasure to look on the noble presence and quiet dignified bearing of this Mahomedan of blood, softened by the graces of the East and improved by the knowledge of the West.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE meteorological lion of the season is the Tornado of Tangail. The Dacca District seems marked for this blow. Last year, the Sodom of East Bengal was laid low, and last week, there was a recurrence of the visitation in the same neighbourhood. Tangail suffered most. 139 persons are reported killed, 242 received injuries, of whom 73 are seriously hurt. The destruction of property has been proportionate. The country craft have been swept away. The Lieutenant-Governor promptly telegraphed his sympathy, and measures were at once taken to give relief to the sufferers.

THE weather throughout the Bengal Presidency has been, generally speaking, much the same—dusty, breezy, and even windy, with a little rain occasionally. There is, in consequence, distress in certain parts, specially in Durbhanga and in Diamond Harbour, but the general health is good.

The rabi harvest in Upper India is nearly over. Indigo, sugarcane, and other summer crops are being irrigated. The food supply is sufficient, and prices generally steady. The condition of the cattle is satisfactory. The periodic cholera still prevails in Benares, Ballia, Gorakhpur, Fyzabad, Rae Bareilly, Allahabad, Moradabad, Kumaun, and Aligarh; and small-pox in some districts. The general health, however, is reckoned good.

NOTWITHSTANDING the rosy report of Mr. Bolton, the accounts of great distress from Diamond Harbour continue to pour in. In Durbhanga, the prospect is gloomy indeed. The officials are pressing the great landlords to dig tanks for the people, but in seasons of drought tanks are useless beyond supplying work, and money would be thrown away on them, for the most part. The Maharaja and his brother are doing everything in their power. The latter who had been living in Calcutta has gone to the spot.

WITH respect to forecasts of food supply in Bengal, it is important to know the situation in the East. The Lower Megna Districts are the great granary of Bengal, not only supplying the wants of the rice eating population of the Western parts of the Province, but exporting besides a great quantity to Calcutta, for shipment beyond the seas. The great factor in the question of scarcity is Backerganj. It is the production and distribution of produce of that District that most influences prices. We have accordingly been at the pains to procure from Backerganj the latest report on this important subject by the Collector, dated the 11th of last month. That officer writes :—

"The most important article of export is rice. It is exported mostly to Calcutta and partly to Dacca, Faizpore and Jessore. A considerable portion of the Bhola Sub-Division was inundated in October last by a high tide which did considerable damage to the paddy crop, so that the outturn in that sub-division was about 10 annas. Consequently the quantity of rice exported this year from that sub-division was much less than in the previous year. The outturn in the other parts of the district was fairly good, and as the price of rice in consequence of scarcity elsewhere rose to a high figure, the quantity exported from the Sudder and Patuakhali and Perozapore sub-divisions exceeded considerably that of previous years. The quantity of rice exported from the district this year has been estimated to be double of the previous year, but in the absence of any real statistics it is impossible to say whether the estimate is any way near the truth. Possibly the value may have doubled and not the quantity."

The above is not as specific as we could wish, nevertheless it is valuable as the most reliable information by competent and responsible authority. From the condition of things in our chief rice-growing District, as disclosed in this Report, we may well anticipate a rise in price, but there is no ground for serious apprehensions.

A CIRCULAR is said to have been issued to the Police to watch the movements of religious mendicants and travelling saints—*fogis*, Fakirs and Durweshes. This seems a corollary to the famous Circular

which made the *Mirror* and its following so furious against everybody concerned, from Mr. Veasey up to Lord Dufferin and the Secretary of State himself, to wit, the Circular of 1887, which enjoined on the Police particularly to note and report the political meetings and movements that occurred around them. We believe this time the officials are not in danger of a similar inundation of printer's ink or black bile vomit, or other blacking. The capacity for hypochondria and vituperation was exhausted on that occasion, until our Surrender Nots and No Renders discovered, to their amazement and apparent mortification, that the world did not come by its end, that the Jails were not filled with the subscribers of the *Indian Mirror* and the *Ben-alee*, that the Congress boys were still permitted to spout their nonsense in the graving commons of the remotest villages, that poor Mr. Veasey was not even an imitation Fouché. Others, under such a discomfiture, would have been truly and deeply ashamed, but evidently this was not our amiable friends' first *escapade*. This time, therefore, although the note of animadversion continues—that is a matter of course, patriotism being synonymous with opposition to Government and abuse of the authorities—the voice is feeble. So there is no danger to peace, unless indeed some one of our numerous globe-trotting friends should seize the opportunity for noise and put a question in Parliament on the subject.

As if to answer it by anticipation, news comes from East Bengal to the effect that a Mahomedan mendicant has been going from village to village, proclaiming the advent of the millennium. According to this prophet, the Victorian *régné* was determined on the last day of the Indian month of *Vaisakh*, which expired on the 13th May, and the reign of the Imam Mehdi commenced on the next day. If he contented himself with merely preaching such a dangerous doctrine, in the midst of the excitable Ferazi fanatics in which the District abounds, it would have been bad enough. But he is not only a missionary but a man of action too. He is putting his views into practice. The Mehdi has not yet entered appearance, meanwhile his John the Baptist has commenced to take possession in his name. He leads a body of followers—fanatical Mahomedan marauders—with whom he goes about plundering. He has, in this manner, plundered the market at Narsingdi. The Police were furiously attacked, but succeeded in capturing half a dozen of the rascals, though the leaders escaped.

THE *fête* of the Centenary of the great French Revolution has been a *fiasco*, except in the scenic way. The monarchs of Europe could not well be expected to contribute to enthusiasm in favour of the Red Ideal, and Germany regarded the ceremony as a menace to herself in especial. So the official representatives of the Powers—the Ambassadors—kept away, though there were plenty of unofficial sightseers from all countries, and much to see and enjoy. Paris herself too seemed to remember the Reign of Terror and smiled coldly on the business.

AMONG others, the British Ambassador, Lord Lytton, was absent. Upon this fact, an obscure Member of the House of Commons found ed a motion for reducing the pay of Lord Salisbury, the Premier. There are many fools in the House, but this madman beats them all. The motion was lost, of course, but so unreasonable and unscrupulous is the spirit of party, that the G. O. M. is reported to have given his qualified support to it, and there were over a hundred members to vote for it.

COLONEL SIR HENRY YULE will shortly retire, and already many are canvassing to succeed him. But a telegram to the *Englishman* deals the death-blow to the hopes of the high and mighty *Omeas*. It says that no new appointment will be made, but the office will come under retrenchment, a bill being introduced in the House of Commons reducing the number of the India Council.

THE Quakers, with their usual honesty, have raised the true issue on the question of the Indian Opium Monopoly. Mr. Rowntree has just presented, from the members of the Society of Friends in Yorkshire, a petition to the House of Commons praying that England should wash her hands of the iniquity of the Opium Trade, the English people making up the consequent loss to the Indian revenue.

IN 1886, the Government of India established six scholarships. These were, in rotation, placed at the disposal of the Universities of Calcutta,

Bombay, Madras and the Punjab, there being two scholarships in each year. Accordingly, in 1887, the Madras and the Punjab Universities elected the scholars. In 1888, those of Calcutta and Bombay had the selection. A new University has now been started and Allahabad has preferred her claim. It has now, therefore, been decided that, from the year 1889, each of the five Universities shall participate in the scholarship in the following sequence—

Allahabad and Madras	...	...	1889
The Punjab and Calcutta	...	...	1890
Bombay and Allahabad	...	...	1891
Madras and the Punjab	...	...	1892
Calcutta and Bombay	...	...	1893

M. BONNET, from Paris, has taken charge of the French Settlement at Chandernagore as its Administrateur Principal.

THE fiat has gone forth, and soon it will be a *fait accompli*. The Proclamation of Annexation Petty has appeared in the *Gazette*, to the consternation of our Empire City. It is true the sword had long been impending over the head, but our people do not give themselves unnecessary trouble by anticipation. Now the blow has at length been struck, involving the property and occupation and position and prospects and happiness of thousands, there is anxiety in every face.

THE new central road from the Hooghly Bridge to Sealdah, connecting the Strand Road and the Upper Circular Road, is to be taken up in hand immediately. A strip of land, 8,650 feet in length and 170 feet in breadth, measuring 90 bighas of the standard measurements, has been declared under Act X of 1870. Ninety bigahs of land, in the heart of a single town, is no joke. It may be a pleasant dream to ambitious *Ediles*, but it is a serious matter to those whose lands have been *Gazetted*. Here it concerns—in every sense—the better part of the permanent residents of the best part of the metropolis. We wonder not that Europeans can scarcely grasp the full significance of so much house property demolished in an Indian town. In England, the whole might be owned between half a dozen or a dozen wealthy men, who have their true homes far away in the country. Here, as many thousands may have proprietary rights or their homes on this land.

It would be interesting to know, how much of this land will be occupied by the road and how much will be resold to recoup the cost.

It is vain to cry over the past, however. We only hope an able officer will be appointed to the business of taking up the lands, demarcating the different properties and assessing their value and the compensation for them—a strong just man who will do the right in a considerate spirit, but without fear or favour.

SUPERSTITION is not by any means the monopoly of Eastern Princes. If anything, it is rather the speciality of the Royal Caste. It is matter of history that the greatest and most enlightened sovereign of Europe in the Nineteenth Century—the Alexander the Great and the Justinian combined of the Age—Napoleon the Great—was an inveterate fatalist. And now, by recent accounts, we find the chief of contemporary European Potentates, the Emperor of Russia, as exemplary a believer in the occult arts of palmistry, anthroposcopy, onychomancy, and the rest as any poor Marhatta or Dogra Raja—

Some twenty years ago the present Czar, at that time then-apparent to the Russian throne, had his fortune told by a gipsy woman, whom he met by accident while out shooting. The gipsy, totally unaware of her casual client's exalted rank, examined the palm of his hand *à l'anton arton*, and prophesied many things to him, among others that he should not survive his forty-sixth birthday. It is stated that all her forecasts have been realised, one after another greatly to the disquietude of Alexander Alexandrovich, who is notoriously superstitious. The Czar entered his forty-fifth year on the 10th March, and has appeared to suffer more than usually severe depression of spirits since his birthday anniversary. His consort whose health has been delicate for sometime past, is said to be deeply distressed by the gloomy state of the Emperor's mind, brought by brooding over the gipsy's dismal prophecy.

Suppose the Kaiser of Germany called a Congress of the Powers to consider the question of the fitness of the Czar to rule the extensive Empire of all the Russias, with a view to the appointment of a Council of Regency presided over by the Ambassadors of the Great Powers, the Czar being allowed an adequate civil list and perhaps the courtesy of a seat on the Council!



THE American papers report a biological curiosity. A young Canadian French lady, Mademoiselle Josephine Bedard, lives only on water, and has so lived for more than seven years. Her pretensions were put to the test. By mutual agreement, the sceptics got her father to lock up Josephine in a room. She was provided with every convenience and comfort. Only there was no food, and no means of procuring it or way of its being introduced to her. She was allowed drink however, but only of water. Of old Adam's Ale, she had any quantity. Thus confined, she remained for fifteen days, during which period she had taken nothing but water. Yet she was none the worse for her incarceration or her prolonged fasting. It is said that the gentlemen who imposed on her the rigorous trial, were convinced, then scepticism having been followed by astonishment. The lady is of average size and height, weighing 125 pounds. Plump, of a symmetrical figure, crowned by an intellectual head, with bright brown eyes and coal-black hair, though short, Mademoiselle Bedard is a beauty. She is intellectual too, inordinately fond of study, and passes all her time in it. Yet she does not disdain amusement, and takes her part in all parties got up for the purpose in the neighbourhood. Strong and well-built, she keeps splendid health. She has no complaint of any kind, and has never had a headache. In fact just the girl to marry.

We in India have no occasion to start at such a phenomenon. Such cases have been known, though at long intervals. Some twenty years ago, there was in the Nuddea District a poor woman who lived only on bathing.

THE Anglo-Indian papers report that the Government is considering an application from the Maharaja of Cooch Behar to construct a railway, for a distance of about thirty miles, which will connect his capital with the existing Railway system. The Cooch Behar line may be regarded as begun. The departmental dilly-dally, if any, is only a saving of appearances. "Considering," indeed, a foregone conclusion. "An application from the Maharaja" is not the whole truth, either. It is a mere formality. The plaintiff and the Court are virtually identical. The State has no money to invest in such an expensive permanent luxury as a railway, and Cooch Behar has hardly possibilities of trade to pay the interest on borrowed capital. There are debts enough already, and these are a flea-bite compared to the liabilities about to be incurred. Nor does His Highness any more than his people want a railway. But it will be a great convenience to the hunters and globe-trotters. The State has already been exhausted in the worship and feed of the gods and Brahmans. The proposed line will be the camel's last straw, we are afraid.

THE Birth-day Honor List was published at Simla in the evening of Friday the 24th May last. It did not reach the metropolis till the morning of Tuesday the 28th May. Could not the *Gazette* extraordinary be published simultaneously at Simla and Calcutta? Herein we feel the abolition of the Press Commissionership. We annex the List.

#### STAR OF INDIA

*To be an Extra Knight Commander*

Colonel Henry Yule, C. B., Royal Engineers

*To be Companions.*

Colonel Edward Lacon Ommanney, Bengal Staff Corps, Commissioner and Superintendent of the Peshawar Division, and lately Political Officer with the Hazara Field Force.

The Honourable Henry Edward Stokes, Madras Civil Service, Member of the Council of the Governor of the Presidency of Fort St. George.

#### INDIAN EMPIRE

*To be Knights Commanders*

Maharana Shri Wakatsinghji, Raja of Lunawara, in the Rewa Kantha.

John Ware Edgar, Esq., C. S. I., Bengal Civil Service, Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

*To be Companions*

Major Charles Henry Ellison Adamson, Madras Staff Corps, Deputy Commissioner in Burma.

Henry William Bliss, Esq., Madras Civil Service, Member of the Board of Revenue, Madras.

Naoroji Nasarvanji Vadia, Justice of the Peace for the Town of Bombay.

Brigade-Surgeon Isidore Bernadotte Lyon, Bombay Medical Service, Chemical Analyser to the Government of Bombay.

Khalifa Saiyid Muhammad Hasan Khan, Wazir-ud-Daulah Mudab-

bir-ul-Mulk, Minister of the Patiala State.

John Walker Bayers, Esq., Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers, Manager and Engineer-in-Chief of the Burma State Railway.

Her Majesty the Queen and Empress of India has been pleased to confer the honour of Knighthood on Richard Charles Oldfield, Esq., Bengal Civil Service, retired, lately Puisne Judge of the High Court of the North-Western Provinces.

#### NAWAB SAHIB AS A PERSONAL DISTINCTION.

Fazunissa Chaudhri of the Hossehabad family, of the district of Tipperah.

#### RAJA AS A PERSONAL DISTINCTION

Babu Nan Nalayan Singh, Zemindar of Rangurh, in the district of Hazaribagh.

#### SHAMS-UL-ULAMA AS A PERSONAL DISTINCTION.

Maulvi Syad Imdad Imam, of Neora, in the Patna Division.

#### DIWAN BAHADUR AS A PERSONAL DISTINCTION.

Rao Bahadur T. Raja Rama Rao, Deputy Collector and Manager of the Ramnad Zemindary, in the Madras Presidency.

#### KHAN BAHADUR AS A PERSONAL DISTINCTION

Mehran Khan, *retired* Mir Khan, late Inspector of Police, Upper Sind Frontier District.

Behrangjee Jhangjee Rajkottala, Municipal Commissioner and Honorary Magistrate at Karachi.

Mirza Kulb Ali Khan, late Sub-Judge of Unao, in the N.-W. Provinces.

Khabita Syad Muhammad Husam, Foreign Minister of the Patiala State.

Venayek Rao Ganesh Samarth, Treasury Accounts Officer of the Tonk State.

Ardeshir Dorabji, of the Superintending Engineer's Office in Rajputana.

Sheikh Elahi Bux, retired Hospital Assistant of Ajmere.

Burjori Dorabji Patel, Merchant, Quetta.

Mir Hufat Husam, Kumhar, under the Senapati of Baroda.

Assistant Surgeon Sheikh Ata Muhammad, Vice-Consul, Hodeida and Camaran.

#### RAO BAHADUR AS A PERSONAL DISTINCTION.

Varada Rajagopala Chariyar, B.A., B.L., Registrar of Madura in the Madras Presidency.

S. Appu Sastri, B.A., Manager of the Native School at Kumbhakonnum in the Tanjore District of the Madras Presidency.

C. Venkoba Chari, Subordinate Judge of Madura in the Madras Presidency.

C. Purushottamayya, District Munsif of Bellary in the Madras Presidency.

Vakil Hucharao Achut Harhar, Vice-President of the Belgaum Municipality in the Bombay Presidency.

Narayan Vishnu Bapat, late Curator of the Government Central Book Depot in Bombay.

Lulloo Lachman Singh, Senior Member of the Dhulepore State Council and Dewan of the State.

Jeysinghoo Angria, Sir Suba under the Baroda Darbar.

#### RAI BAHADUR AS A PERSONAL DISTINCTION

Babu Jadonath Haldar, Police Department, N.-W. Provinces.

Pundit Ishai Das, Confidential Clerk to the Commissioner of Peshawar.

Pushotam Das, Settlement Officer of Bilaspur in the Central Provinces.

Tikaram Seth, Honorary Magistrate, land-holder, and banker of Narsinghpur in the Central Provinces.

Bishen Sarep, Deputy Magistrate of Kekri and Officiating Extra Assistant Commissioner of Beawar in Amere-Merwara.

Sirdar Kupal Singh, Contractor and Honorary Magistrate of Rawalpindi.

Sardar Supan Singh, Contractor of Rawalpindi.

Babu Gush Chander Rai, Superintendent of the Press of the Office of the Private Secretary to the Governor-General.

#### KHAN SAHIB AS A PERSONAL DISTINCTION.

Cowasji Kakhusru, 1st Grade Clerk, Commissariat Department, Bombay.

Ramzan Abdula, Contractor at Karachi.

#### RAO SAHIB AS A PERSONAL DISTINCTION.

Ramji Govind, Senior Hospital Assistant in the Bombay Presidency.

Pranshankar Tripurashankar, of the Revenue Establishment of the Ahmedabad District in the Bombay Presidency.

#### AHMUDAN GAUNG TAZEIK YA MIN AS A PERSONAL DISTINCTION.

Maung Shwe Waing, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Rangoon.

Maung Myat Pu, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Tharrawaddy.

THUYE GAUNG NGWE DA YA MIN AS A PERSONAL DISTINCTION.  
Maung Po O, Myook of Western Pagyi.  
There are several noteworthy things in this List, but space fails us.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1889.

### JUDICIAL ZOOLM.

#### A TYPICAL CASE.

A CURIOUS case of land spoliation has just come to the writer's hand. The case occurred some months ago, but is nonetheless deserving of ventilation and the serious attention of the Lieutenant-Governor. I have said the case is a curious one. From its nature and character, it may not unreasonably be characterised one of Indian *zoolm*. It certainly seems to the writer that a flagrant act of injustice, one indeed amounting virtually to confiscation, has been permitted under color and all the formalities of law.

It appears that a Brahman named Rakhal Chunder Tewary owned some valuable land situated in the Metropolitan District, within two miles of Fort William. Wanted for the new Hoogly Wet Docks at Kidderpore, the land in question, with many others, was, under the formidable Land Acquisition Act, declared by Government in the *Gazette* as required for a public purpose. That is a characteristic piece of Indian legislation. By this simple official announcement, without demonstration of the public purpose, a man might be ousted of his own,—deprived, if any officials chose, of his property, his ancestral estate, his dear home with all its associations, his very temple of worship, and his gods bundled out. Under this implacable law, the poor Brahman was dispossessed. The Law of course does not sanction *Loot* pure and simple. It knows better. It provides for payment and compensation. But it provides this in such a way that it is difficult for the owners to get their dues—for the poor and friendless, next to impossible. If the law leaves any opening for them, the executive are always able to block it up. Abundant proof of this may be seen in the bafflement of the persevering Tewary's efforts to obtain redress.

The Law provides for a Collector to acquire the land required. It also provides for a reference to the Judge of the District who, with the aid of two Assessors appointed by the Government and the party aggrieved, decides the matter. There is no appeal to the regular Courts, when the Judge agrees with one of the Assessors. So a Collector was appointed to value the land. The appointment of a special agency is common to both England and India, but with this difference that the one occurs in Europe, while the other takes place in Asia. The writer's meaning in this may be taken for granted as understood, *i.e.*, the chances are 10 to 1 the assessor at home will be compelled to make an honest assessment, while the chances in India are 1 to 10 the assessor will do just as he likes. The case under review practically illustrates this. A most unfortunate official was told off to the duty of assessment. He is an officer of experience, but the records of the court in numerous cases leave no doubt as to his unfitness for the delicate task of doing justice between numerous clamorous claimants, in respect of landed property of various kinds. Tewary was one of many owners, who, dissatisfied with the Collector's assessment and offer, went to court. Nor did the special judiciary prove more

satisfactory than the executive. Baboo Nanda Lall Sircar, pleader of Baboo Rakhal Chunder before the Additional Judge of the 24-Pergunnahs, arguing the case on behalf of his client, took objection to the appointment of the assessor on behalf of Government, on account of his intimacy with the Land Acquisition Collector—a Deputy Collector of Alipore, in this instance—but the Judge not only disallowed the objection, but also disallowed all questions put by the pleader to the assessor on the subject of his unfitness to act as assessor, on the legal grounds of intimacy with the acquiring Deputy Collector. Why, in the first instance, was Baboo Nanda Lall Sircar's objection disallowed, and why were his questions to the assessor disallowed? The injustice of the Judge is unquestionable and the legality only questionable. The sequel will show the marvellous simplicity of the Judge in playing into the hands of the Government assessor and the Land Acquisition Collector; he was guilty of the grossest impropriety, if nothing more. From the documents before the writer, it would appear that shortly before Rakhal's case, several other similar cases had been decided, and the records of those cases were naturally to form the basis on which compensation was to be awarded to the Tewary. Notwithstanding it had been established by evidence, on the part of both Tewary and Government, that the former's lands were not only materially superior land but of greater value and might be valued at Rs. 80, Rs. 100 and Rs. 125 respectively per cottah, they were assessed at only Rs. 6, 15, and 20, per cottah, while a favored *protégé* who had not objected to the Assessor was awarded for land in the same village and adjacent to Rakhal Babu's Rs. 15, 20, 30, 50 and 60. In this favoured *protégé's* case, the Deputy Collector offered to pay him for very inferior paddy land Rs. 6 per cottah, which the Deputy Collector himself represented as very inferior land and yielding but very poor crops. Yet for this very same land the officer on revision, the Additional Judge, awarded Rs. 15 per cottah. The question that suggests itself to the writer is, How of two parcels of land, both equally fertile and lying in juxtaposition to each other, the one owner is awarded compensation, ranging from 100 to 300 per cent. over the other?

Compensation cases sent up for assessment should be estimated with due regard to their dual value both as rayyetti and proprietary lands. But in the case under notice, the assessor, (whose appointment was objected to) assumed Baboo Rakhal held only a rayyetti interest, awarding for his lands at the rates of Rs. 6, Rs. 15 and Rs. 20 per cottah, his more fortunate neighbour being compensated at the rates of Rs. 15, 20, 30, 50 and Rs. 60 respectively. It is quite clear, under the circumstances I have revealed, that Rakhal was denied proprietary right without being told why or wherefore. That such a state of things should be allowed to exist for 24 hours without being enquired into by the local Government, is incomprehensible. The total value of Rakhal's rayyetti interest was computed at Rs. 4,212. Now follows the most infamous Zemindari black-mailism the writer has known during a residence of nearly a quarter of a century in India. Under the patronage and sanction of Mr. Bradbury, the Additional Judge, was paid to the Zemindars, as value of the Zemindari interest, the sum of Rs. 1,063—a trifle over one-fourth the amount of compensation awarded to Rakhal. Loudly did Baboo Nanda Lall Sircar, pleader of Baboo Rakhal, protest against such an illegal and absurd apportionment of the award. He cried in the wilderness.

It is hard to believe that any Government officer would lay himself open to the suspicion that must naturally attach to such proceedings. It is evident more regard was shown for the claims of the Zemindars than for justice to Rakhal. The courts being closed to him, the aggrieved Tewary can now only look up to Government for protection from what may be called by no other name than Judicial Zoolm.

ZITO.

#### THE BOHEMIAN TEMPLE IN HATHIBAGAN.

BIENNIAL or triennially it may be, but it is with genuine pleasure that we open our columns to record the progress of the Native Stage in the metropolis. And it is pleasanter still to note that during these months, covering a year and a half, the Native Stage has improved with giant strides. This cannot be said, however, of the Bengal Theatre. Apparently without any ambition since the death of its aristocratic founder, beyond the financial—and even this but moderate by reason of its limited capacity for accommodation—the Bengal has mostly cared for improved *jātrās* for the delectation of its constituency. The Bengal, indeed, has a constituency of its own, a constituency as loyal as it is liberal. But altogether the concern is honest, business-like and even respectable after a fashion. Meanwhile, the fancy of a young millionaire to have the *carte blanche* to enter the green-room and lord it over actors and actresses, added another theatre to the town. Thus arose the Emerald, two years ago, with furious blowing of trumpets, in the old habitation of the Star Company. As for the latter, they were first ejected and then *beheaded*, the compensation whereof being Rs. 30,000 for the ejection and almost as round, if not an equal, sum for the *head*. We published the details of this transaction in our opening number of last year. However much we might then wish for its success, the Emerald has somehow managed to dwindle down under the most favorable circumstances. Neither the money from the Seal treasury which flowed like water for a time, nor the efforts—we dare say the best efforts—of Baboo Grish Chunder Ghosh, the most competent manager available, was of any avail to check its degeneracy. Despite money, despite genius, despite the best “stars,” despite flashy advertisements, a dazzling wardrobe, costly sceneries, electric lights and what not, the Emerald Theatre of the rich hobbledehoy has never prospered. There was evidently something rotten in the State of Denmark. The new house began very well for some months with old dramas like the *Nil Darpan* and *Nabin Tapashini* and *Sita's Exile*, superbly mounted and altogether most powerfully cast. In the last play, Baboo Ghose himself appeared as Rama. The public had some really good acting and the public attended in strong numbers to fill its coffers. They had such a happy time of it—both manager and master, but all to no purpose, and soon change came o'er the spirit of the dream. Meanwhile, undazzled by all this *éclat* and triumph, the ejected Bohemians were silently laying the bricks, one over the other, in Cornwallis Street, Grey Cross. They devoted themselves entirely to their new hope so that it might not prove a costly whistle. In six months, a structure rose, from among lowly huts, towering up its proud head against the sky—the best and prettiest play-house in India, an ornament of the city and perhaps a blessing to the Corporation. The monster edifice has been built after a method which has harmoniously blended several European and Indian styles inside and out, and said to have cost the proprietors about a lac and a half. The beautiful architecture and decoration of the new Star Theatre deserve all the more praise if, as is said, they are the joint design and work of a Native layman and a humble Native architect.

The Star Theatre re-opened, and the old company made their *début* in the new place. The new play on the new boards was *Nashiram*. A good story highly seasoned with spiritual aspirations dear to the people, it drew for a time, as long, that is, as the novelty of the new house lasted, and then it would not “draw.” The reason was evident. The public had had enough of *Haribole*! *Haribole*! and would have none of it any more. Even the “gods” had become sick of it, and no mistake. The empty

benches were eloquent once more and held up grimaces in place of cheers for the best efforts of the struggling artists. Now came the struggle for life, which at length gave birth to the realistic school of the Bengali drama. The popular novel *Sarmalati* was caught hold of in the emergency, and Baboo Amrita Lal Bose, the new manager, turned out a play from a half of that book. He had indeed to work hard at it, but “Now or Never” must have been the motto that whetted his ardour, judging from the imminent ruin that stared him in the face. Baboo Grish Chunder Ghosh at the Emerald was also engaged in rehearsing a new play at this juncture, which was put upon the boards on the same night that *Sarala* was announced at the Star. But Bose, his lieutenant, out-Ghosed Ghose in this matter. Whatever be the master's talents, the capricious public would not be propitiated. “No more *Haribole*, bus!” was the cold response at the Emerald, to all the efforts of the author, the actor or the manager. And the rage was for “*Sarala*,” powerfully written and adapted to meet the demand of all, from the captious critics of the front row to the “gods” in the gallery. This was the hit that sealed the doom of Seal's Theatre in Beadon Street.

The first of its kind and acted with new vigor and energy, “*Sarala*” had an unusual run and proved a financial success beyond the highest expectation of the proprietors. But it is now too late, we think, to mention its excellences or shortcomings. It would be better perhaps to speak of the new piece of the same school by Baboo Grish Chunder Ghose—who has since rejoined the company—and which has just been produced at the new Star Theatre. *Prafulla* has sustained the reputation which its author has already established for himself. It is a weird tragedy, relieved though with no end of comicalities and drolleries, in new situations, in a natural way. Evidently, that Baboo Ghosh's study of human nature has been both deep and wide. The story, taken from real life, is short though not simple. Jogesh Chunder Ghose is the head of a respectable *kayastha* family of three brothers, two wives and the mother. Reduced to great poverty, Jogesh, the eldest of the brothers, raised the family to comfort and wealth, by sheer dint of thirty years of honesty industry. In the opening scene, he has just laid down the harness to retire, and asks his younger Romesh, whom he has brought up as an attorney, to draw out a deed of allotment, as per memorandum he has jotted down, dividing his whole self-made fortune into three equal shares among the three brothers. This done, he talks with his good wife cheerfully of the time of ease and rest which has at last arrived, over a refreshing glass, when enters trembling Pitambar, his faithful sircar, in frightful hurry, and reports the sudden failure of the Bank in which Jogesh's lacs were deposited. The blow throws the man into mad despair, which could only find solace in the bottle and glass on the table. The fruits of thirty years of hard labor dissolve under one wave of Fate's wand! Oblivion, oblivion!—the man drowns himself in the oblivion of drink. The attorney brother, the villain of the play, takes time by the forelock, supplies Jogesh with more drink than he can stand, gets him to sign, while in this insensible state, a false deed of mortgage of all his real property, contrives to put the youngest Suresh in jail on a false charge, and then, “in the interests of his client,” the false mortgage turns Jogesh, his wife and his little boy out of the house. This does not affect Jogesh who has sunk into the lowest depth of the drunkard. He robs his wife of the little all that remains with her. She drops down homeless on the public road and dies from the effects of a fatal kick received from her husband while struggling to rescue from him the last means of sustenance. The plot has now thickened deep. The homeless, foodless and motherless little boy, enticed into the hands of the ruffian uncle, through the agency of a mad imbecile, Grandpa Madan, is locked up in an unfrequented apartment in the old house, and there left to die the cruel death of hunger and thirst. But the best laid schemes of mice and men gang aft a-gley. *Prafulla*, the villain's wife, a simple woman who has already found out the rascalities of her husband, manages to break into the boy's prison and saves him just in time but, alas, at the cost of her own life! Here dies also the mother turned mad by the reverses and the desolation in the house brought on by Romesh, who is at last overtaken by fate, and arrested by the Police upon the grim scene of his dark deeds at the instance of the liberated Suresh and Mulluck Chand Dhuburia, Zemindar, the false mortgagee. Thus closes the

woeful plot of a drama, which has been powerfully written and played with vivacity and vigor that belong only to the seasoned members of the Star Company alone. But the principal characters claim some mention in detail. Jogesh is represented by Baboo A. L. Mitter with far greater than his usual ability. The fallen man of the bottle is faithfully delineated. His rollicking speeches on honesty and his mystic comparison of his old with his new self are rare pieces of good acting. His chief fault is the unnaturally comparative composure with which he receives the first news of his ruin. He must either look stunned or extremely excited, the latter being more suitable to the idea he has himself adopted. Baboo A. L. Bose's Romesh is up to his mark. The coward rascal, who has sold himself to law to be its own, is played with a delicacy of art which, at several points, more than encroaches upon the bounds of the real. The wheedling Jogesh into signing the false deed, the escape of "disgust," the attempt to argue the honest elder brother into dishonesty, the moral attitude of the hypocrite before the police, the anatomy of his face after the murder and the arrest, are exhibitions which might do credit to any leading artist in England. He only wants finish here and there to be faultless. Suresh (Baboo Kashi) was well rendered. This young actor promises better things. Baboo M. N. Chowdhury's Pitambar is simply marvellous. The actor thoroughly enters into the character and is lost. As much can be said of Kangali Churn (Baboo Kundu) the attorney's clerk, though it is a more difficult part. Grandpa Madan (Baboo N. M. Chuckerbutty) is well acted towards the end, though the same cannot be said of the first portion, where he is more affected than natural. Bhajahari ("Captain Bell") scouts criticism. He would be a treat for Mr. Labouchere. Among female characters, Uma Sundari (Srimati Gangá) is a development of dramatic character on the Native stage requiring power of a high order to delineate. And when we say that Srimati Gangá was quite equal to the nervous responsibility, we say only the bare fact. In Act III, scene I, and the sonnambulism scene, she gave us acting which made her at once occupy the highest position she could claim. Never was such acting attempted or witnessed in Calcutta. Perhaps, the little hurry in her speeches will yet mend in time. Gynadá (Srimati Kiran Kumari) is a very well sustained character, spoilt by a little affectation at places which spoils our full enjoyment of it. This lady artiste ought to look inward for inspiration, so that the fountain of her own fancy might have freer play. She makes up these shortcomings at the death scene and the one before where she almost unconsciously rises to the height of nature. Jagamani (Srimati Toonna) is clever in her way, but cleverer by far than our expectation or her own. And, now, what shall we say of the title role—Prafullá? Srimati Bhuni as the heroine is a surprise we could never think was in store for us. Once in her element, this actress has suddenly developed wonderful powers. She gave us the picture of a simple-hearted Hindu wife in her native eloquence. She has left nothing to be desired, whether in her *naivete* or her vivacity. The little boy, Jáláb, is played by a real *artiste* in embryo. Of minor characters, the Bank Dewan, the Police Inspector and the Janadar claim notice, though the others are of more than tolerable merit. The sceneries themselves are worth the money paid at the door. Dasu Baboo is second to none in stage management. And altogether "Prafullá" at the Star is a brilliant success.

S.

## BOOKS.\*

The reader may remember Baboo Mustafi as the compiler of a useful collection of English idioms, colloquialisms, proverbs and short sentences done into Bengali, which we noticed last year. He has followed up with these little elementary books for the use of schools or schoolboys, one being a Guide to elementary Physical Geography and another a Guide to the rudiments of science in general. The method in both is the same—these are simply catechisms. We confess it is not to our taste. Indeed, it has gone out of fashion, and deservedly and properly so.

At one time, it was the rage and the schoolroom was deluged with your Magnall and your Joyce and other similar and worse bores

\*A Guide to Physical Geography, containing about 400 Questions with Answers, &c. By M. Mustafi, B. A.

A Guide or Stepping-Stone to Elementary Science, intended for the students preparing for the Entrance and F. A. Examinations. By Manmatha Mustafi, B. A.

*ad infinitum*. The plague invaded the East of course, and under the auspices of Charles Frevlyan and the educational philanthropists, old--then young--Raja Kali Krishna poured upon the country no end of Catechisms in English and Bengali and sometimes in Hindi. But the world has long since wearied of this jejune machinery. The books before us seem to be symptomatic of a revival. We hope it will be nipped in the bud, the more so as it is likely to encourage that tendency to Cram which is the bane of modern education.

Apart from our objection to the form, the books seem to be carefully compiled in their subject-matter, from the best authorities.

The title pages have been crowded apparently for the sake of effect, regardless of propriety, neatness or accuracy. The get-up could scarcely be elegant under printers in too great a hurry to put their imprimatur on the title page or its back. But the character of the contents is different. The teaching is unexceptionable--the science abreast of the knowledge of the day. It may be doubted whether little native boys will understand the subject matters, obscured by technical terms, but that is not the compiler's business. There is a rage for elementary science, and he supplies good crammers in it, which may be set by heart, if not understood.

## DACCA.

Dacca, May 24.

The District of Dacca seems to labour under a fatality. It must be periodically visited by terrific winds. While the horrors worked by the last year's disastrous Tornado are still fresh in our memory, report reaches us of heavy storms devastating some part or other of Bikrampur. Only the other day a water-spout was seen in the river Pudda--the very name of which strikes terror into every heart. It was followed by a heavy storm which swept away all that lay in its course. But the damage done was confined to only a few villages on the banks of the mighty river. Much property was destroyed and several persons were wounded.

But on the 19th instant, a calamity of a rather serious nature befell the inhabitants of western Bikrampur. There were indications of an approaching storm at sunset; and as soon as it was dark, clouds gathered overhead, the thunder pealed and the lightning flashed. A high wind began to blow and it was readily changed into a heavy storm. Rain and storm, accompanied with outbursts of thunder, lasted for nearly half an hour. It seemed as though Satan had been let loose to lay waste the whole of western Bikrampur. In the mofussil, people generally live in huts and sheds, and their miseries may be better imagined than described. As it was just after nightfall, men were returning from their day's labour, and some of them lay dead on their way home. Innumerable trees were blown down, a great number of people were killed and wounded, and several thatched cottages and houses roofed with thin iron sheets were brought down to the ground. We do not yet exactly know the number of deaths from the late disaster.

The whole of Naraingunj is in a ferment. There is a H. C. E. School, supported chiefly by the Municipality. The Secretary to the School is a big official, and the Headmaster a wonderful product of the Calcutta University--a jumble of antique crudities. Complaints of a serious nature were made against the headmaster from time to time, that he deliberately wounded the religious feelings of his boys and indirectly instructed them to set aside all caste distinctions; his style of teaching was quite unsatisfactory and his attitude towards the pupils, their guardians and the other teachers, haughty and overbearing. Mr. C. A. Martin, the then Inspector of Schools, recommended the dismissal of the headmaster, but the Secretary was inexorable and he backed him with his might and main. Now the guardians of the boys were driven to the painful necessity of setting up a new School, wherein to teach their boys after their own fashion. Baba Dino Nath Sen, the acting Inspector of Schools, has passed rather ungenerous remarks upon the new institution, and he seems to have made up his mind to check the growth of the movement in progress. We have full confidence in the ability of Babu Dino Nath Sen; but we are afraid he has not formed a very happy conclusion this time. The movement was set on foot by the guardians themselves, and the boys had very little to do with it. We hope, however, that after a time, matters would settle themselves in the right direction. After all, we cannot bring ourselves to believe that the Secretary has acted very wisely on this occasion. His indignation at this or that teacher of the school may be construed into veiled sympathy with the misconduct of the headmaster, who is said to have resigned his service in disgust.

The old School has been dragging on a dead-alive existence, the daily attendance of boys being from 40 to 50, while in the new School it is from 120 to 130, and it promises to be a flourishing institution.

The rains have set in early this year. Fields of paddy crops have been flooded over and all the hopes of husbandmen are at an end. The price of rice has already risen too high; it is selling at Rs. 3-8 to Rs. 5 a maund. We do not know what fate awaits the famine-stricken population of Bengal.

## THE STACK RESOLUTION.

GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL.

(POLICE.)

*Dated Calcutta, the 6th February, 1889.*

Read Letter from the Inspector General of Police dated 17th January 1889 and its enclosures regarding an enquiry held by Colonel L. W. Samuells, Deputy Commissioner of Singhbhum, into certain charges preferred by Samundar Khan against Mr. J. C. Stack and his servants. Letter from Mr. Stack to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police dated Calcutta 27th January 1889.

The criminal case referred to in the above papers is still pending in the Court of the Deputy Commissioner of Singhbhum and consequently the Lieutenant-Governor cannot deal with it in any way at present. But in the course of the enquiry facts have come to light affecting seriously the official character and conduct of Mr. Stack, lately Officiating Superintendent of the Police of the district, that it seems desirable to dispose without delay of this part of the affair, especially as the conclusion regarding it arrived at by the Lieutenant-Governor cannot be in any way affected by the result of the criminal case. Sir Stuart Bayley has now before him a complete record of the preliminary enquiry made by Colonel Samuells, including the demi-official correspondence between him and Mr. Stack, and has also perused the version of the facts and the explanation of his conduct given by Mr. Stack himself in his letter to the officiating Inspector-General, Police, dated 27th January 1889. Reports on the subject have also been received from Mr. Stack's official superiors--the Deputy Commissioner of Singhbhum, the Commissioner of the Chota Nagpore Division and the officiating Inspector-General, Police--the Lieutenant-Governor has therefore had all the information and assistance necessary for him to come to a decision on the conduct of Mr. Stack. The conduct of the subordinate police officers concerned is being enquired into and will be dealt with by the Inspector-General.

2. The details of the investigation and of the facts as have been hitherto ascertained, may be summarised as follows:--

On October 23, 1888, Samundar Khan, a Kabuli, presented a petition under Sec. 366 of the Indian Penal Code in the Court of the Deputy Commissioner of Singhbhum, in which he accused eight persons of having abducted and concealed his daughter, Wazirun Bibi. Among these persons were Joseph Christian, a head-constable; Guhia Ghasi, a constable; Daniel Christian, Mr. Stack's cook, and father of the head-constable Joseph; and Tarachand, a Syce on Mr. Stack's establishment. In this petition the complainant states that his daughter was taken from his house on the night of the 17th October by some unknown person; that he had made many enquiries and had found that his daughter had been concealed in the houses of Daniel Christian and Tarachand Syce, but that when he went to the house of the latter and found her there, he was ill-treated by the neighbours and driven away. He declared that it had proved useless for him to apply to the Police and that he had consequently been compelled to have resort to the Magistrate's Court, and to ask for the examination of witnesses and for a proper search to be made for his daughter. The statement of the complainant was not then taken down, but the officiating Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Renny, recorded the following order, dated 23rd October, "As a case has already been instituted before the Police, forwarded to the District Superintendent for enquiry. I trust no effort will be lost in trying to trace the missing woman." And Mr. Stack, on receipt of this order, paid the petition on to a subordinate on the same date with the remark, "To Court Sub-Inspector Abdur Rahaman for a searching enquiry, as the complainant seems to have no confidence in the Town Police."

Sometime after this the Kabuli being dissatisfied with the progress made, put in a further petition to the Commissioner of the Chota Nagpore Division in which he distinctly accused Mr. Stack of having abducted his daughter and also clearly stated that he had seen the girl in the house of Tarachand. He further alleged that for two days after the presentation of his first petition he had been confined in his house by a guard of eight men--four in uniform and four without--set over him by the District Superintendent of Police to prevent his going out.

3. On receipt of this order from the Commissioner, Colonel Samuells, who had just received charge of the office of the Deputy Commissioner from Mr. Renny, forwarded the petition at once to Mr. Stack for any explanation he might wish to offer. Mr. Stack returned it with a demi-official letter on November 13th the day after he had received it. In this letter he characterises the petition as "outrageous" and goes on to say--"I know nothing whatever about the missing girl, and have had everything I could do to trace her without success. I do not even know anything about the alleged procuress Mookta or Mukoda, whom I first heard of in connection with this case, and who appears to be quite a child, the daughter of a Sonar living in Baribazar, with whom I have never had anything to do. I do not believe either that my servants have had anything to do with the matter." The woman Mookta was mentioned as an accused by the complainant in both his peti-

tions. The remainder of the letter is filled with a description of the violence of the Kabulis in their attempts to find the daughter, and with a story purporting to be a true account of the reasons why the girl had run away from Samundar Khan. It was also insinuated by Mr. Stack that the petition writer who drew up the petition put in before the Deputy Commissioner had reasons for being incensed against him, and that the whole story had been concocted for the purpose of forcing him to exert himself to find the girl and thereby clear himself. Colonel Samuells then proceeded on November 15 to examine the complainant Samundar Khan, his witnesses Yar Mahomed Khan and Jum Khan, and also the petition-writer Ram Ridoi Ghose and a Mukhtear Chintamani Mahti, who was the first Mukhtear engaged by complainant. These two last witnesses declared that Mr. Stack's name was not mentioned by Samundar Khan when he dictated his first petition, and the complainant himself said he had not mentioned the Sahab's name because he had no "pucca suspicion" against him. The complainant and his witnesses deposed before the Deputy Commissioner that they believed that the girl was now with Mr. Stack, as they had heard that she had been seen with him in certain Kol villages by some Mundees.

4. These Mundees were sent for at once by the Deputy Commissioner, and their depositions were taken down by him on the 17th November. The Mundee of a village named Sundi Sununia said that a party of three men, a woman and a girl had passed through his village and after staying at his house one night had gone on to Khengra. He made no mention of M. Stack. The Mundee of Khengra deposed that Mr. Stack and a girl with a party of other men came to his house one morning and rested and ate there and that the Sahab left with the girl on an elephant at 4 p.m. He stated that they had recognised the Police Sahab by his piebald horse, and that he would recognise the girl if he saw her again.

Colonel Samuells gives the following report of the action taken by him immediately after this last statement had been recorded. "A day or two after I had recorded the Mundee's statement, Mr. Stack returned to Chyebassa from holding an enquiry into an alleged case of dacoity in the district, and as he assured me positively that he had nothing whatever to do with the Kabuli girl and could account for his journey to Khengra, I thought it would be as well to send for the Mundees again and examine them in Mr. Stack's presence, and I informed Mr. Stack of my intention to do so."

On the 20th November, however, the Deputy Commissioner's Chaprassi returned saying that the Mundees were not to be found, and that the Police Sahab had sent for them from their houses. On this report being sent to Mr. Stack for his explanation, he answered demi-officially on the 21st that the head-constable Joseph Christian had of his own authority sent for these men in order to clear his own character from some imputations he had heard that they had made against him and had wanted to produce them before him (Mr. Stack), but that he had refused to have anything to do with them. The men were eventually brought again before the Deputy Commissioner on November 25 and examined by him in the presence of his Sheradadar only. They then stated that they had been fetched from their houses by P. C. Christian, a son of Daniel (Mr. Stack's cook and a brother of head-constable Joseph), soon after their return from the court, and that they had been brought to Mr. Stack, who had asked them not to say anything about the girl having been seen with him.

5. On the same day (25th November) Colonel Samuells received information from the Rev. Father Stockman that the bearer of Dr. Manoh, the Civil Surgeon of Singhbhum, whose house was occupied by Mr. Stack, had complained to him that Mr. Stack was keeping a girl shut up in a room, into which he would allow none of the servants to go. In consequence of this statement, Colonel Samuells searched Dr. Manoh's house on the 26th, but found no girl there. The bearer (Raski) was subsequently called before the Deputy Commissioner, and he deposed to having heard a girl's voice in the day room when Mr. Stack was in the room, and to having been forbidden access to the room by Mr. Stack.

6. On this day (26th November) Joseph Chintamani, one of the accused in the original case, was produced with a mistress of his named Munim. They both deposed that the (Munim) was the woman seen at the Mundee's village, but they contradicted each other on several material points. The Mundees and the Mahout of the elephant were called and declared that the woman Munim was not the woman they had seen with Joseph and the District Superintendent of Police.

7. On the 27th November Colonel Samuells wrote demi-officially to Mr. Stack asking him to send his Syce, Tarachand, and his cook, Daniel Christian, to his chutcherri at 3 p.m. Mr. Stack did not answer the letter, and neither of the men appeared. Colonel Samuells having received information that Tarachand had gone on leave the day before and that Daniel had gone out with camp equipage into Motussil, wrote officially to Mr. Stack on the same day asking for an explanation as to whether his information was correct, and reminding him that he was bound to inform the Deputy Commissioner previously of all tours he might propose to make. Colonel Samuells also in the same letter called for a further explanation as to



certain points mentioned in Samundar Khan's explanation. Mr. Stack replied officially next day, saying that he had no intention of disregarding the departmental rules as to the submission of tour plans to the Deputy Commissioner, and adding, "I have strong reasons for objecting to entering into any further official correspondence on the subject at present." Colonel Samuells then wrote a further official letter to Mr. Stack, in which he formally called on him for explanations with regard to—

- (1). The alleged placing of a guard on the Kabuli's house after he had filed his petition to the Deputy Commissioner.
- (2). The evidence of the Mundees and the Mahout.
- (3). The statement made by Rassick, bearer to Dr. Manook.
- (4). The non-production of his servant Tarachand and Daniel. In the same letter the Deputy Commissioner asked what action had been taken with reference to the affray at the house of Tarachand.

8. On the 2nd December Mr. Stack answered these letters in an official letter, and at the same time wrote a demi-official letter on the same subject. He answered the enquiries made in the following manner:—

(1). He stated that in consequence of his fear lest the infuriated Kabulis should wreak summary vengeance on the girl when found, he had stationed two policemen in plain clothes to watch them, but that he had in no way interfered with their movements.

(2). He declared that the woman with him on the journey from Khengra was Joseph's wife, and that he had visited Khengra suddenly because he had suspected Joseph of being there with the Kabuli girl. On his satisfying himself that the girl really was Joseph's wife, he had made no report of his action in the matter.

(3). He totally denied that he had any girl with him in Dr. Manook's house, and said he had only shut up the room in which he kept his money.

(4). He alleged that Tarachand Syce and Daniel Christian had run away and that he had not heard of them since.

He further submitted the police diaries of the enquiry into the alleged unlawful assembly, and declared that the persons accused had only acted within their rights in preventing the forcible entry of Kabulis into their houses by night.

In the demi-official letter he emphatically denied that he had told the Mundees not to say anything about the girl, and insinuated that in reporting the story that a girl was being concealed in Dr. Manook's house, Father Stockman was actuated by malice.

9. On the 10th December Colonel Samuells reported the whole matter to the Commissioner of the Division, with the expression of his opinion that there were grave grounds of suspicion against Mr. Stack of having been concerned in the abduction of the girl.

10. On the 1st January this report was forwarded to the officiating Inspector-General of Police by the Commissioner of the Division, who came to substantially the same conclusion as Colonel Samuells.

11. In the meantime Mr. Stack had been suspended and summoned to Calcutta by the Inspector-General of Police. On his arrival he at once and of his own accord made a statement in which he admitted the truth of the suspicions that had been raised against him and acknowledged having been keeping the girl in hiding during the whole of the enquiry. This was reported at once to the Lieutenant-Governor by Colonel Knyvett and Mr. Stack was called upon to reduce his statement and admissions to writing and to submit any further explanation that he might wish to offer. In answer to this the Officiating Deputy Inspector-General of Police has received from Mr. Stack the letter, dated 27th January, giving what Mr. Stack declares to be a full account of the actual facts of the case.

[To be Continued.]

## CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

### LOAN NOTIFICATION.

1. The Commissioners of Calcutta are empowered, with the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, given on the 28th January 1879, under Section 334 of Act IV. (B. C.) of 1876, to open a Debenture Loan for Rs. 5,00,000 on the security of the rates, taxes and dues imposed and levied under the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act, 1888.

2. The Debentures will have a currency of thirty years from the 1st July 1889 and will bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, payable on the 30th June and 31st December of each year.

3. The form of the Debenture-bonds will be that given in the twelfth schedule of Act II. (B. C.) of 1888.

4. No debenture will be issued for any sum less than Rs. 500, and above that amount debentures will be issued only for even sums of Rs. 100.

5. Tenders for the whole or any part of the above-named sum of Rs. 5,00,000 will be received by the Secretary to the Corporation up to 2 o'clock P. M. of the 19th June.

6. Each tender must be made out in the form annexed to this Notification, and enclosed in a sealed cover addressed to the Secretary to the Corporation, and superscribed "Tender for Municipal Loan of 1889-90."

7. Each tender must be accompanied by Government Promissory Notes, currency notes or cheques for not less than 3 per cent. of the amount tendered.

8. When a tender is accepted, the deposit, when made in currency notes or cheques, will be held as a payment in part of the amount tendered, and will bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum from the 19th June, provided that the whole amount tendered is paid up in the manner hereinafter prescribed; but no debenture will issue for the sum so deposited so long as the entire amount of the tender is not paid.

9. The deposits on tenders which may not be accepted, will be returned on application, and no interest will be payable on such deposits. If an allotment after being made is not taken up, and the full amount allotted is not paid as hereinafter prescribed, the deposit will be forfeited.

10. The rate at which a tender is made, must be specified in rupees, or rupees and annas; a tender in which the rate is not so specified, will be rejected as null and void.

11. The rates stated in a tender must not contain any fraction of an anna. If a rate containing a fraction of an anna is inserted in

any tender, such fraction will be struck out, and the tender treated as if the rate did not contain such fraction of an anna.

12. The amount of the accepted tenders must be paid into the Bank of Bengal in the following instalments:—

50 per cent. on 1st July 1889.  
25 " 31st ditto.  
25 " 31st August 1889.

Parties whose tenders are accepted will have the option of paying all or any of the instalments before the dates specified above, and will receive interest from the date of such payment.

13. Anticipation interest will be paid on all instalments from the respective dates on which such instalments are paid into the Bank of Bengal, to the 31st December 1889.

14. Tenders will be accepted in the order of rates tendered, beginning with the highest rate. In the case of two or more tenders at the same rate, a *pro rata* allotment will be made (if the tenders are accepted), but no allotment will be issued if the amount distributable on any tender is less than Rs. 500.

15. Tenders will be opened by the Loan Committee of the Commissioners at 3 P.M., on the 19th June 1889.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation

25th May, 1889.

### FORM OF APPLICATION FOR DEBENTURES.

I hereby tender for Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ per cent. Loan for 1889-90, and agree to pay for the same subject to the conditions notified at the rate of \_\_\_\_\_ Rupees \_\_\_\_\_ annas for every hundred Rupees allotted to me.

I enclose Government promissory notes, currency notes or a cheque for Rs. \_\_\_\_\_

Signed

Dated

**The 3rd Ordinary Monthly Meeting**  
OF  
**THE COMMISSIONERS OF CALCUTTA,**  
under Act II. (B. C.) of 1883,  
WILL BE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL,  
on Thursday, the 6th June 1889, at 4 P. M.  
BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. To confirm the revised rules for transaction of business by the General Committee and other Committees as passed by the Bye-laws and Rules Sub-Committee at a Meeting held on the 30th April 1889.

2. To consider the conditions for leasing the Kotrung brickfields by auction proposed by the General Committee with reference to

the objections preferred by Baboo Mohendro Lall Dass.

3. To elect a member of the Tank Filling Committee, *vice* Dr. McLeod, resigned.

4. Dr. Bhoobun Mohun Sircar to move that a new Committee be appointed to enquire into and report upon the cause of the continued contamination of the filtered water supply in Ahireetola Street.

5. Baboo Juggannath Khanna to move that the Bank of Bengal be appointed to conduct the work of the Loan Branch, at such remuneration as may be agreed upon, similarly in the case of the Port Trust.

6. To confirm the proceedings of the General Committee at Meetings held on the 27th April, 4th, 11th and 21st May 1889.

7. To confirm the proceedings of the Market Committee at a Meeting held on the 1st May 1889.

8. To confirm the proceedings of the Suburban Improvement Committee at Meetings held on the 23rd April, 6th and 20th May 1889.

9. To confirm the proceedings of the Complaint Committee at Meetings held on the 22nd April, 8th and 22nd May 1889.

10. Vital statistics for the month of April 1889.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

### CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

**SEALED TENDERS FOR SUPPLY OF 9** lakhs cubic feet of well pugged and well burnt Jhama Khoa will be received by the Vice-Chairman, and will be opened by him in the presence of tenderers who may wish to attend, at 2 P.M., on the 14th June 1889.

2. The Jhama Khoa is to be broken so as to pass freely in all directions through a ring 2½ inches in diameter, and to be delivered in equal monthly instalments and stacked properly at the Municipal Depôts at Bagbazaar, Nimtollah, along Circular-road, Nemuk-Mehal Ghat, on the Tolly's Nullah at Alipore, and at Ballygunge.

3. Each tender may be for 10,000 cubic feet or in multiples of that quantity, and earnest-money of Rs. 100 for every 10,000 c. ft. to be tendered for, is to be enclosed with each tender.

4. The tenderer whose tender is accepted must sign a deed of contract, duly stamped and registered at his own expense, within 15 days after the acceptance of his tender.

5. The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

6. Any further information required can be obtained on application to the undersigned.

UDOY NARAIN SINGHA,

Superintendent of Stores.

The 27th May 1889.



*In Pamphlet, Price 4 annas  
or 6 copies for a Rupee,*

## ARMY REORGANIZATION

With special reference to the Question of

### A Reserve for the Indian Army.

*By Capt. ANDREW HEARSEY.*

Apply to *Reis & Rayyet* Office, Calcutta.

## Rivers Steam Navigation Co. "Limited."

### ASSAM LINE.

This Company's Steamer "BENGAL" will leave Calcutta for Assam on Friday, the 31st instant.

All cargo for shipment by the above vessels should be sent to the Company's Godowns at Juggannauth Ghat, not later than Thursday, the 30th idem.

### CACHAR LINE.

We have now resumed our main line sailings to Cachar for which cargo will be received until Tuesday evening.

### DHUBRI & DEBROOGHUR MAIL SERVICE.

The Steamers of this Service leave Dhubri daily immediately on arrival of the Mails from Calcutta, and are connected with the E. B. S. Railway for booking of traffic through to river stations.

### GOALUNDO AND DEBROOGHUR DESPATCH SERVICE.

A special Tri-weekly Service of Steamers is maintained between Goalundo and Debrooghur, the steamers leaving Goalundo on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday, and Debrooghur on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

### NARAINGUNGE AND CACHAR DESPATCH SERVICE.

A Tri-weekly Service is maintained between Naraingunge and Fenchongunge for passengers and light goods traffic.

All particulars as to rates of freight and passage by all the above Services to be had on application to—

MACNEILL & CO.,  
Agents,  
1-2, Clive Ghat Street.

Calcutta, 25th May, 1889.

### FOR SALE

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Cloth Gilt	...	Rs. 6.
Cloth Bound	...	Rs. 5-8.

Mofussil Orders supplied by Value Payable Post.

## TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

*Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,*

BY

### SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

*Formerly Minister to the late*

NAWAB FARIDDOON JAH BAHADOOR,

(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa.)

*Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.*

Apply to Manager, "REIS & RAYYET"

1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street,

CALCUTTA.

### OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridood Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the

Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which fling away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following: [Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlightening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract.]—*The Statesman*. October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious; he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes." But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him.

*Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA, ENGLAND.

### ST. PETER'S COLLEGE FOR BOYS.

University masters, specially suitable for Indian Children. Indian References. For Prospectus, address Principal.

C. RINGER & CO. have in hand the largest stock of Homoeopathic Medicines, Medicine Cases, Medical Sundries, and Books &c., &c. for sale at their Homoeopathic Establishment, 10, Hare Street, Calcutta. Catalogue, free on application.

### INTREPID AERONAUTS

Are strongly recommended, before making their ascents, to take a cup of our Orange Pekoe Tea at Rs. 1-3 per lb. or our Pekoe Sonchong at Re. 1 per lb., which are very stimulating and have a delicious flavour.

T. HILL & CO.,

Adjoining the Cornhill Theatre,

Calcutta.

# BEETHAM'S

## GLYCERINE - AND - CUCUMBER

For INDIA and all HOT CLIMATES this specially scented emollient Milk is INVALUABLE. IT KEEPS the SKIN COOL and REFRESHED in the HOTTEST WEATHER, Removes and prevents all SUNBURN, REDNESS, FRECKLES, TAN, etc., and RENDERS the SKIN DELICATELY SOFT, SMOOTH and WHITE.

It entirely prevents it from becoming DRY and WRINKLED, and PRESERVES the COMPLEXION from the scorching effects of the SUN and WIND more effectually than any other preparation. The IRRITATION caused by the BITES and STINGS of INSECTS is wonderfully allayed by its use. For imparting that soft velvety feeling to the skin, this delightful preparation has no equal! Sold by all Chemists.

Sole Makers M. BEETHAM & SON, Chemists, Cheltenham, England.

CALCUTTA AGENTS: SCOTT THOMPSON & CO.

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All who suffer find sure relief from

**LITTLE'S ORIENTAL BALM**



**The Greatest Pain Cure Extant.**

It has driven out from the system  
**Acute Rheumatism and Rheumatic Gout,**

After years of semi-helplessness and suffering; while in **ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS, LUMBAGO, SCIATICA, FACEACHE, SPRAINS,** it is the surest and safest remedy for these complaints in their severest and most chronic form.

Its magic effect in affording instantaneous relief in

**Neuralgia in the Head, Face and Limbs**

Is almost too remarkable for CREDENCE.

Are you subject to **HEADACHES** and the tortures of **TOOTHACHE**? A single application will relieve you.

In Sore-throat its power has been so rapid and complete that it is universally recommended as

**The Marvellous Sore Throat Cure.**

Try this wonderful Medicine and let the result speak for itself.

The Oriental Balm is used by the best Physicians in the world in their practice. It has been pronounced a blessing in thousands of homes. By its intrinsic virtue, it has achieved a wide-spread popularity which no similar preparation has ever before attained

*Sold in Bottles at 1 Re each.*

Obtainable of all respectable chemists throughout the world

Agents in Calcutta—Smith Stanistreet & Co. R. Scott Thompson & Co. and Bathgate & Co. Limited

**HOLLOWAY'S PILLS & OINTMENT**

**THE PILLS**  
Purify the Blood, correct all Disorders of the  
**LIVER, STOMACH, KIDNEYS AND BOWELS,**  
They invigorate and restore to health Debilitated Constitutions, and  
are invaluable in all Complaints incident to Females of all ages  
For children and the aged they are priceless

**THE OINTMENT**  
Is an infallible remedy for Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Old Wounds, Sores and Ulcers. It is famous for Gout and Rheumatism. For  
disorders of the Chest it has no equal.

**For Sore Throats, Bronchitis, Coughs, Colds,**  
Glandular Swellings and all Skin Diseases. It has no rival; and for  
contracted and stiff joints it acts like a charm.

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**OXFORD STREET (late 533, Oxford St.,) LONDON.**

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(Opposite the Police Court.)  
THE CALCUTTA  
**HOMŒOPATHIC PHARMACY.**  
THE  
EARLIEST & STILL MOST EXTENSIVE  
DISPENSARY IN ASIA  
OF PURE HOMŒOPATHY ONLY,  
WHICH  
INTRODUCED TO THE EAST THE  
TRADE IN  
**INDEPENDENT HOMŒOPATHY**  
and maintains to this day  
THE DIGNITY AND INTEGRITY OF  
THIS  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

B. & Co. beg to draw the attention of their constituents and the public to the neat little turned

**WOODEN CASE**

in which every phial of medicine that goes out of their Establishment is packed.

These cases while they ensure the bottles against breakage will also be found very convenient and useful.

*No EXTRA CHARGE.*

**BERIGNY & CO.**

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**READ THIS CAREFULLY.**

Strong, accurate, pretty, open-faced Nickel silver short winding Keyless Railway Regulators, of small size, jewelled, enamelled dial, bold figures and hands, showing two times with tempered machinery and dust tight cases for only Rs. 7-8 per V. P. P. with spare glass, spring, box and guarantee. Warranted to stand rough usage. Can be easily repaired. Have no appearance of cheapness about them. Others sell at double our rates. Mr. A. R. Mehta from Bandora says: "The 7-8 watch I purchased from you two years back, gives correct time as yet." Acting Superintendent, Government Farm, Khandesh, says:—"A watch maker has valued your Rs. 7-8 watch for Rs. 15." Mr. J. Sutcliffe, R. W. Fusi, Regt., Lucknow, says:—"Some valued it at Rs. 15 and were completely surprised when I told them it only costs Rs. 7-8." Pretty Canadian Gold Chains, Lockets, Pencils, complete shut Studs and Rings set with chemical diamonds, rubies, &c., at Rs. 2 each. Mr. J. A. Yelmore, Satur, says:—"The best goldsmith of this place values the chain for Rs. 7 and the locket for Rs. 10." Mr. G. Smith, Salt Inspector, Samkutla, says:—"A German valued the diamond ring at Rs. 50 and the ruby at Rs. 30." **WESTERN INDIA TRADING CO., BOMBAY**

**JEYES' DISINFECTANTS:**

The best and cheapest Antiseptics,  
Deodorizers and Cleansers.  
**Jejes' Perfect Purifier**

supersedes Carbolic and other Disinfectants, being much more efficacious, non-poisonous, non-corrosive, stainless in use, and cheaper. Prevents contagion by destroying its cause. Instantly removes bad smells. It is an almost unfailing cure for Eczema and other Skin Diseases; and is the best known Insecticide. Can be had in the various forms of Liquid, Powder, Soap and Ointment.

**JEYES' PERFECT PURIFIER**

prevents infection by destroying its cause, killing the very germs of contagious diseases. It removes instantly all noxious smells, not by temporarily disguising them (as is often the case), but by chemical combination, substituting instantaneously for a poisonous a pure and healthy atmosphere, and thoroughly eradicating the evil.

Agents:—DYCE, NICOL & CO.,  
3, Commercial Buildings, Calcutta.

*Preparing for the Press*  
THE  
**FALL OF MANDALAY,**  
BY  
**ZITO.**

With which is combined a complete and practical Guide to Upper and Lower Burma.

The Author accompanied the last Expedition under General Sir Harry Prendergast, in November 1885, and remained in Upper Burma after the conquest until June 1887.

The work will probably be ready for delivery on an early date; meantime subscribers may register their names with

**Messrs. DIPPIE & Co.,**  
CALCUTTA.

A limited space only will be reserved in the GUIDE for advertisement, for which early application is invited.

In consequence of the difficulty and delay in getting together reliable matter for the guide portion of the work and the preparation of numerous illustrations which must be executed in England, some delay necessarily will arise in the execution of the work. But intending subscribers should not delay in registering their names at the above address.

DIPPIE & Co.,  
Agents and Correspondents for the author.

DR.  
**J. N. MITRA, M.R.C.P.,**  
London,

**Gold Medalist in Medicine & Hygiene,**  
Stood 1st in the FINAL EXAMINATION  
CALCUTTA MEDICAL COLLEGE IN 1880.

Late Surgeon Superintendent of Quarantine Station, Mauritius, and Surgeon in charge, Mysadul Hospital

Address,—

2, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Bowbazar, Calcutta.

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(PRINCE AND PEASANT)

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AND  
*Review of Politics, Literature, and Society*  
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**Special rates for Contracts.**

No additional charge for inland postage or peon. For arrears an advance of 50 per cent. will be charged. Foreign postage separately charged at the rate of 4 annas a month or Rs. 5, a year.

Business Communications (post paid) to be directed to "The Manager," and Literary Communications and books and pamphlets (carriage paid) to "The Editor" of "Reis & Rayyet."

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# Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 1889.

No. 379

## CONTEMPORARY VERSE.

[ From Charles L. Graves's *The Green Above the Red.* ]  
THE SASSENACH SAMSON.

(To the Air of "The Protestant Gun.")

[ Sir Henry James spoke in the House of Sir William Harcourt as a Samson who having lost his hair went with a wig on. ]

There are treasures in Ulster as good as our own,  
For we're sucking the Orange as dry as a bone,  
And this Sassenach Samson,—more power to his jaw!—  
Shouts "Hurroo for ould Ireland!" and "Down wid the law!"  
Yet four short years ago, ere we cropped his love-locks,  
Man alive! sure he dealt us the devil's hard knocks:  
But we've hauled down his colours and altered his rig,  
And giv'n poor ould Samson a wonderful wig.

'Tis grand to see Blunt standing up for the "Plan,"  
Wid himself in the rear and his wife in the van:  
There's pleasure in capping a colleen wid pitch,  
Or in stripping a bailiff of ivery stitch:  
'Tis sweet to give grabbers a taste of cold lead,  
To boycott them living and boycott them dead.  
But for all these diversions I'd not give a fig,  
After seeing ould Samson dressed out in a wig.

I've laughed till I felt I was ready to split  
At Gladstone bla'guarding the measures of Pitt:  
Or at Sullivan swearing he's fit for to burst  
Wid the love of a nation he formerly cursed:  
Or at Dillon the dauntless, who lately was seen  
Dancing Kitchin quadrilles wid a Protestant Dean:  
But of all these performances, little or big,  
None aquals ould Samson dressed out in his wig.

## LINES BY A "BLIND ADMIRER."

[ It was stated in a well-known Russophil evening paper—the *Pell-mellikoff Gazetzkyy*—on the occasion of Mr. Gladstone's visit to Birmingham in November, 1888, that application for tickets had been received not only from the blind, but the deaf and the dumb. And a *bona-fide* letter from a "Blind Admirer" of Mr. Gladstone's was quoted in their columns. ]

Great leader, whose aquiline optic  
Fate wills that I ne'er may behold,  
Quit the study of Erse and of Coptic,  
Leave Olympus awhile in the cold:  
Let thy voice, like the call of a clarion,  
Bring balm to the deaf and the dumb:  
Swoop down on the Unionist carrion,  
And scatter the scum.

We are sick of the sermons of Otto,  
Of Harcourt's elaborate jeers;  
Thou only, rhetorical Giotto,  
Canst argue in absolute spheres.

Too long with Elizabeth's era,  
With religious romance hast thou toyed;  
Come forth, O consummate Chimera,\*  
And boom in the void!

Our love of the truth, pray remember,  
Is earnest, but O is it right  
To drag her, in chilly November,  
Unclothed to the merciless light?  
So be true to thy training; be subtle:  
Let no one thy meaning divine:  
Yea, put forth the craft of the cuttle,  
And blacken the brine.

We are weary and faint with pursuing  
Humanity's uniform track;  
Great Anarch! be up and undoing,  
Set the dial a century back.  
Hark! in tune to the tocsin of treason  
Our infants in unison lisp,  
"Come down and redeem us from reason,  
Great Will o' the Wisp!"

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

It is in this beautiful fashion that India is served by the Reuter agency:—

"London, June 18.

In the House of Commons last night, Mr. Bradlaugh moved a resolution, disapproving of the Report of the Public Service (India) Commission in the following respects:—

1st.—Proposing to set aside the provisions of 33 and 34 Vic., C. 3, and to annual the rights conferred upon individuals, and privileges accorded to the Indian people by statute.

2nd.—Recommending that opportunity of attaining high service, both in the Covenanted service and above the service by Indians duly qualified, be (contrary to law) largely restricted, and in some cases wholly abrogated.

3rd.—Not carrying out the objects for which the Commission was appointed, *viz.*, to submit a scheme possessing elements of finality, and to do full justice to the claims of the natives of India to higher and more extensive employment in the public service.

4th.—Making recommendations in opposition to the weight of evidence (such evidence being largely selected by the Commissioners themselves).

5th.—Generally putting forward such proposals as involve a serious breach of public faith with the people of India, and ignoring pledges made by Parliament; and that the House is of opinion that her Majesty's Government should forthwith redeem the pledge given by the Secretary of State for India to appoint a Select Committee to inquire into the administration of India.

After some discussion, the House adopted the resolution to appoint a Select Committee."

"London, June 19.

The telegrams regarding the adoption of a resolution to appoint a Select Committee to inquire into the Administration of India is wholly incorrect. No such resolution has been adopted."

\* *Consummate Chimera*: Cf. the parody upon scholastic disputations by Erasmus. *Quaritur "an Chimera, combinans in vacuo, possit devorare secundas intentiones."*

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

MR. JUSTICE NORRIS is decidedly self-conscious. A native witness lately deposing to his brother's lunacy—the witness's brother's not the Judge's lunacy—gave as a crucial instance the fact that the said brother was apt to go at random to the High Court and to Howrah. Mr. Norris smelt a rat in this bit of classical Indo-English. He thought the witness might be aiming at himself. It might, he feared, be so taken, and he took care to stop the ominous impeachment at the very start. He would not speak to Howrah or Dullanda, but he repudiated the suggestion that frequenting the High Court, specially in its Original Side, constituted an unmistakable sign of a demented mind.

THE *Army & Navy Gazette* thus sums up the situation in the Soudan and Abyssinia—

"The news from the Soudan, and from East Africa generally, reveals a very unsatisfactory state of things. It is plain that the dervishes are moving again for some purpose or other, and, although at present there has not been any serious fighting, what has happened is quite sufficient to keep the Egyptian Government in a state of perturbation. The latest news throws great doubt upon the rumours to which currency was given some days ago, to the effect that the Mahdi had been defeated and killed. It is now clear that the dervishes have practically annihilated the army of King John of Abyssinia, killing the King himself, and this could scarcely have happened if the Mahdi had been dead and his forces dispersed. It may be, however, that the death of King John will forward the pacification of the Soudan. The ruler who has now proclaimed himself King of Abyssinia, and who, by-the-way, claims to be a descendant of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, is said to be a man of energy and capacity, and he evidently wishes to keep on good terms with the Italians at Massowah. If he does, and if the Italians think well to supply him with arms, and with a few military instructors, he would soon be able to keep the dervishes in check. This is a thing much to be hoped for. Anything which will tend to beat down the uprising of Arab fanaticism, which for the last three or four years has been threatening to exterminate every vestige of civilisation in the East Africa as effectually as it has exterminated civilisation in the Soudan, will hasten the time when slavery and all its attendant evils will be at an end."

MR. WALPOLE appealed from the order of the Divisional Court, granting Miss Wiedemann a new trial of her action for breach of promise to marry her. The Lord Chief Justice and Lords Justices Lindlay and Lopes have dismissed the appeal with costs.

IN celebration of the Jubilee or the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Foundation of the Colony of New Zealand, there will be in the City of Dunedin—the centre of the railway system of the southern and most populous island of the Colony—an Exhibition of arts, industries, resources and manners of New Zealand, Australia, and the other countries and Colonies in the Southern Pacific. The principal objects are stated to be to "practically illustrate the development of the resources of New Zealand during the first half century of her existence, in comparison with the progress made by other Colonies, British and Foreign; to stimulate industry and promote Intercolonial commerce; to strengthen the natural ties which connect all the countries in the South Pacific Ocean, and to call attention to their position and potentialities."

The Exhibition will be open to the public on Tuesday, 26th November, 1889 and close about the middle of April, 1890.

HERE is a rich incident in the romance of business.—

"A Mr. H. S. Saunders went one day to Mr. J. Murray Robertson, in London, and asked him for the loan of £500. If he failed, Mr. Saunders said, he would pay back the loan when he could; but, if he made what he expected to do, he promised to give Mr. Robertson half. Mr. Robertson, satisfied that the speculation, in a concession obtained from the Portuguese Government for some mines near Delagoa Bay, was 'good enough,' lent the money. Some weeks afterwards Mr. Saunders returned the £500 lent, and paid Mr. Robertson £15,000, his half share of the £30,000 he (Mr. Saunders) had made!"

We sometimes treat Angels unawares—even in Lombard Street.

SRIMAN Swamin, the Cow Apostle from the South to Northern India, has turned up at Rutlam, where he is a guest of the Nerb of the State, Nabin Chandra Roy. He was to have *sampwad* the Ruler on the 5th June. We suppose we may take for granted that the Raja has become a disciple of the Swamin—unless Babu Roy interposed.

We see Baboo Nabin Chandra is mentioned, in the *Eastern Herald's* Rutlam news letter, as "Pandit Nabin Chandra Roy." Since when, and how, this Baboo became a Pandit? A social caterpillar, he has passed through various stages, becoming first a Vaidya (one of the medical caste in Hindu society), then turning a Brahmo, and, having been promoted from the ministerial agency of the administration in

British territory to the ministry of state of a native Prince, is now installed as a Pandit. One flight remains for Luck's favoured child before *Nirman*—which we hope will be long delayed. We mean not the flight but the *Nirman*. From *Budha* to Buddha, the transition is easy enough.

It seems that in his late visit to Maulmain, the local non-official community did not come out to receive the Chief Commissioner at the landing. This is attributed to the Commissioner of the Province, Colonel Plant, who, according to the local *Advertiser*, "is notoriously unpopular (the italics being our contemporary's) and seems to have a genius for maintaining his unpopularity." Not even the Foreign Consuls were present. It is suggested that they took offence at the way in which they were invited—"by a notice in an advertising sheet on the morning of the day on which the Chief Commissioner is expected to arrive." A pretty tempest in a teapot—for want of a little sugar of fact.

ERICSSON, the great Swedish inventor who lived in England and died in America, after a long residence there, will not be allowed to be forgotten, either in his native or his adopted country. We are glad to find that the State of New York has passed an Act appropriating \$10,000 for a monument to John Ericsson, to be placed in one of the public squares in New York City. This sum is manifestly insufficient, but additional contributions will doubtless be forthcoming. Already, at least one gentleman is said to be prepared, if necessary, to contribute £4,000 to honour the memory of Ericsson, and doubtless others will come forward with lesser contributions.

Likewise, in the Swedish Diet, Dr. Waldemstrom proposed that the Swedish Government should remove the remains of Ericsson to his native land.

WE are sometimes asked by our friends Why we roundly call one man a knave, another a fool, a third ungrateful. Our reply is always that we know. It would not be proper, if it were expedient, to go into public proof, but we are able to satisfy every legitimate inquiry personally made. For the rest, we may generally say that we always speak and act with a full sense of our responsibility in this life and the next.

BUT why should people living in a world like ours affect surprise at the sound of ingratitude or baseness in any form. Let them lay their hand upon their heart and then complain if they can. Perhaps, ingratitude is the most common form of human frailty. Neither Judges of the High Court nor Generals are exempt from the foul taint. Men of our own cloth are as liable to it as those of any other. Certainly, we have frequently been the objects of this kind of attention, from authors, great and small, as well as journalists.

HERE is an instance of how we are treated. We often see a lengthy advertisement of a Bengali book "*Dhatree-Sikhsha* or the Midwife's Vade Mecum. By Babu Haro Nath Roy, L. M. S.," to be had of another Babu Roy at the private residence of the Roy Babus. The claims of the book are then set forth in flaming terms and opinions of the Press subjoined. These opinions comprise two notices, one from the *Statesman* and another from the *Indian Daily News*. One might suppose that the book had not been appreciated by the Native Press, but such is not the case. The author in his wisdom prefers the praises of a Bengali book by European journalists innocent of any acquaintance with the Bengali language, to the good opinion of Bengali writers. If he has obtained any commercial advantage from his policy, the Bengali public are scarcely to be congratulated on their intelligence. As a matter of fact, although he gives only the European journals' opinions, he gives a list of the newspapers which have favorably noticed his book, headed by the aforesaid dailies, English of the English, and tailed by the vernacular weekly "*Sanjivani*" and other native papers. Says the one Roy Baboo or the other:—

"The work has been spoken of in the highest terms by the *Indian Daily News*, the *Statesman*, the *Indian Mirror*, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, the *Indian Nation*, the *Liberal*, the *Hope*, the *Bangabash*, the *Sanjivance* and other native papers."

Thus between the Roy—al head and tail, the whole Native English Press is included. The whole, with one insignificant exception—that of our humble self. Our existence has been completely ignored. Not that it is unknown in the high regions of medical Bengali authorship. Time was when we were sufficiently well-known. A

copy of the book was duly brought to us by the author himself, and care was taken that we did not damn it. But, it seems, we have since lost caste with these superfine Brahmanocrats. The European papers are *ipso facto* entitled to precedence even at Hindu *shradhs*, the *Mirror* is a daily show of wisdom *veluti in speculum*, the *Amrita Bazar* simply distills nectar, the *Indian Nation* is conducted by men from England if not by Englishmen, the *Liberal* seems welcome for offering sinners the way to Heaven, *Hope* is hope itself, the vernacular journals themselves are somethings; only *Reis & Rayyet* is the Pariah!

We might understand a slip. But this is, without a doubt, of malice aforethought. This thing has been going on for a long period. Week after week and month after month, this deliberate insult has been thrown in our face. The insult becomes all the greater from the circumstance that this paper was one of the first to notice the book and the first and last to give an elaborate analysis of it and devote to it a long laudatory review. The advertisement may be withheld from us, but surely we cannot allow our very existence to be burked, by those who have no excuse for forgetting us.

It is useless pursuing the subject, however. None but those behind the scenes can possibly measure the peculiar enormity of the offence involved in this particular instance. And Roy is one of many offenders.

WE regret to learn that Mr. S. E. J. Clarke, the able and energetic Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, is compelled to proceed on a month's sick leave to Simla. He has a good Assistant in Mr. G. M. Barton however, who will act in the interim in the Secretariat of both the Chamber of Commerce and the Bonded Warehouse Association.

AS an evidence of how the examinations of the Calcutta University are conducted, we read in the *Gazette of India* of to-day that "the under-mentioned students [Second Division. 5 students from the Ripon College and one student from the Metropolitan Institution.] have passed the B. L. Examination in addition to those notified before." Are these all the omissions in the several examinations recently held?

SOME idea of the height of the successful modern Tower of Babel in Paris may be formed from the following incident:

"When a thunderstorm broke over Paris on Tuesday the men upon the higher platforms of the Eiffel Tower were above the storm-clouds. Every now and then the lightning flashed, and the thunder seemed to shake the tower, but the electric fluid passing through the different conductors, was lost in the specially prepared wells at the foot of the tower."

THE Municipal Debenture 5 per cent. loan of 5 lacs fetched good offers. 113 persons tendered Rs. 39,26,600. 61 tenders for Rs. 26,97,000 were at 105 and upwards, the highest being 108. The lowest successful tender was Rs. 105-13. What is the average rate of tenders accepted?

MAULVI Hashmatulla has been confirmed by the Governor-General in Council in the office of Assistant Magistrate and Collector to which he was appointed by the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

IN future, the appointment of Honorary Assistant Surgeons to the Viceroy and Governor-General will be limited to five years.

THE Governor-General in Council has ruled that no boy in the Bombay Presidency shall be sent to a Reformatory school, if under ten years of age, for a less period than seven years; if over ten years of age, for a less period than five years, unless he shall sooner attain the age of eighteen years.

ON and from the 14th June 1889, the duty to be paid on salt manufactured in, or imported by land into, any part of Burma, excluding the Shan States, has been fixed at one rupee for each maund of 82.27 pounds avoirdupois weight, the same as in Lower Burma.

MR. R. J. CROSTHWAITE, C. S., Judicial Commissioner of the Central Provinces, has been taken in as an Additional Member of the Council of the Governor-General for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations, and the new member took his seat on the 13th instant.

Mr. W. S. Caine, M. P., was taken at Baroda to the old palace in the heart of the city to see the treasure room. He writes:—

"Two huge cheetahs, carefully muzzled, were on the palace steps, used for hunting bucks. The Regalia of Baroda is valued at £3,000,000 sterling. We were first shown the jewels worn by the Maharajah on state occasions. These consist of a gorgeous collar of 500 diamonds, some of them as big as walnuts, arranged in five rows surrounded by a top and bottom row of emeralds the same size; the pendant is a famous diamond called 'The Star of the Deccan.' An aigrette to match is worn in the turban; then followed strings of pearls of perfect roundness, graduated from the size of a pea to a large marble, wonderful rings, necklaces, clusters of sapphires, as big as grapes. The greatest marvel of all is a carpet, about ten feet by six, made entirely of strings of pure and colored pearls, with great central and corner circles of diamonds. This carpet took three years to make and cost £200,000. This was one of Khande Rao's mad freaks, and was intended to be sent to Mecca to please a Mahomedan lady who had fascinated him, but scandal of such a thing being done by a Hindoo prince was too serious and it never left Baroda."

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

IT is a good resolve to weaken numerically the Council of the Secretary of State for India. Accordingly, on the 20th, Sir John Gorst introduced a Bill for reducing the number of Councillors to ten, by not filling up the vacancies as they occur. Next day, it was read the first time.

ON the 17th May last, in answer to Mr. Bradlaugh, Sir John Gorst denied in the House of Commons that there existed any serious and widespread dissatisfaction in Upper Burma. He further said that "the Indian system of taxation has only been extended to Upper Burma in respect of stamps, salt, excise, and income-tax; and that in only a modified form. The Ruby Mines were a Government monopoly before the conquest of Upper Burma. There is no land tax except on Royal lands, always recognised as Government property, and forming less than one-sixth of the cultivated area."

Does that announcement in the House explain the notification in the *Gazette of India* of the 15th June of the extension to Upper Burma, excepting the Shan States, the Indian Salt Act, 1882, as it is in force in Lower Burma, and the enactment of the Upper Burma Revenue Regulation (III of 1889 in suppression of that of 1887? By the present Regulation "State land" has been defined to "mean land belonging to or at the disposal of the Government, and includes—

- (a) land hitherto termed royal land;
- (b) land held on condition of rendering public service or as an appanage to or emolument of a public office;
- (c) islands and alluvial formations in rivers;
- (d) waste land and land included within reserved or village forests; and
- (e) land which has been under cultivation but has been abandoned and to the ownership of which no claim is preferred within two years from the commencement of this Regulation."

This does not exhaust the several species of State lands. Any other land may be included in that category, for the Regulation enacts—

"Any land which before the commencement of this Regulation has been or thereafter may be declared by the Collector to be State land shall be deemed to be such land until the contrary is proved.

A claim to the ownership or possession of any land with respect to which such a declaration has been or may be so made, or to hold such land rent free or at a favourable rent or rate of rent, or to establish any lien upon, or other interest in, such land, or the rents, profits or produce thereof, shall be cognizable by the Collector only, and the order which the Collector may make on the claim shall, subject to the provisions of Chapter II with respect to appeal, review and revision, be final."

In other words, all lands are State lands unless proved to be not State lands. A simpler, more understandable, and altogether more honest method would have been the one adopted by Lord Canning when he confiscated the whole Province of Oudh after the mutinies.

The sources of revenue in this Regulation are

- (a) thathameda-tax;
- (b) rent and land-revenue payable in respect of State and other lands;
- (c) revenue payable on account of precious stones, mines, minerals, coal, earth-oil, fisheries, salt and ferries;
- (d) water-rate in respect of irrigation from channels, tanks or other irrigation-works controlled and wholly or partially maintained by the State, and tolls in respect of navigation in irrigation-channels so controlled and maintained;
- (e) excise in respect of spirit, fermented liquor, intoxicating drugs and opium; and
- (f) every other sum payable to the Government in accordance with law, contract or local usage."

Between this wholesale confiscation and the recent order for the

compulsory massing of the rural population into large villages and townships, the pacification of the country has been rendered as nearly impossible as it was possible for human ingenuity to do. O for an Ellenborough to teach the present generation of Indian rulers the true principles of enlightened state-craft!

THE new Cashmere's Council is not giving thorough satisfaction to its creators. The *Civil and Military Gazette* is inconsolable that

"The care of the Maharajah's stud has been taken from the English trainer, who has looked after them well for a long time, and given over to a Baboo. The care of the stud is surely one of those things in which the arrangements made by the Maharajah should be allowed to stand, and beyond the range of interference by the Council."

Yes, the Maharaja's arrangements are wise and irreversible only where he had appointed a European!

AFTER a careful and elaborate investigation, both the Northern and Southern Division Magistrates held that the *Phooka* process is a cruelty to the cow. A more knowing Honorary Bench has just declared that it is not so. These Asses should be milked in the selfsame way.

SET a beggar on horseback and you know which way he will ride. The legal beggar is not a whit behind. If a briefless lawyer gets a case for the nonce, in court or out of it, he usually makes the most of—and probably does his worst in—it.

MR. APCAR has proved himself more than an advocate in the Kotrung business. He carried his point at the municipal Board and then rushed to print to prove himself a greater hero. The dailies freely placed their columns at his service, and he is proving himself a bore. He is at last forced to admit that he submitted no case to Mr. Phillips whose opinion he made so much of at the meeting.

Alas, poor Yorick—we mean old Johnny!

HERE is an illustration of honour in Burma. Under the head "Legal" appears in a Rangoon paper:—

"Before W. F. Agnew, Esq., Recorder.  
G. F. Travers Drapes vs. Moungh Bah Oh.

This was an application on behalf of the Petitioner, Mr. Drapes, for revision of a judgment and decree of the First Judge of the Court of Small Causes. In that Court the Respondent, a clerk, had sued his master Mr. Drapes for Rs. 267 on account of arrears of salary for two months and twenty days, and had obtained a decree with costs. This decree Mr. VanSomeren, the petitioner's counsel, sought to have set aside on the ground that the Respondent was disentitled to wages for the twenty days as he had left his employment without notice. Mr. A. J. Kead appeared as counsel for the Respondent. The learned Judge, on hearing arguments placed before him, said that he perfectly concurred in the judgment of the lower court; the petitioner had been guilty of a decided breach of contract in not paying his clerk for nearly three months, and the latter was therefore entitled to rescind the contract at any moment, and to claim upon a *quantum meruit*. The application for revision would be dismissed with costs."

So woman is not the only weakness of British Burmans or rather the Burman British. We believe Drapes is a statutory gentleman, being a barrister. He is a relation of the Chief Commissioner also. Yet he is not ashamed of moving Heaven and Earth to withhold his poor clerk's just dues. Even when the poor man has got a decree in the Small Cause Court, his exemplary old master takes advantage of his position as a lawyer to force out of his clutches as it were the paltry sum of Rs. 267.

THE incident referred to by Zito in our issue of the 11th May, in reference to Dr. Hall and Dr. McLeod, not remembered by our contemporary the *Statesman*, was Dr. Hall's attempt to cow Dr. McLeod, another good Scotchman, with a charge of defamation of character, in consequence of certain strictures published by the latter, in the *Indian Medical Gazette*. Notwithstanding Dr. Hall's bluster, he lost his case. A man who proved himself incapable of moderation with a brother physician of great reputation, is just the man to make a bullying Jail Superintendent.

ONE Ameer Khan was charged by Prince Mahommed Roshun Gohar, of the Mysore Family, with selling obscene books. It appears that the accused called at the Prince's house, and asked him to purchase some obscene books. The latter declined the offer, and kindly advised him not to offer the books for sale to any one, upon which the fellow grossly insulted him. The Prince proved a very Tartar for the

enemy. More smart than his fellows, he snatched away the books and sent for the Police. The vendor took to his heels as fast as he could, but he is an old sinner not unknown to the Police, and was subsequently arrested without difficulty. His house was searched by the Police, and more obscene books were discovered. The accused made a rather novel defence. He claimed the advantage of his previous wrong. He had once before been convicted for the same offence, and he argued that he could not be convicted again on it. It was a bold and startling plea—an importation into the criminal law of the theory of *res judicata*, showing that, under happier—or perhaps unhappier—circumstances, this retailer of literary filth might have shone as a *Nisi Prius* star of the first magnitude. But at the Suburban Criminal Court of Alipore, this curious technicality was a pearl thrown to swine. The Magistrate was not to be convinced by this reasoning. After explaining the law to him, he sentenced the accused to three months' rigorous imprisonment, and ordered the books to be burnt.

Prince Gohar is evidently a young man of sense and spirit. He has done the public a service of no mean value. Few of us would have taken the trouble to pursue the man Ameer Khan and get him punished as he has done.

HERE is the *Mirror's* appreciation of value of a remarkable and deservedly successful book:—

"Messrs. Thacker, Spink & Co., the well-known publishers of this city, have kindly sent us a copy of the *Law of Mortgage in India* by Dr. Rash Behary Ghose. The work, we are glad to see, has passed through a second edition, and it is, indeed, a matter of satisfaction that Dr. Ghose's lectures on this important branch of law were so much in demand that within the short space of 15 years, it has to be republished in a more comprehensive and enlarged form."

The whole is sufficiently like our contemporary, and yet there is something particularly rich and novel. The old man of the sea—as being in it on most questions, except those profound problems touching the clerical and copying departments of public offices, on which he is really great—has assumed a new character. The man of the *Mirror* is now the Methuselah of the Press. He talks almost like a patriarch before the Flood. It is refreshing in low, swampy, malaria-stricken Bengal, to hear of "the short space of 15 years." Unfortunately, the bathos of the extraordinary "demand" for a new edition of an excellent book within that short space—a demand which is such "a matter of satisfaction," "indeed," to the editor—spoils the refreshment.

As a matter of fact, the book in question had been out of print for the last 12 or 13 years.

MR. P. CHENSTAL RAO, C.I.E., formerly Stamp Superintendent of Madras, having retired from the British Service, has been appointed a paid member of the Maharajah of Mysore's Council. He is a gentleman well-known for ability and probity, and he will doubtless strengthen the Government of Mysore.

SARAH ELIZA ROBINSON has obtained a decree for judicial separation against her husband Mr. Phil Robinson. She deposed that she was married to the respondent in 1876 when he was a war correspondent and leader writer. For several years he was connected with the *Daily Telegraph*. There were two children of the marriage. He left her in 1883 at Eastbourne with one of the children who was dying. He locked her up in an asylum and administered to her morphia which very much excited her brain. She was also prepared to prove adultery on the part of her husband, and witnesses swore that in 1884 a gentleman and lady describing themselves as Mr. and Mrs. Robinson took passage on board the steamer *Drummond Castle* at Lisbon for England, passing as man and wife. Mr. Justice Butt was satisfied that there was no cruelty and the petitioner accepted the verdict of judicial separation.

Mr. Phil Robinson was on the *Pioneer* and raised its literary reputation. He is a man of genius—a genuine humourist. This case is another illustration of the domestic infelicity of all philosophers and literary men, from Socrates down to Bulwer Lytton.

ACCORDING to the *Hospital*, there is artificial honey in the market. The comb is made of paraffin wax, the "honey" being a mixture of potato starch and oil of vitriol. May Vishnu preserve us from such abominable "sells"! This, we suppose, is "the sweetest honey" which Shakespeare declares "is loathsome in its own deliciousness."



THE Berlin correspondent of the *Lancet*, Professor Forster, Head Physician of the Royal Eye Hospital in Breslau, has found the shortsightedness in children as not infrequently due to their wearing too tight-fitting collars. What a *Zoolin* to young and old, man and woman, is the Fetish of Tight-lacing and endless clothes in Europe!

Not that so much covering is needed for comfort, but then the conventional ideas of decency impose the burden on the sons and daughters of Western Civilization. Well may Miss Amelie Rives sing in "An Autumn Dream" contributed by her to the *Washington Critic*,

The naked hills lie wanton to the breeze,  
The fields are nude, the groves unfrocked,  
Bare are the shivering limbs of shameless trees;  
What wonder is it that the corn is shocked!

Yes, Nature throughout is improper and outrageous, and the poor rude Europe is continually being shocked.

IN reviewing the annual report of the Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs for the year 1887-88, the Bengal Government noticed a large number of cases decided against Government, and remarked that some of these cases should never have been defended. It further called for a special report for the purpose of adopting means to secure a more careful examination of the probabilities of success before engaging in litigation and the possibility of keeping stricter watch over the progress of cases when instituted. Another year's report was submitted and disposed of, but the special report called for is not yet.

IN the course of the correspondence between the Governments of Bengal and India, on the subject of the reductions suggested by the Finance Committee, the Bengal Government suggested the selection of Inspectors of Schools from the ranks of the Subordinate Educational Service. In December last, the Superior Government was not prepared to pass orders on the important matter of the Bengal Education Department, but as a measure of precaution and in reply to the Bengal suggestion, gave expression to the opinion that the retention of a sufficient number of Europeans in these posts was essential, and deferred for subsequent consideration the question of the proportion which European should bear to Native Inspectors. In the next month, the Bengal Government again addressed itself to the India Government pressing the consideration of the question reserved, to enable it to make early arrangements for filling casual vacancies. The Lieutenant-Governor is for one permanent European Inspector, and generally has no objection to the general view expressed by the Home Department. There are five Inspectors of Schools in this Province and Sir Stuart Bayley is disposed to think that it is sometimes possible to find native educational officers of exceptional competence, some of them men who have studied in European Universities.

ON the advice of the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India, the Governor-General in Council has directed that, in future, a Temperature Chart be used in jails, in every case of febrile disease which is not evidently and without doubt of an intermittent type, and that a copy of the same be invariably attached to the monthly jail returns in all fatal cases of such disease. The chart will shew not only the temperature of the patient, but also the pulse and respiration per minute.

THE Government of Bengal has sanctioned the opening of drawing classes in the Hoogly and Dacca Collegiate Schools, for the purpose of teaching Free-hand and Model-drawing at a cost, including the initial outlay, of not more than Rs. 200 for each class, to be met from the surplus funds of those schools. There being no surplus funds at the disposal of the Hare School, the Lieutenant-Governor, in view of the present financial position, has declined to sanction the formation of drawing class in that institution.

A fee of 4 annas a month is to be charged to in-students and, if it be thought necessary to make a difference, a fee of 8 annas to out-students.

*Holloway's Ointment.*—Go where you may, in every country and in all climes persons will be found who have a ready word of praise for this Ointment. For chaps, chafes, scalds, bruises, sprains, it is an invaluable remedy; for bad legs, bad breasts, and piles, it may be confidently relied upon for effecting a sound and permanent cure. In cases of puffed ankles, erysipelas, and rheumatism, Holloway's Ointment gives the greatest comfort by reducing the inflammation, cooling the blood, soothing the nerves, adjusting the circulation, and expelling the impurities. This Ointment should have a place in every nursery. It will cure all those manifold skin affections which, originating in childhood, gain strength with the child's growth.

The class is to be held for the present for an hour every alternate day out of school hours. Students will be required to provide their own drawing paper and pencil, models, copies, &c. The classes will open from December 1889, or as soon as possible. If the applicants for admission exceed the accommodation, in-students will have preference.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 1889.

### DEATH OF A TIPOO PRINCE.

DEATH seems as disposed to use his sickle in the Mahomedan society as in Hindu. Last week, we had to record the death of one of the leading lights of Oordoo literature, and to-day we have to announce another departure from the same body for the unknown voyage. A prominent member of the Mahomedan community of Calcutta breathed his last on the night of Monday, the 17th instant. We refer to Prince Mahomed Anwar Shah of Russapaglah. There are so many Princes of this family and so many and so laughable mistakes are daily made in the newspapers and in European and even Hindu society, that we had better define the deceased's position. After the death of the late Prince Gholam Mahomed, who was in our time the only surviving son of the late Tipoo Sultan, Prince Anwar Shah was acknowledged by Government as the head of the Mysore Family. As such, he was invited by the Government of India to attend, and he did attend, the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi in 1877. Recently, there were living two grandsons of Tipoo Sultan in the male line—Prince Anwar Shah, the elder, and Prince Bahram Shah, the younger—and one in the female line, namely, Prince Mahomed Ruheemooddeen. By Anwar Shah's death, the number of Tipoo's grandsons has been reduced to two. He was the richest of the Mysore Princes, after Prince Gholam Mahomed—whose heirs have nearly squandered away the valuable inheritance left by him, in litigation and extravagance. One of the sons of Prince Anwar Shah, Prince Mahomed Bukhtyar Shah is an active young man, who has recently been appointed a Municipal Commissioner for the Town of Calcutta. The other son, Prince Mahomed Wahajooddeen, is an elderly gentleman of considerable ability, who was, for many years, a Municipal Commissioner and Honorary Magistrate in the Suburbs. Besides these two sons, the deceased Prince has left a daughter, who was a few years ago married to Nawab Ahmud Hassan Khan, of Benares, a descendant of the illustrious Shurceutoollah Khan—the Arz Begee of Warren Hastings—who was rewarded with a rent-free Jagheer in Ghazee-pore, for his most valuable services to the East India Company, about the same time when another Jagheer was granted, in the same neighbourhood, to Canto Baboo, the grandfather of Maharani Surnomoyee's husband.

Prince Anwar Shah was a nobleman of genuine kindness of heart and correct conduct. His charity was extensive as well as discriminate, but without ostentation. Without a career, preferring dignified quiet, he did not care to mix in the politics of the day, but he lived a useful and honourable life nonetheless. He was a very good Mahomedan, and performed the pilgrimage to Mecca with the whole of his family. He established an Anglo-Oriental school at Russapuglah for the benefit of both Mahomedans and Hindus, but chiefly for that of the

younger members of the Mysore Family, but, after maintaining it for several years, at his own expense, he found that the Mahomedan boys did not sufficiently avail themselves of the benefits of that institution, and he closed it in disgust.

He had the privilege of *private entree* at Government House, and of exemption from attendance at the civil Courts. He was highly respected by the entire Mahomedan community, who looked upon him as one of their natural leaders. He was also much respected by such Europeans as came in contact with him. He was the owner of several of the best residences in Chowringhee, and many of the highest European gentlemen have at one time or other been his tenants. His treatment of the tenants was always highly honorable. He was never indebted to any body, and he was perhaps the only member of the Mysore Family who never allowed himself to be involved in litigation.

He died at the age of 63. His funeral was conducted in a grand style, and attended by his sons and son-in-law, as well as by Princes Ruheemoodeen, Bahram Shah, Nusseerooddeen Hyder, Furrokh Shah, Hoormuz Shah, and Noorooddeen and almost all the other members of the Mysore Family—as also by Nawab Abdool Luteef Khan Bahadoor, Mr. A. F. M. Almur Rahman, Hajee Mahomed Jaffer Sherazi, Mirza Mahomed Mehdi Sherazi and many others. His remains were buried in the afternoon of the 18th, in the Family Burial Ground at Kashi-bagan.

He has left a splendid patrimony for his sons and son-in-law, and if they only tread in his footsteps, and live as decent, honourable and respectable a life as their late lamented father, they have a brilliant career before them.

Princes in our days, whether in the East or the West, are not the most exemplary class of society. In India, they with the Mahants have become a by-word. But there are exceptions to all rules, and as Gopaldas of Jaffraganj is unique among Mohants, so was Mahomed Anwar Shah among Princes. It is enough for most of his class in India in these times, if they get on without a hitch—praise for them where they attain to decent respectability. Anwar Shah did far more. He lived not only a quiet, dignified life, but also a pure life.

#### SIR CHARLES DILKE AND OUR SCIENTIFIC FRONTIER.

SHORT winter visits to India have now become an institution in itself. We are regularly being visited by Royalty, great magnates, Members of Parliament, military men, city men, philanthropists and sportsmen. So many travellers to India could not fail to leave their mark on the literature respecting India as well as augment its bulk. A fugitive essay at least if not a book is contributed by every tourist. After each tour, a palaver in print has become almost as obligatory as an address from the hustings on an electioneering *bout*, so that there can be no reason why Sir Charles Dilke should not have kept up the precedent, visit our scientific frontier and, on his return to England, give to the world his views and impressions upon the security or insecurity of our great Indian Empire.

Sir Charles Dilke was no exception to the ordinary type of globe-trotters we are now fast becoming acquainted with, but he could not resist the folly and error, so many before him have committed, of coming

out to India and, in a couple of months, running over many thousand miles of a vast and varied country and, immediately on reaching England, setting himself up as an authority, sending forth his impressions through the press on subjects which men who have been out here a quarter of a century almost fear to touch. True Sir Charles Dilke had two able coadjutors in Sir Fredrick Roberts and Sir Robert Sandeman. But I am compelled to say, much as I respect and esteem His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, that he and Sir Robert Sandeman were not the class of men Sir Charles Dilke should have had as touters. My impression is that without official pressure the Commander-in-Chief would not have, in his official capacity, extended to Sir Charles Dilke the leading strings he did, that the whole affair is an official farce, and from beginning to end carries with it the official Simla or Calcutta stamp. The true value of such literary work may be variously appraised. If Sir Charles Dilke were giving expression to his own individual opinion, it would be comparatively valueless, but when such men as Sir Fredrick Roberts and Sir Robert Sandeman parade him over the country, it may be said Sir Charles Dilke is made simply the mouthpiece of his coadjutors' official opinions, thereby deceiving the public at home. Deception is the modest construction to put upon it, as Sir Charles Dilke's writings will doubtless be accepted by many as the impressions of Sir Fredrick Roberts and Sir Robert Sandeman and not his own. Sir Charles Dilke would not be an Englishman if he failed to reciprocate the hospitality of his two coadjutors. Right well has he reciprocated the generosity of Sir Fredrick Roberts and Sir Robert Sandeman. The *Fortnightly Review* exhibits an amazing record. It is difficult to say how Sir Charles found time in the midst of so much pleasurable society to take the required notes, unless they had been provided for him. He could hardly have ventured to treat us in India to such literary rubbish. A noticeable feature of the articles in the *Fortnightly Review* is that, besides mischievous inaccuracies, they are brimful of absolute weakness in the lavish compliments Sir Charles pours out to his hosts, not omitting the most diminutive luminary he encountered.

Such puerile demonstrations are neither of interest nor importance. Toned wholly in the interests of Government, they serve only to mislead the public. Nominally only does Sir Charles Dilke assume the authorship of ideas and things which are not his own, and herein lies the mischief that attaches any value to these articles in the *Fortnightly Review*, the Belooch and Affghan frontiers of India. That public attention at home will at length be directed to our Frontier question admits of no doubt, and it must in the end culminate in explosion of very misleading statements, if at home they are taught to regard our position as practically impregnable.

It requires no presumption on my part to assume that Sir Charles Dilke coined a new name of our Frontier in calling it the Belooch Frontier, when he only means our occupation of Quetta. This Frontier question has been discussed for some years one after the other, and beyond having thrown away millions of money and sacrificed thousands of lives, we are exactly in the same position, if not worse, that we were in when we occupied Quetta prior to Lord Lytton bringing about the war with Amir Shere Ali. Criminally the Government of India is guilty in expending such an enormous amount of money on fortifications and communications, which as a line of attack

or defence the best authorities have pronounced are quite unsuited.

Chandahar after a waste of money and men had to be abandoned, as unsuitable, either for attack or defence, and the best living military authorities today repent that we ever abandoned our natural Frontier line of the Indus for the Phantom Beluch Frontier. It is very wide off the mark to say, that because the Khan of Khelat entered into an agreement with us and permitted us to occupy his country, that we were compelled to take up the position. It was not discernible then nor since, by qualified authorities on the subject, that it possessed any military advantages. If Russia ever attempts an invasion of India, it can only be with the connivance of the Afghans and Beloochees.

Sir Charles Dilke while at Quetta had an opportunity, he says, of consulting all the military experts and magnates of India from Sir Fredrick Roberts downwards. To the last-named in especial, he gives the credit of knowing Afghanistan and the Indian army better than any other living man. I am not willing to quarrel with Sir Charles over this flattering testimonial he graciously thrusts upon our gallant Commander-in-Chief, but, from what I know personally of Sir Fredrick Roberts as a soldier not as a liberal host, Sir Fredrick must have enjoyed a hearty laugh over it, and exclaimed "what chaff!" Neither General Chapman nor Sir Fredrick Roberts is infallible and they are just as liable as other human beings to err. It is the opinion of many able military experts, that it is a very great error to push our outposts to the distance we have done and construct good roads to facilitate the advance of Russia at our expense. The line of the Indus is our natural frontier, and beyond that we should not have gone to please Abdur Rahman or any one else. As matters now stand, and the Afghans and Beloochees join the Russians against us, we must fall back upon the Indus, and having once crossed it we now run the risk of committing the military suicide Sir Charles so much dreads. Admitting the Khan of Khelat himself is satisfied we should remain masters in the heart of his country, are the Beloochees themselves equally pleased? I am not prepared to believe they are, they must feel the humiliation of their position, and I am very far out in my estimation, if, when the time comes, they do not with the Afghans and Russians make common cause and drive us back to the Indus beyond which we should never have gone.

For a series of years we have been going on with an endless expansion of territory and tenfold multiplicity of our obligations, and consequent scattering of our forces over India, frittering away our resources and obtaining no advantages of any kind. It is an undeniable fact, as the *Statesman* has said, it is unnecessary to go beyond Sir Charles Dilke's pages to discover we have no policy in Afghanistan: that money is being poured out like water which might as well be flung into the Indian Ocean for all the advantage that is likely to accrue to India.

If there is one journal more than another which has, from the first, loudly proclaimed against this wanton waste, it is the *Statesman*, and it truthfully says events pass so rapidly one after the other in India, that those even of the most recent date fall rapidly into oblivion.

The all powerful journal of Allahabad which devotes a large space on the 26th May to a review of Sir Charles Dilke's articles in the *Fortnightly Review*,

admits that Sir Charles' statements are disfigured by inaccuracies. But I fail to see what good is likely to result from a discussion, either by English politicians or Indian statesmen, of statements submitted to the public, so highly colored and charged with inaccuracies as Sir Charles Dilke's articles are. No possible good can follow. If the Central Asian problem is ever satisfactorily disposed of, it must be by Indian statesmen in India and not by English politicians in England. It is here that the practical impregnability of our position in India either at Quetta or on the Indus can be judged. Here that the possibility of our being reduced by external force, can be guarded against by the Government of India adopting a policy of honest conciliation to both Prince and Peasant. Such a policy will entail no doubt considerable brain work, but little money and still less loss of life. If we keep the natives of India at our back, we have nothing to fear from Russia had she twofold the strength the Allahabad journal would threaten and terrify us with. All the advantages, with such a policy, are ours. Under such circumstances, I decline to believe we are in any danger of an invasion of India by Russia.

I do not advocate a policy of inactivity, but what I do advocate is—our first duty should be to make ourselves secure against any internal outbreak.

The security of our Indian Empire rests on a contented people. To attain this end, we must remove the discontent of almost all classes. In the native states in particular, the relations and condition of things that now obtain between our political officers and the officials of native states, should never have been permitted. Nearly all our Residents at native Courts, exercise undue interference, in matters they have no right to. By their bluster and bullying they not only alienate the people they were intended to conciliate, but also hamper the native officers in their attempts to introduce any reform. Innumerable instances of imprudent interference can be cited. They continue to be almost of daily occurrence, and Lord Lansdowne would do well to take up the question at once, as to the true character of our relation with our native Chiefs, if we would be secure. At this moment there is no question of greater importance.

I hold a decided opinion against the Government of India entering into any negotiations or relations which might, at any moment, embroil us in very serious difficulty with the frontier tribes and the people of Afghanistan. Having gone so far with the present Ameer, we should be acting unwisely if we did not more than make him sufficiently strong in his own kingdom so as to enable him to repel an invasion of his country, so far as a small Power is capable of in its own territory to keep out a greater Power. Admitting for argument's sake that Russia was to obtain a footing in the Candahar valley, are we better off with our defensive works at Quetta, than we would be if we had advanced no farther than the Indus? I deny that we are, and contend that the further we advance beyond our natural base, the greater is the risk of defeat.

I have the very best military authority in India and England to support my argument, that we should not shorten the distance, and remove obstacles between ourselves and the invader, but increase them. Whatever impressions Sir Charles Dilke carried away with him from India, I will not be convinced that Sir Fredrick Roberts meant anything else.

ZITO.

## THE DIFFICULTIES OF IMPROVEMENT IN RURAL BENGAL.

### A TYPICAL CASE.

It is not often in India that disinterested men enter on litigation prompted by enlightened public spirit, but once on a time when such a phenomenon does occur, we ought to give it every respect. Such a case has just come to our notice in rural Bengal, at a village in the metropolitan District of the Twenty-four Pergunnahs. It arose out of an encroachment on a public thoroughfare in the village of Nowrah. A resident of the place, by name Anupam Chandra Mitra, who makes his living as a subordinate clerk in a Government office in town, in the interest of his fellow villagers, sued Modhusudan Ghosh, and filed a petition, together with corroborative statements of his fellow villagers in support of it, to Mr. A. W. Paul, then Magistrate and Chairman of the District Road-Cess Committee, asking for an enquiry. In the ordinary, perfunctory style of doing things, an investigation was made, on the 17th December 1886, by the Road-Cess Overseer, which resulted in an admitted fact of encroachment, but it not being recent, it was considered desirable to prosecute Modhusudan Ghose.

A police enquiry being next instituted, the Sub-Inspector of Bhangoie Thannah took the matter up and elicited the fact that there was a *bona fide* encroachment, and that the road so encroached upon had been under the control of the local Board and by them kept in repair. He submitted at the same time a map showing the encroachments made on the public highway.

Subsequently, in February 1887, Mr. Forbes, the then Magistrate and Chairman of the District Board, instructed the District Engineer to serve notices upon Modhusudan, and, if necessary, to prosecute him. The investigation by the Police was both incomplete and unsatisfactory, inasmuch as other serious encroachments had been made and probably winked at by the guardians of peace, a branch road leading from the village road, under the control of the local Board, to the public village road has been completely closed by an excavation, doubtless made for the purpose, by Modhusudan Ghosh, as an obstruction to the thoroughfare, and as the map submitted shews an act cognisable by the police, as interfering with public rights. On submission of the facts to Rai Bahadur Rajendra Nath Mitra, Chairman of the local Board, it was for the first time, given out that the road in dispute was not under the control of the said Board and the matter should be brought to the notice of the Magistrate. Accordingly, a petition was filed against Modhusudan Ghosh before Mr. C. W. Bolton, Magistrate of Alipore, in August 1888, and the police was again instructed to take the matter up. At a later period (21st September,) the Magistrate made over the case to one of his Deputies, who, we are afraid, was not competent by law to initiate proceedings in such cases. The Deputy, however, entered the case in his own file and called on Anupam to deposit costs. That done, a notice was now issued on Modhu Ghose, presumably under Section 133 of the Criminal Procedure Code. We are not sure, as required by that section, that any conditional order was made for removal of the obstruction with liberty to the party to move to have the order set aside. Modhu, however, on the day fixed, the 27th October 1888, appeared and, afraid of facing an open enquiry, claimed the right given by Section 135 and applied to the Deputy to appoint a jury to try the case. The Deputy Baboo ordered accordingly, and resigned himself and the case to the verdict of five men most of whom were of Ghosh's party, more or less depending on, or afraid of, him. Ghosh, though a milkman, is the great man of the day in the place the prosperous dangerous upstart whom the *Bhadra* were glad to conciliate.

The Jurors were not appointed till the 1st November 1888, who were to visit the spot on the 12th November and to return their verdict on the 14th of the same month. Before the time fixed, the foreman of the Jury intimated to the Court his inability to attend, and offered his resignation unless the time was extended to the Christmas holidays. There was no return of the verdict, nor any fresh order made, on the 14th November. After the lapse of more than reasonable time to enable the defendant to take any steps that he might be advised on the 4th January 1889, Anupam moved the Court to pass such orders under sec. 141, as the Deputy Magistrate thought fit. But the Deputy was unwilling to pass the final order, as indicated in that Section. He wanted to be fair to Modhu. He looked out for the defendant and called on him to enter appearance on the 10th. Even then Modhu was not to be found, and the Deputy was in no hurry to pro-

nounce the final words. He enquired and learning that there was not in the record the return of the service of the last notice, put off the matter to the 12th January. On that day, the complainant again reminded the Deputy Magistrate of the provisions of the law and prayed, that if the Court insisted on the case being decided by any other authority than the Court itself, that the case might not be entirely left to the Jury chosen but that the foreman be appointed the sole arbitrator. Modhu had mysteriously turned up that day. The Deputy Baboo was still for the Jury, and now for the first time passed orders on the refusal of the foreman to act, to enquire when it would be convenient to him to act, and in spite of the repeated protests of the complainant to send the case to the Jury and prayers to have it disposed of by the Court itself, the Deputy, on the 27th February last made his order constituting the Jury to decide the case on spot on the 18th March and report their decision to the Deputy Magistrate.

Suffice it to say that, on the 18th March, the case was heard at the place of dispute, and, as any one might gather from the above, the case went against Anupam Chandra Mitra. The jury took evidence, found the land in dispute was formerly waste land on which cattle and men passed and repassed, that Modhu claimed it on a lease which he did not produce, that he made the excavations, &c on the land some four or five years ago when there was no opposition that the Zeminder under whom Modhu claimed the land testified to its being his property and not included in Modhu's lease, and yet they decided there was no encroachment by Modhu. They believed that four years' adverse possession of the land made Modhu the rightful owner thereof. The Jury were not, however, unanimous, one of them testifying to and giving, as all unbiassed men would do, as his opinion, that there was encroachment. Now the Deputy Baboo mustered courage to pass the final verdict—"The opinion of the majority of the Jury will prevail. File. (Sec. 139 C. P.) T. K. Ghosh, Deputy Magistrate, 20-3-89," and closed the proceedings. It would appear that Modhu Sudan Ghosh has established a sort of petty Chieftainship for himself in the neighbourhood, and the injudicious judgment in the Nowrah encroachment case is not likely to lessen the estimation he holds himself in.

Is the case beyond recall? Is there no escape from the tyranny of the milkman? Is the Magistrate of the District powerless to afford any relief? Cannot the Commissioner of the Division, in his general power of supervision, reopen the question? We doubt the legality of the farce played out.

### NARAIL.

June 18, 1889.

The last University results were lamentably deplorable. Some Herods are at work and the year of grace 1296 B. S. is ushered with the terrible news of boy slaughter. The atrocities are unprecedented in the annals of this or probably any other University. To speak only of the Entrance Examination, nearly 7,500 candidates had appeared and only 1,475 passed, 6,000 and odd have failed. Oh! what a terrible massacre of the innocents! Opinions differ as to the reasons of this. I am disposed to think that the fault lies with both the examinees and examiners alike. A contemporary of yours starts a very novel theory, truly characteristic of John Bull, breathing the hot air of the "City of Palaces," and spreading terror to the small circle of his Madrassee menials and terribly jesticulates, swears and makes all kinds of ugly and horrible faces, being struck home by the short poniard of the Native Press. I allude to your contemporary of the British Indian Street. He says, I write on the authority of the *Sanyibani*, because the sons of Bhistiwallahs and other low-born students go up for the Entrance, a great many fail in consequence. Whence this entered his brain, I am at a loss to conjecture. I however pardon the grand old man for the sake of his grey hairs attended by follies and failings usual to that age and a general lack of good sense.

To resume the thread of my subject, there are many strong reasons in operation for the recent failures. The way in which examiners are now-a-days elected and the system of the Head-examinership are much to be condemned. A glance at the list of the examiners for 1889-90 will show you that a host of raw graduates have been appointed examiners. This is a great evil. A year or two before, these were students at colleges and now they are the University examiners. What can you expect from them? They judge the merits of the poor boys according to the standards of their own, and the consequence is what has happened this year. The Syndicate ought to use great discretion in choosing examiners. It is a fact that the percentage of successful candidates is higher in the B. A. examination than in others, and that is due to the absence of too many inexperienced examiners. But of all the

question papers set in the last B. A. Examination, one was very stiff and it was set by Mr. A. T. Mookerjee junior, who has lately been raised to the Syndicate. That he is a very distinguished graduate, I do not wish to gainsay; but he is still totally inexperienced in the matter of examinations. He, at the head of a train of juvenile examiners, is making great havoc among the students. The name of Mr. Mookerjee is a bugbear to them. Formerly, the practice was to appoint experienced teachers as examiners. Now an M. A. of to-day is an examiner of the same to-morrow. This year Mr. Wheeler, B. A., a mere lad and the grandson of the late Rev. Doctor Banerjee, has been made an examiner in English in the Entrance Examination, while the superior claims of others more competent have been ignored. Of late, there is a great increase in the number of native examiners which forebodes nothing but evil. They as a rule set very difficult papers and generally forget their own difficulties and those of others to master a foreign language.

I am for making the examination stricter as the standard is higher. The door of the Entrance ought to be liberally opened to the students, while that of the B. A. to none but the deserving. The latter ought to be made a test of genuine merit and not of mere cram work. Closing the door of the Entrance fills the popular mind with consternation, and they are already hinting at the Government closing liberal education in this country. But however palpably absurd it may be, it shows full well the sensitiveness of their mind. What I have said with regard to the Entrance, applies with equal truth to the F. A. Examination.

All my views I wish to summarize under the four following heads, and hope that the eyes of Mr. Tawney at the head of the Syndicate may be attracted to them. 1st. There shall be appointed a set of examiners to conduct the various examinations annually and be subject not to constant changes but to changes from time to time. This method is followed in some of the old English Universities. 2nd. These shall comprise of experienced teachers. 3rd. Natives as a rule be not appointed examiners in subjects other than the 2nd languages, exceptions however being made in favour of men of proved ability and attainments. 4th. There shall be appointed a committee to observe that the percentage of success or failure does not vary greatly year to year from a standard one.

PRO. BONO PUBLICO.

June 19, 1889.

The price of rice has decreased to Rs. 3 on account of the recent showers.

Our infant Technical College is already giving proofs of fulfilling all our expectations. The young Vulcans are turning out articles which reflect not a little credit to novices. But whether the present zeal will remain unabated, remains to be seen. I shall suggest to the proprietors not to make the boys work at the expense of their other studies. All necessary instruments have lately been purchased, and a comfortable house is being built for the college.

X. Y. Z.

#### LORD DUFFERIN'S SPEECH AT THE MANSION HOUSE ON BRITISH RULE.

The Marquis of Dufferin & Ava was presented with the Freedom of the City of London in the Guildhall on May 29. Lord Dufferin was also entertained at a dinner at the Mansion House in the evening of the same day. Lady Dufferin and her daughters, after dinner, witnessed the proceedings from the gallery. The Lord Mayor proposed "The Health of the Marquis of Dufferin," which was received with enthusiasm.

Lord Dufferin, who on rising was received with cheering again and again renewed, said:—My Lord Mayor, my lords, ladies, and gentlemen,—In rising to return thanks for the flattering terms in which you, my Lord Mayor, have been good enough to propose my health, and for the equally kind manner in which you have, my lords and gentlemen, been good enough to receive it, it is needless for me to say that I am grateful for the honour. After sixteen years of almost continual service abroad in distant parts of the Empire or at foreign Courts, to return home and to find such a welcome as this awaiting one at the hands of so distinguished an assembly as that which I see around me is enough to satisfy the fondest ambition, and to make the recipient feel that he is being rewarded far beyond his deserts; and this feeling is very much increased when I remember what noble, famous, and heroic men have stood where I now stand and received at your hands similar marks of favour. But whatever misgivings I may entertain as to my right to have my name inscribed upon your city's roll of fame, I derive, at all events, some encouragement from the fact that, having served my country in three distinct capacities—as a colonial governor, as a diplomatic representative, and as an Indian ruler—in honouring me you are honouring those three great services with whom I have been so intimately connected, and through whose assistance it is that I have succeeded in winning your approbation. (Hear, hear.)

#### HONOUR TO WHOM HONOUR IS DUE.

During the time of my residence in Canada—a country for which I shall always entertain a sentiment of the greatest gratitude and of the fondest affection—the affairs of the Dominion were conducted by responsible Ministers of the Crown, and if my administration was successful, it was owing to the patriotism, to the sagacity, and the intelligence of those eminent men, one of whom, I am happy to think, is present here to-night. Again, no one but the heads of such commissions are conscious of the degree to which they are indebted for their success to the assistance and discretion, tact and acumen, of those members of the diplomatic corps who are associated with them in the discharge of their delicate duties. But if this is the case in diplomacy, and in colonial government, it is still more obviously the fact in relation to the administration of Indian affairs. In common parlance, and according to the language of tradition, every characteristic of the policy of the Government of India is supposed to be the direct outcome of the Viceroy's special initiative and will, and this is entirely as it should be, because he alone is responsible for whatever is done in India. All the details of business come within his purview. No Executive act can be performed without his consent; he is called upon to decide between what are very often the conflicting views of the departments and the competing suggestions of his colleagues; and he holds in reserve the absolute right of overruling his Council. Consequently his countrymen hold him responsible for whatever happens, whether things go well or ill, nor in this latter case have I ever heard this theory disputed. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) But it will be readily understood that no Viceroy, however self-reliant, however authoritative, however determined to impress his personal genius upon the conduct of affairs, would be able to conduct that vast complicated machine which regulates the destinies of 300,000,000 of our Indian fellow-subjects unless he were enlightened, aided, advised, and assisted by the most remarkable body of men that have ever rendered their country good service abroad, such as are the civil servants of the Crown in India. If, then, things during the past four years have gone sufficiently well in India, it is because a number of very able, very disinterested, and self-sacrificing men have been labouring in posts and positions which, from the force of circumstances, are not wont to attract public attention in England, indifferent to their own fame and renown, provided only that by their exertions the material and moral advancement and security of the Empire can be obtained. (Cheers.)

#### WORKS IN INDIA.

If, then, the North-West frontier of India and the seaports of India have been fortified and secured, it is owing to the professional skill of Sir Donald Stewart, Sir Frederick Roberts, General Chesney, Colonel Sandford, and the able engineers who are engaged in that important task. If, again, Quetta has been rendered almost an unassailable bulwark of the Empire, it is because the practised eye of Sir Frederick Roberts detected the advantage of that position. If Burmah has been conquered and reorganised it is owing to General Prendergast, General White, Sir Charles Bernard, and those other brave and noble men who have sacrificed their health and even their lives in accomplishing the task. If we have been able to maintain amicable and confidential intercourse with the Amir of Afghanistan, a potentate of great force of character and strong determination, who was advanced to his present position through the determination and skill of Sir Lepel Griffin, it is because we have been strengthened in the Government of India by the resource and sagacity of Sir Mortimer Durand. If the whole organisation of the army has been immensely improved, we have to thank General Chesney and Colonel Collett for the mobilisation scheme. If the revenue system of India has been much improved, and its figures are perpetually showing a better appearance, it is thanks to the initiative of another distinguished Indian official, Sir E. Buck, through whose exertions, in spite of the increase in the army, the Government closed the last financial year showing an equilibrium, with the prospect of a surplus for the ensuing year (Cheers.) For the improvement of our codes we are indebted, amongst others, to Mr. Scoble and Mr. Harvey James, and for the extension of our railways for commercial purposes, for the mitigation of famine, or for warlike purposes, we have to thank the remarkable energy of Sir Theodore Hope ably seconded by Colonel Trevor. If retrenchment has been carried out in every branch of Indian expenditure, it is thanks to the determination, perseverance, and peculiar searching powers of Sir Charles Elliott, and in the same manner we are indebted for a thorough examination of and most interesting report upon the Civil Service of India to Sir Charles Aitchison and those others who have seconded his efforts. (Cheers.) Lastly, that the late Viceroy of India has survived to tell the tale, and is able to dine with the Lord Mayor of London, is because in Sir Donald Wallace he had an invaluable Private Secretary who worked eighteen hours a day. (Cheers and laughter.)

#### A TRIBUTE TO THE INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE.

When I come to think of the hundreds and hundreds of hard-working men in the Indian service, I may say, without any disparagement of the standard of public work in England, that I did not know what hard work meant until I went to India, and saw the



unceasing and unintermittent character of the "grind" to which our Indian civil servants so heartily devote themselves. If I were to give a list of hundreds and hundreds of noble, hard-working, patriotic men, through whose unrecognised and unknown exertions, it is that I have the honour of occupying the proud position I do to-night, that list would be too much both for your patience and forbearance; but at the same time it is to me the greatest possible pleasure to have an opportunity of publicly repeating in England the acknowledgments I made in regard to those gentlemen before quitting Calcutta. I cannot help thinking that it is not altogether a bad thing that the English public, occupied as they naturally are with their own affairs and their own politics, foreign and domestic, should be occasionally reminded by a competent witness like myself that hundreds of miles beyond the Indian Ocean, in a depressing and debilitating climate, in homes where the voices and laughter of children are never heard, there are hundreds and hundreds of self-devoted men who are engaged in labour of which the English public have a very inadequate idea, dealing with administrative problems in comparison with which a great number of those questions which occupy the attention of the House of Commons for days together are the merest child's play. (Cheers and laughter.)

#### THE NATIVE CIVIL SERVANTS.

In referring to the labours of the European section of Her Majesty's servants in India, it would not be right to forget the co-operation of their native coadjutors. It will probably be a surprise to many present to learn that, whereas within the Covenanted Civil Service of India, there are somewhat less than 1,000 Europeans, there are in the Uncovenanted Service nearly 120,000 natives. (Hear, hear.) Of all of the latter, especially those in the highest ranks of the judiciary, it may be said with the utmost truth that they are persons of great sagacity, great industry, and the highest probity, eminently expert, industrious, and loyal. (Cheers.) In reference to this word loyal, which has instinctively escaped my lips, I hope it will be understood that I have not used it in a discriminatory sense.

#### INDIAN FEELING TOWARDS ENGLAND.

I believe the whole of India is loyal to the throne and person of the Queen, and to the modes and manner of English administration. (Cheers.) I don't mean to say that the English are popular in India, I don't see very well how that could be the case. We are the representatives of a foreign domination. We are aliens in race and in religion. Moreover, the unwillingness of the Hindoos to eat and drink with persons of a different caste from themselves, their refusal to allow their ladies to mingle in our society, undoubtedly prevent the rise and growth of that geniality and good fellowship which you, my Lord Mayor, and the hospitable companies of London know so well how to apply. But though devoid of any sentimental element, I believe the loyalty of India rests upon a far surer, far more solid and sounder basis—that of self interest. (Hear, hear.) If we leave out of account a few fanatical sects, the absolutely ignorant individuals with a personal grievance, and that discontented class which is to be found in every community, I believe that, even including those gentlemen who criticise us most severely in the newspapers, there is not an Indian subject of the Queen in India who is not fully convinced that English administration gives him what he would get neither under an independent India nor in an India under foreign government—namely, peace, security, justice, an enormous share in all the Government appointments, a free Press, municipal independence, local self-government, a prospect of the gradual realisation of our methods of government, the supervision of the House of Commons, and, above all, a sympathetic English public opinion which is ever on the alert to correct abuses of authority and to mitigate the severity of that authoritative *regime* by which alone it will be possible for many a year to administer the congeries of nationalities, religions, sects, and races comprised within the vast peninsula of India. (Cheers.) In fact, I have come back from India with a far deeper conviction of the strength of our position there than that which I held when I went there. I believe that the ascendancy of Englishmen is increasing in the East, and that the advance of science, the multiplication of railways, the diffusion of our commerce and of our literature, the improvements in artillery and other arms of precision, the acceleration of communications, acting very considerably in shortening the distance between London and—what is by no means an insignificant fact—Australia and Calcutta—all these things I believe are deepening the impression of our superiority. (Cheers.)

#### THE EASTERN FRONTIER OF INDIA.

I believe we have equal reason to congratulate ourselves on the condition of affairs along our extensive Eastern frontier. The interior of Burmah having been pretty well subdued and pacified, the next task was to teach the wild tribes inhabiting the hills that they must discontinue their head-hunting expeditions and their raids for plunder in the lowlands. Thanks to the energy of my successor, this task also seems to be in a fair way of accomplishment, and I am glad to be able to hold out some prospect of the eventual opening of communications between the Valley of the Ganges and the Valley of the Irrawaddy. (Hear, hear.)

#### OUR RELATIONS WITH RUSSIA AND AFGHANISTAN.

Our relations with Afghanistan continue to be of the most friendly character. The rumours which were so studiously spread about by the newspapers in regard to some foolish intentions of the Ameer against Russia, and which were never believed by the Russian Government, proved to be altogether imaginary. The Ameer himself has admitted that he has every reason to be satisfied with the conduct of the Russian officers on his frontier, and all he desires is to be left in peace and quiet within his own borders. Here I shall be glad to have an opportunity of making my acknowledgments to the Government of Russia for the perfectly loyal and honourable manner in which, during my term of office, they fulfilled their obligations arising out of the Afghanistan Delimitation Convention. (Cheers.) Before going to India I predicted that this would be the case, because I had great confidence in the wisdom and moderation of the Russian Foreign Secretary, and especially in the high sense of honour and the conscientiousness of the Emperor. You are aware that on two occasions the Ameer had been placed in great difficulties. There is no doubt that had the Russian Government chosen on those occasions to falsify their engagements, and intrigue against Abdur Rahman, affairs in Afghanistan might have been thrown into very great confusion—a circumstance which could not have failed to create very serious complications between ourselves and Russia, for I hold it to be an accepted axiom of our policy that it is not consistent with the good faith of the signatory Powers, or the safety of the Indian Empire, that the terms of the treaty should be either modified or ignored. (Cheers.) The further advance of a great military Power towards the confines of India would throw upon that country such an enormous additional expense in respect to fortifications and other defensive measures that almost any other alternative would be preferable. (Hear, hear.)

#### CHINESE FRIENDSHIP.

In paying this just tribute to the loyalty of the Government of Russia, I am desirous also of placing on record my acknowledgments to another great Imperial Administration—namely, that of the Emperor of China. (Hear, hear.) If, when we first entered Afghanistan, (Burmah), the Chinese had chosen, they might undoubtedly have exposed us to something like the same difficulties and tormenting anxieties from which the French have suffered so severely in Tonquin. But I am happy to say that, thanks to the admirable manner in which the negotiations connected with the Mission to Tibet were conducted by the British Foreign Office, that danger was averted. Nothing could have been more loyal or more effectual than the assistance given us by the Government of China, and especially by the Viceroy of Yunan. I think I have trespassed sufficiently long on your attention. In thanking you again both for myself and Lady Dufferin, I feel that I am only expressing the sentiment which is garnered in the breasts of all who are serving their country outside of Great Britain.

#### AN ELOQUENT PERORATION.

Removed as we are from the turmoil of party politics and the acerbities of party controversy, our thoughts and faculties are naturally more directed to the contemplation of the Empire as a whole, and to devoting ourselves to its consolidated interests. To our fond imagination, in whatever distant lands we may be serving, amid all our troubles and anxieties, England rises to our view, as she did to the men of Cressy, like a living presence, a sceptred isle amid inviolate seas, a dear and honoured mistress, the mother of a race of whom it may be said that they have done as much as any other for the general moral and material happiness of mankind, and which has done more than any other to spread abroad the benefits of ordered liberty and constitutional government, which has learnt the secret of gradually interweaving the new material of progress into the outworn tissues of ancient civilisations, and of reconciling every diversity of barbarous tribe to the discipline of a properly regulated existence; whose beneficent and peaceful commercial flag illumines every sea and pavilions every shore, whose language is already destined ere the close of this century to be spoken by a greater number of millions than any other tongue, and the chief necessity for whose prosperity and welfare is the continuance of universal peace, and the spread of amity and good will among the nations. (Loud cheers.) Indeed, without such an ideal to stimulate and encourage them, their work would prove very unthankful to hundreds and hundreds of able and high minded men, who are wearing themselves out in the service of their country abroad, inasmuch as the one thought that sustains them in all their trials and temptations, when struggling with the depression occasioned by sickness, overwork, and debilitating climates, is the thought that they are making a good fight for the honour and welfare of England and her Imperial renown, and that in a greater or a less degree they are earning the approval of those of their countrymen who, like you, my Lord Mayor, and you, my lords and gentlemen, with so much superabundant kindness and generosity, have been pleased to testify tonight your approval of the humble endeavours to do his duty of one amongst the many thousands of your servants to whom the approbation of their fellow Englishmen is their greatest reward. (Loud cheers.)



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Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little *brochure* written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah Bahadur, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*, October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From

the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river: [Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye: [Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course. —[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

We have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 1889.

} No. 380

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE old Border States of the great American Republic maintain their reputation. In Kansas city, there was lately a trial. Between James Smith, the man accused of burglary, and the officers of the Peace, they made short work of it. He rushed from his seat upon Detective Gilley, cut the poor fellow's throat and rushed through the crowd to escape. He was followed by a wild yell of hue and cry, the officers pursuing, and there was heard the sound of a volley. It was all in a trice, but all was over by that. He had shot out of court like an arrow, and they had shot him dead like a dog. There is no sensation in Kansas over this sharp business, whatever may be thought elsewhere. Life on the Border still borders on Death. Lynch, as before, is law-giver, Judge, Jury, and executioner all in one.

QUETTA is progressing fast. They have an omnibus service for the poor.

IT is said that—

"An experiment in journalism of a somewhat unique character is at present being tried in Madrid. The staff consists of reporters only, who after gathering information in the town, commit to paper, which they throw into a box intended for its reception. The printer empties it periodically, sets from the MS., and the paper is circulated through the town twice a day, or more frequently, according to the material. There is no editor, and no matter is commented upon: the whole is simply a chronicle of the daily events in the city."

Many eminent men are of opinion that journalism should be restricted to the mere purveying of news without comment. It is remarkable that backward Spain should have the glory of inaugurating the reform—if reform it be.

A GRETTY Conflict of Law has arisen over the carcase of a blacksmith and sinner, whose smithy brought him gold untold which he knew not how to put to decent use. The late Benjamin Burkeley Hotchkiss, the inventor of the gun bearing his name, died intestate leaving two million sterling. The amount is large enough to draw a legion of lawyers and legal heirs and illegal too, we are afraid. He had a house in Paris and a house in New York, and the question raised is which was his legal domicile. If in New York, the property comes to the father, two brothers and a sister now living in that city; if in Paris, the father and the widow equally divide the sum among themselves to the exclusion of the brothers and sister. From the ways of life of modern grandees and plutocrats, it is difficult to say which nation he belongs to. The facilities for locomotion and the habit of going and remaining abroad are not only obliterating national landmarks, but also creating confusion in municipal Law.

THE *New York Herald* commands \$39,728 for its lowest and \$348,000 for its highest priced column in a year. The *New York Tribune* receives \$29,784 and \$85,648. In England, it is well known that it is the advertisements that support the newspapers. The price at which they are sold to the public does not pay for the sheets of paper on which they are printed. The price to the trade is even less and involves a positive loss. But the advertising makes it up and leaves a pro-

fit besides. Look at the enormous expansion of advertising! The *Daily Telegraph*, for instance, gives daily broadsheets of 12 pages, of which nearly 9 are filled with close advertisements in small type. That means a fortune. Our people too are learning to advertise, though, with their inferior enterprise, on a small scale.

FOR a misstatement of cargo, the United Steamship Company of Copenhagen had rendered themselves liable to a fine, in Russia, of three-and-a-half millions of roubles. The Czar was graciously pleased to remit the fine. In constitutional England, would the Company have been as fortunate?

HIS descendants have sued the Italian Government for 50,000,000 fis., the value of the property of Joachim Murat, King of Naples, confiscated after his capture in Calabria and execution in 1815. We shall not be surprised to see Maharaja Dhuleep Singh take the hint and bring his grievances to the courts of law. The Kohinoor may be a hard nut for lawyers as well as lapidaries, but the Prince might cause a sensation throughout the globe by suing for the pyjamas and petticoats of the Seraglio ward-robe.

THE Academy notes that Baron Nordenskjöld has passed through the press a "Facsimile Atlas to the Oldest History of Cartography." It is a folio volume, and in it are to be found fifty-one maps printed before the year 1600. It also contains the MS. map of Northern Europe (circa 1467) discovered by him in the library of Count Zamoiski, of Warsaw.

THE Governor-General in Council has appointed the Delhi Jail and the Mooltan District Jail to be places to which persons sentenced to transportation may be sent.

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, Darjeeling, has been affiliated to the Calcutta University in Arts up to the F. A. Standard.

IT has been ruled by the Governor-General in Council that, for the purposes of Act II. of 1886 (Income Tax),

(1) the tentage allowance included in the pay and Indian allowances of an officer in Military employ under Article 748 of the Army Regulations, India, Volume I., Part I, shall be deemed to be salary, unless the officer has provided and has in his possession the camp equipage of his rank in a serviceable condition; and

(2) the horse allowance shown as included in the consolidated or staff pay of the several appointments specified in Article 91 of the same Regulations, shall be deemed to be salary, unless the officer has provided, and actually maintains, the number of *bond fide* chargers prescribed for his rank.

IN 1890, the Government will offer for sale not more than 57,000 chests of Bengal opium and not more than 4,750 chests in each month, namely, not more than 2,500 chests of Benares and 2,250 chests of Patna opium.

THE Secretary of State for India in Council has decided that if a petition against the orders of the Secretary of State for India in Coun-

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

cil is prepared for presentation to Parliament, it should be submitted to the House of Parliament to which it is addressed, through the medium of some unofficial Member of the House, and not through the Secretary of State. There are rules and restrictions about Petitions to Parliament which are too minute and exactly adhered to by the House of Commons. The Petition on the Gagging Act of Lord Lytton narrowly escaped being rejected for non-observance of a common form.

LIKE the Yugees of Calcutta, the Shaos of Dacca have triumphed. The *Garib* has, after all, apologised and the case against it permitted to be withdrawn. And no wonder. The *Garib* has no friends, anywhere. The Babylon of *parvenus*, publicans and sinners, of East Bengal is about the worst place for the *Garib*.

The mere cost of litigation was compulsion enough for accused to wash their hands out of an unpleasant and bootless business.

DURING May, thirty-six aliens—eleven from Russia, ten from Germany, four from Prussia, three from Holland, two from the Netherlands, and one each from Austria, France, Italy, Portugal, Switzerland and Turkey—were admitted as English subjects under the Naturalisation Act, 1870. No Indian subject of Her Majesty is admissible under the Act, otherwise many of our Europe-returned Baboos would have availed themselves of its privileges—for the privileges in India of the British-born.

A RETURN shows that there were sixty-three prosecutions under the Coercion Act. Twenty-five of these were against Members of Parliament. In thirty-nine, the order was for imprisonment—the term in the aggregate being more than nine years. There were appeals in twenty-one cases, with the result that in one the sentence was increased, in seven the period of imprisonment was reduced and in one the conviction was quashed. The total reduction amounted to about a year and a half. The working justifies the Act.

THE *Oberschlesische Grenzzeitung* is being prosecuted for insulting the Duke of Coburg. "The paper stigmatised as a lampoon a widely circulated anonymous pamphlet entitled 'A Programme of the Ninety-nine Days,' in which the Empress Frederick and the members of the Freisinnige party were attacked." The period covered by the pamphlet is the period of the reign of the late Emperor Frederick of Germany. Up to the time the last mail left London, the Duke had not acknowledged that he was the writer.

THEY have carried the railway (cog-wheel) up Mount Pilatus, in Switzerland. It is nearly 3 miles long. The train consists of a steam-engine and one carriage capable of accommodating 32 persons. It mounts from the edge of Lake Lucerne at Alpnach to the summit, nearly 7,000 feet above the lake, in an hour and a half. The average gradient is forty-two in a hundred.

HUMAN vaccine lymph is to be gradually displaced by that from the calf. That will not entirely remove the objection to vaccination.

FOLLOWING the N.-W. P., Bengal has recognized the Value-payable Post for payment of revenue to a limited amount. Madras now follows suit. A trial has been sanctioned for the districts of Chingleput, South Arcot, Tanjore, Madura and Tinnevely.

TATTAI SREENIVASACHARIAR, Deputy Inspector of Schools, Rajahmundry, has been sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment, for breach of trust of stationery valued at Rs. 28. He had the luxury and satisfaction of being defended by Mr. Norton from Madras. By the by, has Mr. Norton given up the idea of joining the Calcutta bar?

MANECKJEE DOSABHAI, ex-Jailer of the Cannanore Central Jail, has been convicted and sentenced by the Sessions Judge of Tellicherry to six months' simple imprisonment and Rs. 250 fine, for receiving a bribe of Rs. 150 from a convict, and the Chief Warder, Kutti, to six months' rigorous imprisonment and Rs. 50 fine, for abetting the offence.

THE *Mirror* reports the following Police case in the Court of the Chief Magistrate:—

"Mrs. Marian Stanley, of 18, Free School Street, charged Gregory Malchus with having, on the 14th June, at about eleven o'clock at night, trespassed into her house and made use of insulting language, intending to outrage her modesty. Defendant pleaded not guilty. The case for the prosecution was that on the night of the 14th instant at about nine o'clock, Mrs. Daisey Howell called at the complainant's house, and after staying for half an hour left, expressing a desire to return. The gate of her house was consequently kept open, and at about eleven o'clock, the accused got into her house, went upstairs, and then called out to her. When she came out of her room, the accused offered her Rs. 20 for an immoral purpose. The complainant said that she maintained herself by taking in work. She saw the accused on the 14th instant, when the accused made indecent proposals to her. Some ten years ago, he went to her on the same errand. On this occasion, she saw the accused in her parlour; she asked him his name, and he said his name was 'Anderson.' She then went into her room, and shut the door. She could not say when he left. In cross-examination she said that before she turned the light, she took the accused to be Dowling, the undertaker, as her son was ill. Mr. Moses, who appeared for the defence, said that this case had been brought for the purpose of extorting money, which he would prove by citing evidence, as also that the complainant's house was a house of ill-fame, which trade she had been carrying on for years past. Evidence for the defence was then gone into, after which His Worship said, without expressing any opinion whatever as to the nature of the house in which the complainant resides, 'I am clearly of opinion from the evidence that the accused when he went to the house, did not do any act, such as using insulting language, intending to outrage the lady's modesty. The order of the Court is that the accused be acquitted.'"

It appears from the *Annuaire Militaire* that in France, the infantry comprises 11,491 officers, the cavalry 3,402, the artillery 3,362, and the engineers 946, or 19,201 in all. Whereas Germany has 10,807 infantry officers, 2,358 of cavalry, 2,269 of artillery, and 559 of pioneers, or 16,393 altogether.

THE following little cutting from the American press is characteristic:—

"The Highest Office in the United States of America.—The highest office in the gift of the President of the United States is that of Postmaster at Mineral Point, Col. It is 12,000 feet above the sea level.—*Norristown Herald*."

That is in the true Sam Slick, Mark Twain and Artemus Ward vein.

"ALL for Love" may be folly, but it is saintly in comparison to All for Gold. From the following anecdote, which has been going round the Press, it would seem that this sordidness may be strong in Princes and sages:—

"The father of the late Duke of Buckingham was in the habit of declaring that he was able fully to appreciate the weight of the injunction, 'Put not your trust in Princes.' The Duke entertained the Queen and Prince Albert at Stowe in 1845, with more than regal splendour. He surpassed even the Duke of Devonshire at Chatsworth. Two years after the Duke was ruined, and his private affairs were for some time the theme of much gossip, always of a scandalous kind. In 1856 Louis Napoleon came to England, and there was a Chapter of the Garter at Windsor—the first, and doubtless the last, during this reign. It is the custom to 'summon' the Knights on these occasions, and Prince Albert was such a rigid purist that he could not allow a summons to be sent to the present ruined Duke of Buckingham, although he had been guest in his house, and had therein 'fared sumptuously.' The Duke, however, declined to be thus slighted, and he attended the Chapter, and, of course, he could not be excluded. Afterwards there was a State banquet to the Knights in St. George's Hall and Prince Albert pointedly omitted to invite the poor Duke of Buckingham (the only Knight who was left out), who accordingly was obliged to go away, leaving the remainder of the 'Companions' of the 'most noble and honourable Order' to their feast. It was a singularly ungracious proceeding."

We refuse to believe Albert the Good capable of such meanness—such heartless snobbery. But there ought to be an authoritative contradiction. A paragraph like the above is enough to outweigh all the portraiture and narrative of Sir Arthur Helps and Sir Theodore Martin. It is these stories that in part explain the unpopularity of the Prince in Great Britain. There are, to our knowledge, several popular myths in regard to His Royal Highness.

*Holloway's Pills*.—The ills of life are increased tenfold by the mode of life so many have to lead; most especially is this the case amongst the toilers in our factories and huge workshops of the manufacturing districts whose digestions become impaired and nervous systems debilitated by the protracted confinement and forced deprivation of healthy out-of-door exercise. The factory workers may almost be said to have diseases of their own, readily amenable, however, to treatment if not allowed to proceed unchecked. Holloway's Pills are the most effectual remedy ever discovered for the cure of liver and stomach complaints, as they act surely but gently, regulating the secretions without weakening the nerves or interfering with the daily work.

SIR Henry Brougham Loch, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Victoria, succeeds Sir Hercules Robinson as Governor and High Commissioner and Commander-in-Chief at Cape Colony.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Austria-Hungarian Delegation assembled at Vienna on the 22nd. The budget shows augmentation and improvement in armaments. The Emperor received the Delegation the next day. His Majesty in reply said that the allied Powers strive to aim at a peaceful development of the situation in Europe, which, however, continues uncertain. It was hoped the prudence of the Servians would preserve them from serious dangers, and the Emperor rejoiced that Bulgaria made steady progress. The reply has been construed to mean no peace, and the Continental bourses have gone down.

At the sitting of the Delegation on the 25th, Count Kalnoky was a little more free than his master. He was free to confess that the present situation in Europe was unsettled, though there was no danger to peace. He was afraid the Servians were premature in their aggressive and aggrandising aims, but Servia could never be allowed to be a hotbed of intrigue. Of course, Austria-Hungary was on friendly terms with all the States and Powers, Russia not excepted.

THE Russians, according to a Shanghai telegram in the *Standard*, have occupied Deer, an island near Nagasaki, and thereby secured for themselves a good harbour in the China seas. The news was contradicted in the House of Commons, Her Majesty's Government not being aware of any such occupation. In Persia, if they have not obtained the exclusive right of constructing railways, a Russian Company has been promised a certain priority.

SERIOUS disturbances are reported from Novi-bazar on the Herzog-Montenegrin frontier. Four Begs, at the head of several bands of insurgents organised for the purpose, captured the Governor and expelled him from the town. The report is not believed in in Austria, for, on the 27th, in the Delegation, Count Kalnoky doubted the reports in the newspapers.

THERE is a disagreement between England and France on the Egyptian question. France has asked England to annul the Convocation of 1887, by which the British occupation of Egypt was to terminate in 1892, and the right of entry in case of a disturbance was to be guaranteed to Great Britain and Turkey, but which convention the Porte ultimately refused to ratify. France has also called upon England to appoint a date for evacuation of Egypt.

Lord Salisbury refuses to treat the question of the evacuation and the conversion scheme together. The conversion of the Egyptian Preferences has been dropped.

THE Portuguese Government have ordered the cancellation of the concession to the Dagoa railway, the promoters having exhausted the contract time before completion of the railway.

THE Sikkim negotiations are not yet ended nor broken off.

WITH the approval of the Cabinet and the Queen, Princess Louise Victoria Alexandra Dagmar, the eldest daughter of the Prince of Wales, has been betrothed to the Earl—the sixth—of Fife. The Princess has completed her 22 summers and the Earl is 40 years of age.

SIR JOHN GORST announced in the House of Commons, on the 27th, that the Report of the Indian Public Service Commission is still under consideration and that he hoped soon to declare the decision of Government as to the age of candidates for examination for the Indian Civil Service. The Secretary of State has not yet pronounced his final verdict on the Deccan Mining scheme, it is still under the examination of the Councillors. Mr. Caine has elicited an answer from the Under-Secretary that the advisability of taxing beer in India is still under discussion.

ON the 31st May, Mr. G. E. Simms, a reporter, applied to the Bow Street Magistrate (Mr. Bridge) for summonses against the Duke of Cambridge and Inspector Robinson, for assault at Whitehall, at a Fire Brigade Inspection. Mr. Bridge was unwilling to entertain the complaint, and ultimately refused the summonses. On Monday, June 3, in the House of Commons, Mr. P. O. Brien (for Mr. Conyngham) drew the attention of the Home Secretary to the refusal of the Bow Street Magistrate and enquired whether he intended to take any action in the matter. In reply, the Home Secretary said he had no jurisdiction to review the exercise of the Magistrate's discretion. He had, however, been informed by the Magistrate that the Duke had not exceeded any authority, that the complainant was thrown against him by a rush of crowd and that the assault the Duke is said to have committed was justifiable, for protection of himself and others in repelling the rush. From a London telegram of the 22nd, it appears that the matter was taken to the Queen's Bench, and that Lord Chief Justice Coleridge had ordered the granting of the summons, pointing out that all subjects are equal in the eye of the law. Just so. If anything hastens the downfall of monarchy in England, it is this unmanly tenderness for the Reigning House exhibited by magistrates and courts of justice. But if such things take place in England at this day, how are we to wonder at the weakness of Indian courts in dealing with complaints against eminent or influential personages?

THE High Court has directed the Chief Magistrate to entertain the complaint of Captain Hearsey against the *Pioneer*. A full report of the proceedings will be found elsewhere. We understand an application on behalf of the Captain will be made to Mr. Marsden on Monday next.

The High Court only overrules the Chief Magistrate on the question of jurisdiction. It leaves him free to issue any process or not as he may consider necessary on examination of the complainant, or dismiss the complaint, if in his judgment there be no sufficient ground for proceeding.

Mr. Marsden makes a feeble protest against the ubiquity of the law outside the regular place of publication of a newspaper.

It would have been better if this point had been fully discussed and decided. We hope the *Pioneer*, if a process issues against it, will try its best to raise the question and take a final decision on the point. Mr. Marsden's protest has not been entirely fruitless. The High Court directs the Magistrate to deal with the matter according to the provisions of Chapters 16 and 17 of the Criminal Procedure Code. Thus the Court draws the Magistrate's attention to Sections 204 and 205. Although defamation is a warrant case, Section 204 empowers the Magistrate to issue a summons instead of a warrant, and Section 25 directs that "whenever a Magistrate issues a summons, he may, if he sees reason so to do, dispense with the personal attendance of the accused, and permit him to appear by his pleader."

FOR the last month or two, we have been hearing rumours of serious disagreement between Her Highness the Begum of Bhopal and her Prime Minister Moonshee Imtiaz Ali Khan, owing to his inability to carry out all the instructions of Moulvie Siddik Hossain, who seems to have now emerged from his seclusion and assumed an active part in the administration of the State. It was even given out by the Urdu newspapers of the North-West, that the minister would be shortly required to resign his post. We do not know how far these rumours may be founded on fact. But a paragraph is just going round to the effect that Moonshee Imtiaz Ali has arrived at his home at Kakory near Lucknow! What does this mean? How are we to account for this mysterious departure of the Minister from Bhopal? This sort of Hegulah is becoming too common. Between Hyderabad, Indore, Cashmere, Tipperah, and Bhopal, at least half a dozen ministers of Native States have, within the last two years, thus taken what in common parlance is called French leave.

THE Port Commissioners' Godowns and Warehouses have been insured this year at half the rate hitherto charged. That makes a considerable saving to the Trust, to the disgust and discomfiture of the Vice. Following the good old precedent, the smart executive, as in many another department, had left it to certain Companies to charge the premises as third class—though better godowns and warehouses were not known—and regularly obtained the sanction of the Commissioners every year to their orders for renewal of the insurance. A stand was made against

this go-lucky style of doing duty, and in the present year tenders were called for, with the result that new Companies have found favor and the Trust saved a good round sum.

Mr. Reilly, Assistant Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Legislative Department, in submitting his opinion in connection with the institution of any action or prosecution against an officer of Government for acts done in the discharge of his official duties, remarks that "it is unfortunately no secret that a large proportion of the prosecutions of the kind here alluded to are instituted not with the object of bringing the accused person to justice, but rather with the view to throw discredit upon his official superiors or upon the executive administration of the district generally. It is therefore the main object of the prosecution (often entrusted to a skilful Native Barrister especially retained in Calcutta) to widen the scope of the enquiry, just so far as the compliance of the court or the ignorance of the pleader charged with the defence will permit. The most effective method for meeting this evil in cases where the court cannot be reckoned upon its own motion to compress the enquiry within the strict limits of the points at issue, is to confront counsel for the prosecution with an opponent equal to him in experience and knowledge: but this step, except in very special cases, is obviously impracticable."

THE Magistrates of the 24-Pergunnahs, Nuddea, and Jessore, represented certain difficulties in connection with the assessment of the Zemindari dâk cess on lands situated within the limits of the criminal jurisdiction of one district and borne on the revenue roll of another. The Government of Bengal has ordered to adjust the payment and assessment of the cess according to the magisterial, not the revenue, district; and, where an estate borne on the rolls of one district includes villages situated in the magisterial jurisdiction of another, to divide the assessment according to the ascertained value of the parts of the estate situated in the several districts concerned. This course is to be pursued in future only when the Zemindars themselves insist on its adoption.

LAST week, we announced the sanction of the Local Government to drawing classes in the Hoogly and the Dacca Collegiate Schools. Drawing used to be taught in the old Hindu College by the late Collesworthy Grant. At one time such lessons would be given in the Presidency College, during college hours, once we believe in the week, the Government furnishing the necessary materials. It is more than 25 years that that instruction has been discontinued. It has now been found necessary to revive the practice. The progress of art requires it. We find Mr. Jobbins, Superintendent of the School of Art, complaining in an official report in connection with the advancement of art education generally in India:

"It has frequently been observed that one of the great obstacles to the advancement of art education generally in India, and of engineering in particular, is the fact that students join the School of Art or the Shipore College without the least previous acquaintance with drawing."

WE have lately been singing the glory of our stiff-necked and irascible brethren in the Hindu peccage, the Chatterjees, and may as well "post up" the information respecting them. Where does the reader suppose—is the habitat of the genus? Many of them hail from the East. One brotherhood from Vikramপুর—the ancient metropolis of Bengal in the Dacca country—have risen to particular distinction. Two of them, who went to Europe, are now in Hyderabad, one of whom is a Doctor in Science and the other a Doctor in Philosophy, with a most interesting history. A third, now in the Punjab, is one of our ablest journalists. This Eastern origin of the Chatterjees gives plausibility to the vulgar theory which assigned them as then ancient hiva Chatigam or Chhattagram, rendered by the British Chittagong. But whatever their original Vilayet, the present Paradise of an Chatterjees, seems to be situated in Central India. Opening an *Eastern Herald*, we find the first case under the head of Law Reports thus capped:

"Mr. Haridas Chatterjee (with him Mr. K. K. Chatterjee) Pleader for the Appellant, and Mr. Mohendramath Chatterjee Pleader for Respondent Rasulbhai Summusbhai."

Nothing but Chatterjees here! One Chatterjee on one side and two Chatterjees on the other, in the same case! Verily, it is Chatterjee all over at Mhow. We hope they are a happy family as they are a numerous one in that quarter. It is the same in the neighbouring region of Rajasthan. By the latest accounts, Baboo Panchanan Chatterjee has been appointed a Judge in Oodeypore.

We hear of no Banerjees. If there is one Mookerjee only in Jeypore, he is a host in himself, being the lord there. Indeed, the Mookerjees seem to have an advantage in this respect. Though few and far between, they generally go in for the higher administrative game and find themselves in the Cabinet. Thus, to take a wider survey, the Mookerjees have been the only Brahmans called to the highest office at Moorshedabad and in Tipperah. Again, two Mookerjees have held the highest judicial appointments under the Cashmere State, one of whom was for many years Chief Minister, in reality if not always in name. Against this, there is now in charge of the Exchequer of Faridkote a Chatterjee—the only one of the ilk who has ever held any Cabinet office. In British India, a Chatterjee has just been elevated to the Bench of the Chief Court of the Punjab.

In the Rutlam State, a Banerjee, Poorna Chandra, got the principalship of the Central College, but the poor fellow soon died, to make room for a Bengali Kayastha, Baboo Jay Kali Datta, M.A., B.L., of the Calcutta University.

THE theological writers on the Sunday issue of the *Statesman*—a different set, for the most part, to the more sober men of the work-day world of the daily edition—are much perplexed about "The Future State" and a Moral Text-book for the youth of India. It would be well enough perhaps, if these good gentlemen were not so far behind the age. Their crude theology is already poohpoohed by the highest minds in Christendom. Discredited in the West, is it to be installed under the patronage of the ruling race in the East?

If they will refer to their Schopenhauer, they will find that, seventy years ago, the Frankfort Rishi declared that Christianity was a compound of Buddhism and the religion of Egypt, the former furnishing the morality, the latter the phallic doctrine of the Trinity, the day of judgment, eternal life and eternal punishment, the mummery and the millinery.

Recent research has confirmed the wonderful discrimination of the great philosopher. A reference to the *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum* shows that Asoka has recorded on his pillars how he, 250 years B. C., sent out missionaries to Greece, Cyprus, Egypt and the surrounding countries, to preach the most excellent Gospel according to Buddha. How he sent medical missionaries too, the same as Christians now send to us, also agents to preach kindness to animals, and to instruct the heathen in the treatment of their diseases. If these zealots will but look up their *Revue Archeologique* and study the many translations of inscriptions from the Egyptian tombs, they will see that thousands of years before Christ, even in the days of Kings computed to be antecedent to Abraham, the Egyptians knew all about the next world, heaven and hell, eternal life and eternal damnation. They can confirm it by the works of the Germans Lepsius and Lieblein. The Hindus boast a higher antiquity of not only secular history but also religious consciousness. Buddha was a Hindoo.

As the Frankfort Philosopher says, the whole of the moral sentiments of the New Testament is to be found better expressed in the scriptures of Buddha and Confucius. So there is no need to put that very composite book of mixed contents, speaking respectfully, the Bible, into the hands of our children. If a text-book is to be compiled by our rulers, let them draw the material from the pure fountain-head and not after the stream has been contaminated by phallic obscurities and absurdities, by the interference of various intermediaries in different ages and lands.

THE Law Member has introduced his Charitable Endowments Bill. Like all other measures of Mr. Seoble up to date, this is, as he himself says, "of an unambitious character." This is to provide in British India for the vesting and administration of property held in trust for charitable purposes. Such "Charitable purpose" is intended to include relief of the poor, education, medical relief and the advancement of any other object of general public utility, and to exclude religious teaching as an exclusive purpose. The Bill empowers the Governor-General in Council to appoint, for the discharge of such duties as in England are done by the Official Trustee of Charitable Lands and the Official Trustees of Charitable Funds, a Treasurer of Charitable Endowments, for the territories subject to any Local Government, to meet the difficulty, which has often been experienced, now attending the devolution of charitable property. That is, the Bill permits the Governor-General in Council to appoint a new trustee on the retirement or death of any incumbent of the



trust. Such Treasurer shall be a Corporation sole and shall have perpetual succession and a corporate seal and he shall sue and be sued in his corporate name.

It will be optional with the endowers of any existing or future trusts or funds or their representatives, to apply to Government for a vesting order, on such terms as may be agreed upon between them and any Local Government. No vesting order will necessarily be made, nor made of any securities for money except the following :-

- (a) promissory notes, debentures, stock and other securities of the Government of India, or of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland ;
- (b) bonds, debentures and annuities charged by the Imperial Parliament on the revenues of India ;
- (c) stock or debentures of, or shares in, Railway or other Companies, the interest whereon has been guaranteed by the Secretary of State for India in Council ;
- (d) debentures or other securities for money issued by or on behalf of any local authority in exercise of powers conferred by an Act of a legislature established in British India ;
- (e) a security expressly authorised by any order which the Governor-General in Council may make in this behalf."

The Treasurer shall only be the custodian of the Funds. He shall not act in the administration of any trust under his charge, or hold any property not vested in him as Treasurer of Charitable Funds. "No suit shall be instituted against the Government in respect of anything done or purporting to be done under this Act, or against a Treasurer of Charitable Endowments except for divesting him of property on the ground of its not being subject to a trust for a charitable purpose, or for making him chargeable with or accountable for the loss or misapplication of any property vested in him, or the dividends, interest or income thereof, where the loss or misapplication has been occasioned by or through his wilful neglect or default."

All this is good so far as it goes. It does not appear clear to us however, whether the proposed enactment will give the Government power to undertake, or make arrangements for, mixed religious and secular Trusts. For instance, will they appoint a Treasurer to a temple endowment for worship and medical relief and education? The point seems advisedly left in dubiety. If this is so, it is a pity.

THE *Indian Spectator* says :-

"For the second time in history the Shah of Persia is visiting the countries and courts of Europe, including England, and the Government and the metropolis of the latter are preparing for His Majesty's reception and treatment as a guest during his sojourn in the country. So we fancy India will not be admitted to the honour of contributing to His Majesty's entertainment on some such ground as that his faith is shared by many millions in this country, or that he is a very near neighbour."

What guarantee is there? We are not sure that the honour may, after all, be thrust on us, as in the Abyssinian and Egyptian wars. India can not resist any imposition, and if the responsible authorities protest they are brow-beaten into submission by the so-called responsible Home Government in England. We do hope the *Indian Spectator* will prove a true prophet. Our contemporary attributes the present immunity to the late Mr. Fawcett. If Fawcett is dead, Bradlaugh lives and is the bolder fighter of the two.

This is the Shah's third visit to Europe, not the second

THE Government of India have advertised a four per cent loan of two hundred lakhs of rupees. Tenders will be received in sums of Rs. 500 or multiples thereof by the Comptroller-General, up to noon of Tuesday, the 30th July next. This loan will form a part of the Four Per Cent Loan of 1854-55.

REPORT has been received in Calcutta of the death, in England, at the age of 67, of Mr. John Watson, once an important member of our mercantile and trading community. He originally kept an ordinary shop in Mission Row of this city, for the sale of cheese and bacon. He gave up his shop on finding employment with Currie & Co., the old auctioneers in Lal Bazar. He afterwards married a daughter of the late Dr. Alexander Duff, the famous Free Kirk Missionary, a connection which, coupled with his knowledge of the business of an auctioneer, recommended him to Messrs. Mackenzie, Lyall's & Co., the eminent auctioneers. Entering their service as an assistant on a pay of Rs. 100, he rose to be a partner, and then, after the usual term, retired. He was a good man of business, thoroughly mindful of his own and yet considerate towards others. The native employees of the firm specially are grateful to him and his brother-in-law,

Mr. Pine Duff, for the recognition of their status and position and for his courteous treatment of them. Above all, they will always bless him for the pension system introduced at his instance.

A TELEGRAM from Balasore informs us that a gentleman of position in that town, being headmaster, Barobati School, Honorary Bench Magistrate, Municipal Commissioner, Vice Chairman Sadler Local Board, was caught by police for drunkenness and released on bail. He did not, however, make his appearance on the day fixed before the Magistrate, in consequence whereof a warrant was issued. Subsequently, he appeared and pleaded ignorance. Mr. Mendes found him guilty and fined him Rs. 10. He was formerly removed from Road Cess service in certain embezzlement cases.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 1889.

### THE DEADLOCK IN THE CITY.

THIS is not the season in Calcutta, any more than in Bombay or Madras, Allahabad or Lahore. So far as "society" cares, the Calcutta time, during all these hot months, may be dropped out of Chronology. The gods have long since deserted the plains, leaving them to toil and toilers. Viewed from the standpoint of *ton*, Calcutta is out of town. The Governments have gone to summer in the hills, leaving the capital at the mercy of Commissioners and Deputies, Chairmen and their Vices. *Little* wigs and inferior magnates swagger in grandiose equipages on the Strand, where, up to March last, Governor and Governors-General used to take their quiet drives, receiving the ready homage of all to unquestionable eminence. Yet Calcutta lives and moves and has its being. The Exodus notwithstanding, this city of small men and small things is a great city still. Its business existence is uninterrupted, though its fashionable life is in suspension. If the capital has been taken to pieces and removed to different places on the top of the Himalayas, the port remains in full integrity. That port is one of the longest in the world, crowded with shipping, the focus of a magnificent system of railways, and the seat of a great commerce. After all, the Port is Calcutta—the "city" is the town—and commerce is its life and soul. The capital—Calcutta as the residence of the political chiefs—is certainly a subordinate element in the whole. The sum of activity is scarcely affected by the abeyance of the metropolis *pro tem*. The heads of Government come and go without a sensible augmentation or diminution of the general bustle and business. The city—in the restricted sense—goes the even tenour of its way; it knows not who comes or who goes. The presence of the highest responsible authorities and repositories of ultimate power might be very valuable at particular junctures, in warding off or subduing crises, just as the absence of the Lieutenant-Governor and the Viceroy from the capital on one occasion, some six years back, threatened the whole town and suburbs with their entire shipping with destruction from fire by ignition of highly combustible petroleum—but, as a rule, the movements of the chief rulers of the country have little effect on the normal activity of the metropolis.

This motion of a vast commercial centre is none the less subject to its own laws. Marvellous as is the clockwork regularity with which the Port proceeds in its far from noiseless way, the whole machinery is liable to sudden stoppage from the most untoward cause.

Mercantile Calcutta, whose life is independent of the neighbourhood or distance of the great Powers that be, may be prostrated in a moment by the most trivial circumstance. This has been abundantly illustrated during this very week. The whole trade, external and internal, of the chief *entrepôt* of this vast Empire has been paralysed from, to all appearance, an inadequate cause—by a most insignificant enemy. Faint symptoms of the coming event might perhaps have been discerned from the very commencement of the week, but nobody took heed on Monday—nobody would believe that anything might be the matter. On the following day, there is no longer room for illusion. All on a sudden, Calcutta awoke to the consciousness that there was no work for its hands. Commerce is no doubt a matter of pence—of pound shilling and pence if you will—but it is primarily a matter of merchandise, of the exchange of goods, on a large scale, such scale differentiating it from the humbler retail trade of shopkeeper, pedler or hawker. This implies the passage of goods from place to place and point to point, from port to port and city to city, from country to town, from warehouse to wharf, from jetty to warehouse, from store to store. The extent and intensity of this carrying activity is usually a fair index to the mercantile status of a place. The proportions of business determine the proportions of the transport agency: the greater the commerce the greater the energies expended in, and the larger the arrangements necessary for, the conveyance and removal of merchandise and goods. The enormous traffic of Calcutta came to an enforced halt on Tuesday, from failure of the usual transport. The mills worked with the raw produce in hand or in store, but there was no replenishing their stocks and no issuing out of the manufactured or baled articles. The counting-houses might have as well shut up shop. There were certainly no transactions for immediate delivery, for no delivery could be made or taken. Merchandise had, all of a sudden, become a fixture as it were. Goods remained undisturbed in the warehouse, or neglected on the wharf, or exposed on the railway stations. Boats, as before, continued pouring in down the river from the country at large, but the consignees were not prepared to relieve them of their cargoes, so that the unsightly craft continued, in ever increasing numbers, to block the bank at the landing-places. Ships too sailed up to the harbour as before, unconscious of the state of things at the port, and they succeeded in emptying their cargo, but they could not do much business in the way of reloading. The cargoes they emptied lay crowding the wharves and jetties, uncalled for, for want of carting. That was the difficulty all round. For want of carting, merchandise was stationary throughout the great city. Goods were there in plenty, and there was demand, but no means of local transit on land beyond the imperfect, utterly inadequate and highly costly service of the shoulders of the weak porters and navvies of India—the *coolies*. Merchants were ready to sell and merchants and others to purchase and brokers to negotiate, but only time bargains could be made. The regular transactions for prompt delivery were, in the absence of the necessary carrying agency, simply out of the question. Everything was ready for business as usual, but transport. There was no carting. No carts were to be had for love or money. And for want of this trifling element, the vast traffic of the town in merchandise and goods of weight, had come to a stand-still. The repulsive antediluvian vehicles, rude-

ly constructed of bamboo, yoked for the most part to the weak diminutive bullocks of the plain, egged on by merciless brutes disgracing the name of Hindu and Mussulman, which on week days met you at every turn in the "city," dragging their slow length along as they squeaked through the streets, or blocking up your way, no longer obtruded on your sight or stood in your path. They had all vanished, or nearly all. There was no business to speak of in the business quarter. The great thoroughfares were deserted.

The City's voice itself is soft, like Solitude's.

The carters had struck work, in fact. They had vowed by Ganga and Prophet not to ply. It was an organised combination, and "rattening" and "boycotting" and other features of similar movements in the West showed themselves from the beginning. Like Western strikers, they were doubtful of the good faith or firmness of their fellows and suspected each other's avarice. They checked one another. Having plenty of leisure, they strolled about the streets to see the fun of their puny selves, by mere force of union, reducing the great capital to inaction and hourly loss. If any of their fellow-strikers, lured by gain, was found with his cart in the street, he was seized and chastised and obliged to beat a retreat. But they went farther. They coerced also carters not belonging to their association.

The cause of this phenomenon is a firm under the style of Sykes & Co. The name is English or rather Scotch, and, we believe, there is a person bearing it connected with it, but the abbreviative "Co." is a linguistic convenience which may contain and cover a good deal and persons of sorts and different ethnologic groups. One Hindu gentleman at least has been named in the Prospectus as Managing Director of the particular business which has caused all the row, in the person of our rising patriot of Burra Bazaar, Baboo Jagannath Khannah. Messrs. Sykes and Khannah have been immortalised by this untoward event. Immortality is immortality, though only cartmen give it. The fierce light that has, for the whole of this week, beat on these gentlemen must be very unpleasant to them, as the correspondence of Messrs. Sykes and Co., in the newspapers, plainly shows. But that is a momentary inconvenience. The strike will pass away. It is already gone. Yet one thing will remain—the tradition that Mr. Sykes and Mr. Khannah were the heroes of the memorable Calcutta week ending the 30th June 1889. Many men, in times ancient as well as modern, have done desperate deeds to secure such a guerdon, and if our fellow-citizens have won it unwittingly, they may well congratulate themselves on their luck at having secured a bargain—without proposing. But if they did not pay for their fame before, they have paid enough after the event. For weeks they stood a cross fire of distrust and suspicion, from friends as well as strangers. For days they have been the best abused men in the country. And such abuse! The cartmen will any day take a double first class in the university of Billingsgate, and when a sense of wrong gives edge to their eloquence they are simply inimitable—even by the most famous Parsee school-boys.

It is curious to note that, when the prospect was darkest, our Anglo-Indian contemporaries took care to push their own countryman into the background and draw the Baboo in the unlucky business into prominence. At first, it was recommended as a European concern. For long, the story was of British originality and enterprize. But when the

thing came to an unexpected crash, it suddenly became all a Baboo business, and poor Baboo Jagannath Khannah was given up as scapegoat to appease the irritation of the European mercantile community and a victim to the fury of the cartmen! But the Baboo had long since washed his hands of the matter. As early as the 29th May, when the Port Commissioners sat on the application of Messrs. Sykes and Co.—and verily they sat upon it—the Managing Director Mr. Khannah, as one of the Commissioners, we understand, shared in the sitting in every sense. He had withdrawn himself from the project and was free to vote against it so far as the Port Trust was concerned. Mr. Sykes, however, in justice to the brave man it must be said, never flinched, never despaired. He stuck to his guns to the last and fought like a hero, prudent and wary to be sure, but always himself—the projector true to his love. He scarcely bowed to the storm, he simply parried it. Elastic as steel, he never bent under it. Would that he might yet obtain the fitting reward of such faith under difficulties in ultimate success!

Mr. Sykes, or whoever is the guiding genius of Messrs. Sykes & Co., is no doubt a wise man in his generation, a canny Scot ever on the *qui vive* to become rich, if not exactly at the expense of his neighbours in the worse sense, certainly by using them to his purposes. Such men, if not dangerous, are not very amiable perhaps. This gentleman is a fertile schemer. He is a mercantile Abbé Sièyes, his pockets as full of plans for money-making as the Frenchman's was of constitutions! If his one scheme miscarries, he is ready with another. If one business will not go down with the public or the parties aimed at, why, never mind—he has lots of other businesses which may prove more agreeable. He is no visionary, however. He dreams no New Atlantis or old Platonic Republic in commerce—no South Sea or Mississippi Bubble, but works out modest workable work-day plans. Thus, before seeing his first project well-established—perhaps in consequence of his suspicions as to its ultimate collapse—he came out with another—Sykes and Co. tendering to the municipality to discharge its functions in regard to weights and measures as laid down by law. Although a municipal sub-committee have decided against the application, the mental resourcefulness of the applicant is worthy of all respect. Messrs. Sykes and Co. have put some ideas into the heads of the Corporation which they may hereafter put to use. There is little doubt that the Company would have carried out the provisions of the law better than the Corporation. The worst that may be said of the Sykes' projects is that they all involve a recognition of the principle of monopoly, and there has grown in these days a superstitious horror of Monopoly, Protection, Centralization, and such other bugbears.

Some four months since, in view of the difficulties in the local transit of goods at this port and within the Calcutta district, from the unreliability of carters, Messrs. Sykes & Co. launched a project for starting a cart agency. Here is the cream of their Prospectus dated the 1st March last:—

"It is proposed to offer to the public the services of an agency, to be worked under the direct supervision and at the Office of Messrs. Sykes and Co., No. 1 Grant's Lane, Calcutta, a very central position, with a picked staff of European and Native Overseers and Assistants, which, by registering the carts that will be allowed to ply under the control, and with the tickets of the agency, together with the residences and homes, and descriptive roll of owners and carters, with other particulars that will much facilitate detection in the case of frauds, and by a system of strict supervision and close and constant control,

render such frauds almost impossible, will offer exceptional advantages to the public, without any enhancement of the rates at present obtaining for the cartage of goods.

The expenses and remuneration of the agency will be provided for by a registration fee, which the carters will be only too glad to pay."

Here was as neat a plan as ever was conceived of reaping a harvest of rupees without sowing any capital. Who says there are no more openings in this used up crowded world of the fag end of the nineteenth century? There are possibilities to genius still. Here is Mr. Sykes, who, in this year of barrenness 1889, with the point of his pen, carves out a neat little ultimate nett income of some Rs. 1,00,000 per annum. But it is not by any means a disgraceful or illegitimate project. The whole is above-board. Even as regards capital, they have, without counting the title for the unavoidable preliminary expenses, made a previous outlay of the coin of their brain—surely as well entitled to respect as inscribed gold and silver pieces. Yet, it was this absence of pecuniary bottom in the project which has not only, in the long run, prejudiced it with the vulgar, who can think of only one species of property and source of influence, but also finally led to its collapse.

Notwithstanding the drawback, the thing took wonderfully. Sykes and Co. are not only clever schemers but apparently plausible palaverers. The dear Major of the Eastern Bengal State line, early hugged the Sykes dragnet to his bosom. The other Railways followed suit. The European merchants, with two notable exceptions, all promised support. Burra Bazar is Khannahjee's own. The great Ralli Brothers and Graham & Co. held out, but the Sykes are presumably clever men of business and Khannah is a favorite of Luck and Sir Alex. Wilson, and they succeeded in securing the rest of the port. The game was now, as good as in their hand.

They now set to carry out their programme. They did not throw themselves like griffs into the midst of the ignorant carters. They rather sought their guild Presidents. But, above and before all, they entertained the services of some dismissed European Police officers and some native ones too, and secured the interest of a veteran European who has weathered many vicissitudes in the same department, by giving employment to his son who lives with him on the Police premises. It was on the services of these men, doubtless that the proprietors of this carrying agency depended for the success of the project. Thus prepared, they commenced work a few days ago. But alas!

The best laid schemes of Scot and mouse  
Might go agley;

somehow.

Soon it became apparent that it will not do—that way, at any rate. With all their deep-laid programme of operations and astute tactics, between their secret allies in the Police and their open servants who are now out of it but still carry such knowledge and prestige as belong to those who once flourished the dreaded baton, they could not register more than the veriest fraction of the cartmen plying in the city. They gave away, we believe, some three thousand tickets, but, from the complaints of some of the cartmen in the Police Court, it may be doubted whether all these tickets were quite willingly accepted. Neither their ex-Police nor their in-Police succeeded. They probably did more harm than good.

The activity and, doubtless, misdirected zeal of Sykes agents led the carters to put their heads together. Soon their unsophisticated understandings

came to the conclusion that they were being victimised by a great conspiracy of the dominant race, presumably under patronage of the State. The firm is a European one and, though a native is put forward as the Managing Director of the new Cart Agency, they well knew that Baboos have ever been the ready tools of European oppression. *Company* is a familiar word to them in the designation of mercantile houses, but the tradition of the East India Company still flourishes in the country, and they are apt to associate the idea of Government with the term. They are not sure that all Companies are not so many concerns of the State. So, what with Mr. Sykes in the character of a Company Bahadoor, what with a lot of men, once in the service of Government in the dreaded department of the Police, who might, for anything that the people in general knew to the contrary, be in it still, what with the active sympathy of the Police Stations and of men undoubtedly in the Police, the poor ignorant carters may be pardoned if they came to regard themselves as having incurred the evil eye of the great British *Sirkar*, or at least of a lesser *Sirkar* similar to the municipality. If they had had any doubt, that was probably dissipated by the registration to which they were invited and the tickets given them. They know the ominous import of the word. Registration is always an authoritative process, and it means cash out of pocket of the poor. They would have none of it.

It is true this Company offered them advantages. But these were problematical—the new taxation is real and certain. They already get employment without difficulty whenever there is a demand. What could Sykes & Co. do more for them? they argued. But Sykes & Co. proposed to mulct them of two pice or half anna in every Rupee they earned or about three per cent. on their gross earnings. As the true wages of the more prosperous of them are no more than six annas in the Rupee (16 annas) the tax is naturally regarded as one of half an anna in six annas or about 8 per cent. on income. All are not prosperous, however, and upon them it must fall with peculiar severity.

So they struck as the best way of demonstrating the grievances of the poor and ignorant. They doubtless applied a little coercion to some miserable poltroons or traitors of their class, but, on the whole, they behaved with remarkable moderation. They molested not any one outside their calling.

In their difficulty, the merchants repudiated Sykes. Some of the more knowing had backed out of their countenance earlier, so soon as they realised the fun of making bricks without straw and coining money without gold or silver or even copper which Sykes had planned. They all flocked to the Police office for help in extricating them. The Commissioner recognised the gravity of the situation and proclaimed to the city that the carters are free to join Sykes' Agency or not as they choose, and directed his subordinates to tell the men accordingly. He proceeded himself to Chitpore, whence most of the carts issue, to reassure, and reason with, the men. They were open to reason, but then the Police again interfered. The fact is, Mr. Lambert is master of a divided camp. While the Ballards and others pulled in favour of Sykes, there were others pulling against them. These were the numerous Police officers and men who own carts, and they naturally clung to the opportunity to embitter the cartmen against the authors of the new danger to the old business. That, we believe, is the reason why, after agreeing, on

Thursday, to end the strike, the men still did not come out the next day in the numbers that might be expected.

But the strike is over and no mistake. Today, the town is again as lively as ever. The four days' suspension of traffic would never have occurred had the merchants known what they were about when they embraced the Sykes game. It might have been avoided even if the Port Commission had not been a Star Chamber. Was the Poet of Hope thinking of Calcutta when he sang—

They hate the light because their deeds are dark?

#### THE LATE RAJINDER DUTT.

AMONG the papers of the deceased gentleman which have come to our hands, is a most interesting letter from one of his numerous American friends. It deals with the American society of a bygone generation. It is not without some literary merit, and hits off the different characters and characteristics that came under the writer's observation with spirit. Believing that most of the gentlemen, including the writer himself, are dead, we have, after much hesitation, decided to publish the epistle. The writer belongs to one of the first families in the United States.

"Boston, June 28, 1867.

My dear Rajinder Baboo,—Time rolls back a good many years—for the moment—as my pen shapes the old familiar words with which I was accustomed to begin my letters to you. Though numerous cares and some slight estrangements first interrupted and for many years stopped our correspondence, my interest in you and yours has never flagged, and I have kept myself pretty well informed of the prominent incidents which have occurred in your family. I have silently sympathised with you in your misfortunes and bereavements, in some of which I have felt myself a sharer, and I regret deeply that I have had so few opportunities to rejoice in your prosperity. I wonder what you look like now. I am a bald, grey old fellow—much older than the enclosed photographs, which were executed two years since would indicate, though I dare say those would not be recognized by you as the shadows of the rosy-cheeked, thick-haired, rustic-looking youth who has so many times shared your unstinted hospitality. Many new associations have of course sprung up for both of us in twenty years, and many of the old links of intercourse are broken, but nothing can give me more pleasure than to strive to keep bright those which still remain. My daughter, named after yours, is a buxom full grown young lady, pleasantly remembering you, not only from hearing my reminiscences of our friendship, but through the mnemonic influence of a Cashmere shawl which you sent her long long ago and which is still among her treasures. When I think of the time that has elapsed and of the limited number of my countrymen who were in Calcutta when I was there, I wonder that many of the same set so frequently cross my path to-day. "Uncle" Lewis, barring the increasing whiteness of his hair and whiskers, seems as young as ever and returns rejuvenated by every Calcutta trip. William Whitney, Steven Bullard, Geo. Silsbee and I have our summer residences on Massachusetts Bay all within the range of a single cannon shot. John Barstow luxuriates in a palatial house in Newport and shews himself occasionally on the Boston Exchange, with the air of a lazy Nabob. John Lee is in Boston what Stroud was twenty years ago in Calcutta. John Atkinson is a stout gentleman farmer looking sort of body, loving his squashes and his potatoes better than gunnies and linseed. John Booth is in my office almost daily. Something, perhaps bachelorhood, has kept him as young as when he was the supercargo of the "Cato." James Adam, lately the partner, is now the competitor of John Lee. Edward Silsbee is an art student in Munich. He left here only a few days since. Six months ago I saw my old chum, may I not say *our* old chum, Hall, at the office of Chas. Guild, now an insurance President. Hall, as you know, holds a sinecure office in London. Thurston, now a pretty old man, has gone to grass, *i. e.*, has taken a farm somewhere near Boston. Brewster is a bloated ship-broker in New York. Then there are the Baileys, the younger Will's, but my letter must read like a chapter in Genesis—with all these names. By the way, do you still keep up your theological studies? If so, I am sure from your early tendencies that you lean to the opinions of Colenso, Parker, Strauss, and Renan. It seems to me we are in a fair way to have religion kicked out of existence by logic—whether for good or ill, who of the present generation shall say? I suppose that feeble specimen of rationalism, the Rev. Mr. Dall, who has selected Calcutta as a residence as the point of greatest geographical distance from his strong-minded and disagreeable but extremely sensible wife, has just about brains enough to shake the faith of his listeners and pupils in any creed that they may hold, without providing them with a substitute.

Write me something about yourself. As for me, "Story, God bless you I have none to tell, Sir," I have a wife and two children. Excepting that my father and mother, who lived to enjoy a ripe old age, peaceful prosperous and happy, are dead; I have had no bereavements in my family. I am in the business harness, my relations being mainly with the Australasian colonies and our own Western States, doing very little to recall to my mind the coolie chorus of *Mava and anna pa-ya*, which used to enliven my bazar labours. How I used to enjoy the *paan* and the hubble-bubble, and, above all, the tiffins that Amon, the most graceful of Khansamas, used to prepare for me. I fear me much that Amon and my old bear

Golooock are under the sod long since. I wish I had even the ghosts of these fellows here, for a worse and more inefficient set of servants than we have in this country never existed. Thank your lucky stars that you have never been called upon to endure the miseries consequent upon a radical administration of a democratic form of government—but if I once get upon my favourite theme of obfurgation, politics, I shall never stop writing, and you will be so ineffectually disgusted that you will not reply to me. I was interrupted while writing the last sentence by another old Calcutta friend, Chaplin, who remembers you if you do not him. He is a prosperous merchant of Melbourne, now at home on a visit. My wife and daughter desire to be kindly remembered to you and I am as ever, My dear Raja Babu, Sincerely your Friend,

THEODORE A. NEAL.

That letter will give the present generation a better idea of the decayed and of the figure he cut thirty years back, than any literary effort of our own.

## NARAIL.

20th June, 1889.

Dighalia, a pretty little village, is only 9 miles east of Narail. The Baukana, a tributary of the Navaganga, flows past it. A strange animal has recently made its appearance in the river. It is perhaps unique of its kind, characterised by some marked peculiarities. It is some 11 feet in length, and resembles a crocodile with an addition of a sword, a cubit and a half long, projecting from its forehead. Its claws resemble human palms. If you go to the banks of the river and call aloud "shona," "shona," it is sure to rise on the surface and make straight for the banks. There it will float still for a long time and is never known to have hurt a single body. It avoids animal food, what it takes is not known to man. My informant had a dog's cub thrown at it, but our leviathan (may I call it so?) after playing with it for a length of time, let it go without doing it the least injury. It seems to be a vegetarian and, like the *Ribis* of old, seems to live on air and water with little or no food. It is very docile and inoffensive. A red streamer fluttering in the air marks on the bank the exact spot of its appearance. A crowd of 400 to 500 persons, from the puny babes sucking their mothers' breasts to the bashful bouncing lassies and the elderly matrons and from the village urchins to the stalwart youth and the wrinkled old men, all throng there daily to look on this new leviathan with evident awe. The more superstitious present it with food, especially sweet-meats, and decorate it with flowers or garlands. Many stories about it are afloat, the following being too generally related. Once upon a time a man proceeded to Kamroup (Kamiksba) to learn demonology, witchcraft, sorcery and all the branches of the black art. There, among other things, he learnt the art of metamorphosis. On his return home, he was prest hard by his ignorant friends and relatives to show them what he had learnt of the occult sciences. After he had satisfied their curiosity to a certain extent, they requested him to pass himself into the form of a new animal. He consented and charged them to scatter over him after his metamorphosis water from a certain pot which he had previously charmed with *mantra*. He, when leaving aside his human shape divine and assuming his present monster shape, so frightened the timid by-standers out of their wits, that they, in the hurry of their flight, had the pot containing the charmed water overturned, and the man has ever since been unable to cast off his present unenviable form.

CHANDU CHANDRA MISHRA.

## CONGRATULATORY ADDRESS TO THE CHIEF JUSTICE.

An address of congratulation, on his recovery from his late serious illness, was presented by the citizens of Calcutta to Sir William Comer Petheram, the Chief Justice of Bengal, at his residence, No. 43, Chowringee Road, on the 26th. There was a gathering of the representatives of the different communities. At 7-30 p. m., the Chief Justice accompanied by Mr. Justice Hill, entered the parlour when Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, stepping up to His Lordship, addressed the Chief Justice thus:—

My Lord,—My fellow citizens of Calcutta have done me the unusual honor to ask me to represent them on this joyful occasion. They have but done justice to the feelings of intense anxiety which filled every heart in this metropolis when you were passing through a terrible trial in the shape of a most dangerous ailment, and to the feelings of unspeakable joy which came later on when the announcement was made first of "danger over," then of your almost miraculous recovery—thanks to skillful medical treatment under the blessing of Providence,—I say they have but done justice to their feelings, in approaching your Lordship today with this address of congratulation which I have now the pleasure and the honor of reading for them.

Mr. R. D. Mehta next spoke on behalf of the Parsi community of Calcutta. Nawab Asghar Ali also spoke a few words as from

the Mahomedan community in the absence of Nawab Abdool Lutef who arrived late. The following is the text of the address:—

THE HON'BLE SIR WILLIAM COMER PETHERAM, Kt., Q.C.,  
CHIEF JUSTICE.

May it please your Lordship,—We, the undersigned Zemindars and citizens of Calcutta, beg to approach your Lordship with these few lines, and hope they will meet with your kind acceptance.

Nothing grieved us more than the knowledge of your having been seriously and dangerously laid on the bed of sickness. We, therefore, incessantly offered our prayers to the Throne of Mercy for your restoration to health; and that it has now been restored we rejoice, and beg leave to congratulate you. We hope that you may yet enjoy long years of health and happiness, which would be a source of joy to all your well-wishers.

We remain, my lord,

Your Lordship's obedient Servants,

Signed by: Rajah Purna Chunder Sing, of Paikpara, Kumar Sarat Chunder Sing, of Paikpara, the Hon'ble Syed Amin Hossein Khan Bahadur, c.i.e., Mr. R. D. Mehta, Nawab Mir Mahomed Ali Babus Amarendra Nath Chatterji, Gour Das Bysack, Damodhar Das Burman, Lalmadhub Mukerji, L.M.S., Harindra Narain Acharji Chowdhry, Zemindar of Muktagacha, Gopal Lal Seal, Zemindar, Colootollah, Shewbux Bogla, Jogendra Narain Acharji Chowdhry, Zemindar of Muktagacha, Syed Abdul Hossein Khan, Babus Prosad Dass Mullick, Surendra Nath Paul Chowdhry, Zemindar, Ranaghat, Bhola Nath Dhar, Zemindar, Dwarka Nath Dutt, Rai Jogodanundo Mukerji Bahadur, Babus Sri Nath Dutt, Lal Behary Bysack, Syed Abdul Sobhan Chowdhry, Zemindar of Bogra, Babus Sham Lal Mullick, Womakanta Sen, Preo Nath Ghose, Kumar Radha Prasad Roy, Babus Jiban Kissen Ghose, Annada Prosunno Mukerji, Zemindar, Gobardanga, Norendro Nath Sen, Roy Buddri Dass Mokim Bahadur, Rajah Sir Sorendra Mohun Tagore, the Hon'ble Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, c.i.e., Maharajah Raj Krishna Sing Bahadur, of Susang, Rajah Shasi Sekhaheswar Roy, of Tahirpore, Rajshahye, Babu Ashutosh Dhur, Prince Mahomed Nasirudin Hyder, Nawab Abdool Lutef Bahadur, c.i.e., Rajah Gobindo Lal Roy, Zemindar of Rungpore, Moulvi Abdul Jubbar, Babus Sri Nath Chunder, Juggarnath Khannah, Roy Kanye Lal Dev, Bahadur, c.i.e., Moulvi Mahomed Yusuf, Khan Bahadur, Babu Durgagati Banerji, Nawab Ashghar Ali Dilhar Jung, c.i.e., Nawab Syed Ahmed Ali, Babu Hem Chandra Gossami, Zemindar of Serampore, Kumar Denendro Narain Roy, Roy Girish Chandra Das Bahadur, Moulvi Serajaul-Islam, Prince Mirza Jehan Kadir Bahadur, Kumar Monindra Mullick, Kumar Debendra Mullick, Babus Hem Chandra Kar, Nunda Lal Bose, Mr. O. C. Dutt, Babus Chandi Lal Sing, Sita Nath Roy, Gonesh Chunder Chunder, Haji Nur Mahomed Jackeria, Haji Abdula Abdul Wahed, Ismail Khan Mahomed, Babu Benode Behary Mullick.

Calcutta, 26th June, 1889.

In reply the Chief Justice said that it would be difficult for him to find words to express his appreciation for the kindness expressed in the congratulations offered him. Ever since he had been in India, he had received nothing but kindness from the people. He had endeavoured to give satisfaction, and he assured them that what assisted him in doing his work was the appreciation of his endeavours expressed by the people. Coming to this country at his age, he felt a sense of diffidence in dealing with matters new to him, and the expressions of approval which had attended his endeavours were grateful to him. During his illness he was not conscious of what was going on around, but when he recovered he heard with gratitude of the sympathy expressed, not only by the native community here, but also from his friends in the North West, chief among whom were the Maharaja of Benares and the late Mr. Justice Mahmood. He thanked them with all his heart for the expressions of kindness they had uttered, and assured them that their kindness would never be forgotten.

The address was then presented to His Lordship. The gentlemen present were next introduced by Baboo Benode Behary Mullick. The Chief Justice shook hands with all, and they retired.

## Law.

### HIGH COURT.—CRIMINAL REVISIONAL JURISDICTION.

THURSDAY, JUNE 27.

(Before the Hon. Justices Beverley and Trevelyan.)  
CHARGE OF DEIFICATION ON THE PART OF THE "PIONEER."

Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee.—Your Lordship will remember the application made on behalf of Captain Hearsey against Mr. Cheney, editor of the *Pioneer*. There is nobody to show cause, and the whole thing will not take five minutes.

Trevelyan J.—If it is only a question of five minutes we will take it up, as we do not intend to take up any more cases to-day.

Mr. Bonnerjee.—Nobody appears to show cause. I shall just read the Magistrate's letter to the Registrar of this Court, which will



not take two minutes. I appear with Messrs. Handley and Ledlie. The Magistrate says this:—

17th June, 1889.

Sir,—Under the provisions of section 441 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, I have the honour to submit the following for the consideration of the Honorable Judges of the High Court. The case of the Empress v. Macleod and another, 3 I. L. R., Allahabad, 312, was cited before me to show that I had jurisdiction in the matter, and that, although the *Pioneer* is edited and published in Allahabad, where presumably the Editor and publisher reside, the fact of the newspaper being sent to Calcutta for distribution and sale is a publishing of the said journal in Calcutta. This, I apprehend, would undoubtedly be so, but it appears to me that the case of the Empress v. Macleod differs materially from the present case. In that case Dr. Hall, the complainant, was residing in Allahabad when the case was instituted, but in the present case it is not contended that Captain Hearsey, the complainant, or the Editor or publisher of the *Pioneer*, are any of them residents of this city; and I consider that it would be contrary to the public interest and most liable to cause great hardship were the complainant allowed to obtain a summons for the publication of defamatory matter at any town to which he might choose to go, no matter how far from the place where the journal was edited, and of which town neither he nor the parties sought to be made defendants, were residents. In this case the plaintiff elects not to make his application at Mussooree, where he states he resides, nor at Allahabad, for the reason stated by him. And I submit that the proper place for this application being made is Allahabad, and that the Legislature never intended that, when Courts might have concurrent jurisdiction, it should be open to choose where they might take out process at no matter what inconvenience to both defendants and witnesses. I understand the complainant's reasons for making this application in Calcutta are twofold, *viz.*, that the influence of the *Pioneer* and of Mr. George Chesney are powerful at Allahabad, and also that counsel are more easily procurable here, but these reasons could not have much weight with me, having regard to the fact that there is both a High Court and large Bar at Allahabad.

(Sd.) F. J. MARSDEN,  
Chief Presidency Magistrate."

Mr. Bonnerjee continued:—Now with regard to the questions of law on which the Magistrate has—

Trevelyan J.—I asked you on the last occasion for it, and I want to see the text of it where Captain Hearsey replies to the statements contained in the articles complained of.

Mr. Bonnerjee.—He does not deny them, in the sense that they were never true. If they were all true it would still be good defence, and yet the allegations not be necessarily a disgrace. You may speak the truth of a man, and yet the greater the truth the greater the libel.

Trevelyan J.—Does that proposition apply to civil cases as well.

Mr. Bonnerjee.—I think so, and under the Penal Code there is no difference whatever. A man may be found guilty of assault—

Trevelyan J.—You are, I suppose, referring to those railway cases at Home where there were some damages awarded for putting up notices at stations.

Mr. Bonnerjee.—Yes, and there are various other cases relating to these matters. There was a case some time ago which came before Baron Bramwell when a man was being examined as a witness. He had been convicted twenty years before that time, and he was merely giving evidence of some offence for which he was imprisoned. He had after that led a very good life, and had earned the respect of his neighbours, and every body had forgotten all about the offence which he had committed when he was a young man. I submit that the letter of the Magistrate does not show any more whatever. The Magistrate says "This, I apprehend, would

undoubtedly be so," but I submit not, and I submit that they were entitled to a summons.

Trevelyan, J.—You said you were prepared with evidence of the publication and sale of the *Pioneer* paper here.

Mr. Bonnerjee.—Oh yes, publication in the sense of the decided cases.

Trevelyan, J.—Having an office here for sale?

Mr. Bonnerjee.—Or sending to subscribers here. I think we have not to go far beyond the precincts of this very Court with regard to sending to subscribers here (Laughter).

Trevelyan, J.—As far as it appears, Mr. Marsden gives no reasons whatever.

Mr. Bonnerjee.—No, my Lord, the reasons he has given now are bad in law as I shall show. There is clearly jurisdiction, and a prosecutor can choose his own Court.

Trevelyan, J.—Yes. Is it a summons case?

Mr. Bonnerjee.—It may be a summons case or a warrant case.

Trevelyan, J.—There is a section about a Magistrate examining witnesses first of all.

Mr. Bonnerjee.—We offered to do that.

Beverley, J.—It is under Section 204, I think.

Mr. Bonnerjee.—Yes, my Lord. We applied for a summons merely in the first instance. It will be quite sufficient, my Lord. It is ordinarily a warrant case I see, but summonses may be issued in warrant cases.

Trevelyan, J.—Do you know the form of the order which we make in cases like these, where a Magistrate refuses to issue a summons?

Mr. Bonnerjee.—The order is that he do issue summons.

Trevelyan, J.—I ask the question because he is not obliged to issue it simply upon information. He may require the matter to be proved.

Mr. Bonnerjee.—We offered to prove it.

Trevelyan, J.—I know that, but still it is open to him, and he apparently refused to listen for the reason given in his explanation. You will still give him the opportunity if he requires it?

Mr. Bonnerjee.—Oh yes. This is a matter in which he is bound to exercise his jurisdiction.

Trevelyan, J.—I do not think there are any other sections.

Mr. Bonnerjee.—I do not know whether there is any difference in the procedure before Presidency Magistrates. Ordinarily you put in your complaint, the Magistrate signs it, and you get a summons as a matter of course. It is rather the exception for a Magistrate to examine the complainant.

Trevelyan, J.—As far as I know, it seems that they proceed exactly in the same way now as they have done for many years, unless the procedure has been altered.

Mr. Bonnerjee.—Yes, My Lord.

Trevelyan, J.—We think the Magistrate was wrong in refusing process in this case. The facts mentioned in the petition and affidavits, if true, give right to process against the persons charged, and the Magistrate has given an explanation which, in our opinion, affords no answer to the rule. He seems to consider the issue of processes of this kind as more or less a matter of discretion. If an offence is committed within his jurisdiction it is within the right of the person injured to apply to a Magistrate having jurisdiction to proceed against the offender wherever he may happen to reside, or whenever it may be most convenient. There is no question of convenience here at all. Of course, in making these observations, we are not in the least prejudging any questions in this case. The matter is at its first stage, and the persons proposed to be made defendants have not had an opportunity of being heard in reply to any questions. The order we make is the Magistrate be directed to take cognizance of the offence complained of by Captain Hearsey, and to deal with the matter according to the provisions of Chapters 16 and 17 of the Criminal Procedure Code.—The *Englishman*, June 28.

## A SPECIAL MEETING

OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CALCUTTA,  
WILL BE HELD IN THE TOWN HALL,  
on Thursday, the 4th July 1889, at 1 P. M.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. To receive the report of the Loans Committee regarding the allotment of the loan of five lacs.

2. To consider the expediency of applying to Government for sanction to borrow at an early date four lacs for the extension of drainage operations and ten lacs for the Extension of Water Works in the Town and Suburbs as provided for in the budget.

After the close of the Special Meeting,  
THE 4TH ORDINARY MONTHLY MEETING  
OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CALCUTTA  
WILL BE HELD

1. To consider the report of the Refuge Burning Committee that Mr. Huntington claims that the Commissioners in Meeting are bound to ratify the contract prepared by the previous Committee.

2. To consider the recommendation of the General Committee of 11th May that an Assistant Inspector on Rs. 100 a month be appointed for out-door supervision of hackney carriages, and that the Road and Conservancy Overseers and the Police Inspectors be asked to report every case of a carriage found plying for hire in an unfit state.

3. To confirm the revised rules framed for the protection of wild birds and game.

4. To confirm the proceedings of the Town Council at the Meeting held on the 30th March.

5. To confirm the proceedings of the General Committee at Meetings held on the 4th, 11th and 18th June 1889.

6. To confirm the proceedings of the Suburban Improvement Committee at Meetings held on the 3rd and 17th June 1889.

7. To confirm the proceedings of the Complaint Hearing Committee at Meetings held on the 5th and 9th June 1889.

8. To confirm the proceedings of the Water Supply Extension Committee at Meetings held on the 15th and 23rd June 1889.

9. To confirm the proceedings of the Market Committee at Meetings held on the 1st May and 19th June 1889.

10. To confirm the proceedings of the Sanitary Committee at the Meeting held on the 21st June 1889.

11. To confirm the proceedings of the Central Road Committee at Meetings held on the 5th, 13th and 20th June 1889.

12. Vital statistics for the month of May

JOHN COWIE,  
Secretary to the Corporation.

27th June 1889.



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## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From

the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract].—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because he little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. .... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1889.

} No. 381.

## CONTEMPORARY VERSE.

### THE SAVAGE OF THE PERIOD.\*

Hard was the lot of our fathers, the men of the early world,  
Beast-like, scratching the earth for a niggardly dole of her fruit,  
Wedged in the clefts of the hills, in the hollows of tree-trunks curled,  
Groping in glooms of the cave, starving on berry and root.

Shelterless, weaponless, weak, a haggard and wandering brood,  
Seared by the brand of the sun, by the whirlwind scattered and toss'd,  
Buried in drifts of the snow, whelmed by the rivers in flood,  
Flayed by the scourge of the storm, scarred by the dagger of frost.

A wretched and barbarous race, unskilled, at the mercy of all,  
In haste to escape from its foes to the hiding-place of the dead;  
Hunted of hunger and lean, whose life was a piteous crawl  
From the dark of the womb to the dark of the grave through the  
shadow of dread!

But we! we are cunning and strong, we have made all wisdom our own,  
We have mastered all arts, we have tools and raiment and roof  
overhead,  
We laugh at the shriek of the winds, we dance on the brute overthrown,  
With his skin we have clothed us about, with his flesh we are filled  
and fed.

Our fathers, the cowering men of the caves, were the cave-bear's prey;  
They fled him, we seek him; the snows with his blood, not ours, shall  
be dyed;  
We follow his tracks through the drift—ha! ha!—we spear him and slay;  
We feast on the fat of his ribs; we comfort our loins with his hide.

O marvellous progress of Man! O race of unspeakable craft!  
O strikers of Fire from the heart of the rock in a fortunate hour!  
Who have fitted the sharpened flint to the wonderful pine-wood haft—  
In the day of your weakness and want, who dreamt of the day of  
your power?

### LOSS.

SOMETHING is gone:  
I know it by this pain:  
But yesterday I had it,  
To-morrow though I bade it,  
It would not come again.

Something is gone:  
What shall we that thing call?  
A touch, a tone, that thrilled me,  
A hidden joy that filled me?  
Say, that is all.

And now 'tis gone,  
Lightly as first it came,  
The sky a little colder,  
The heart a little older,  
All else the same.

All else the same?  
O death, all-covering sea!  
Come with thy floods and drown me  
That thing I sought to crown me  
Was all the world to me

### GAIN

SOMETHING has come:  
I felt it yestereve:  
The lark on high was singing,  
The happy church-bells ringing,  
How could I grieve?

I could not grieve.  
An old man weary lay;  
I lifted up his burden,  
He blessed me, and in guerdon  
Mine slipped away.

It slipped away.  
There came a child in pain,  
I soothed it, and soon after  
A burst of April laughter  
Followed the rain.

How could I grieve?  
O blessed human heart!  
That in the joy of giving  
Hast found the bliss of living,  
Up, play thy part!

Strive, and not rest!  
Rest here below is none,  
Beneath a sky o'erarching  
The hosts of men are marching:  
Angels look on.

Yet not in dark,  
Not wholly sad thy way:  
But here in sunny meadows,  
There overcast with shadows;  
So runs our day.

A. G. B

\* Extracted from Mr. Traill's poem in *The Universal Review*.—ED.  
R. & R.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

HIS Holiness the Pope has been humbled in his own city. On the 9th June, amid great rejoicings and demonstrations, there was unveiled, in the Campo del Fiori, the very place where he was, 289 years ago, buried alive, the monument erected to Giordano Bruno—the victim of the Catholic Church. There were about 30,000 persons present. There were deputations and representatives from all parts of the country, including workmen's societies, students of the Universities and members of the Communal Councils, carrying 1,972 flags and banners. The Syndic and Aldermen of Rome and several Senators and Deputies and other notable men added by their presence to the *clat* of the occasion.

"The monument having been unveiled amid indescribable cheering and the playing of national airs by the military bands, Signor Bovio, a Radical member of the Chamber, delivered a speech in which he eulogised Bruno, declaring that he had suffered martyrdom for the defence of freethought, and had thus conferred great benefit upon the whole world. Signor Bovio referred also to the Papal question, and declared that the Papacy suffered more for that day's proceedings than the events of Sept. 20. Then, he said, it was the end of the temporal power. But that day it was the beginning of a new religion which placed liberty of conscience and freethought above all things. Signor Guiccioli, the syndic, then formally took possession of the monument on behalf of the town.

After the unveiling of the monument there was an imposing ceremony at the Capitol in memory of General Garibaldi, this opportunity being taken to commemorate his death on June 2, 1882. Signor Imbriani, a member of the Chamber, delivered an address, recalling the great courage and other virtues of the deceased."

The *Daily News* correspondent thus reports the feelings of the Pope:—

"I am informed that his Holiness is very much depressed by the day's demonstration, and his friends say that it has been one of the saddest days in his life. Only the other day the Pope declared that the actual circumstances, referring to the unveiling of the statue erected to Giordano Bruno, were sadder and more to be feared than the events of the year 1870, and he explained his meaning—namely, that at that epoch the temporal power was attacked for political and national reasons, while to-day it is, according to his Holiness, an attack against the spiritual authority, with the idea of destroying the only power left to the Papacy—namely, its moral influence. The last three days the Pope has seen no one, and no longer goes into his garden, but remains for hours absorbed in prayer in his private chapel. His court ecclesiastics, as well as laymen, have tried in vain to see his Holiness. He thanks them all, but refuses to admit anybody, begging them only to join him in prayer. Over 400 telegrams have arrived at the Vatican from abroad, deploring the commemoration."

The Clerical party in Austria highly censure the demonstration. The Bishop of Linz ordered public prayers "in expiation of the outrage" on the Pope and the Church. The Clerical *Vaterland* pronounces the *fête* worthy only of the devil.

The same day and hour that the monument was thrown open, the Association of Italian Cooks and Waiters in London, held, in their headquarters 28 Gerrard Street, Soho, a commemorative assembly in honor of the man and the occasion.

ABOUT forty Cracow students went on a visit to the picturesque Valley of Ojcoff, in Russian Poland, on the Austrian frontier. After they had crossed the boundary and made themselves jolly over Polish national songs, they were, for that offence, arrested by Russian frontier guards, and not released till after a detention of three days in prison.

RUSSIA has commenced the afforesting of Central Asia in the Samarkand district, and 60,000 dectiatines of land are being planted.

As a proof of his loyalty to Russia, the Khan of Khiva, it is said, to perpetuate the remembrance of the escape of the imperial family in the Borki railway disaster, has abolished torture in his territory. The demoralization of Central Asia under European influence has already commenced. These Tartars out and out—as distinguished from the Tartars subcutaneous their masters—seem apt pupils. They have with wonderful quickness picked up the Shams and Unveracities—the pinchbeck sentiment and disloyal loyalty and all the make-believe of civilised public life, which it has taken the princes and people of India more than a century to learn. The most bigotted Chief in Islam abolishing torture as a memorial of his personal joy at the deliverance of the Great Kafir—the hated White Tzar! What next? Will it be the Mahdi giving up polygamy or slavery to please the Archbishop of Canterbury?

A CAIRO telegram of the 27th June reports, according to advices from the Nile, that Wad-el-Njumi, at the head of the Dervishes, is nearing Wady-Halfa, and that, in consequence, another Egyptian battalion, with batteries of Artillery and a squadron of Cavalry, has been ordered to proceed to the latter place.

WE read—

"Mrs. Henry Clews' bath-room is a grotto of onyx—walls, floor, ceiling, basin, tub, all being of the sculptured stone. Distilled and perfumed waters flow at a touch; it is like a cool cave where Undines sport, and no Monte Cristo could project a thing more fanciful and costly. That of Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt is very beautiful. The walls are of mirrors, over which run painted vines of morning glory and passion flowers, forming an arbour suggestive of the bower where Venus bathed."

And they breakfast on birds of paradise's eggs, we suppose, and dine on sirloins of the unicorn, and have *entrée* of the flying-fish! It is impossible to believe they can relish the meats and wines which support ordinary humanity. It would be a libel to suggest that any one of these superfine Peris of plutocracy could elope with her father's groom or footman. They doubtless make love to the angels or the costly cupids in marble all about them in their houses.

HERR Highness Princess Victoria Louise Sophie Augusta Amélie Helena of Schleswig-Holstein and Her Serene Highness Princess Victoria Mary Augusta Louise Olga Pauline Claudine Agnes of Teck have been admitted to the Imperial Order of the Crown of India.

THE Hon'ble P. Nolan takes three months' leave, Mr. C. E. Buckland, from the Board, officiates for him as Revenue, General and Statistical Secretary to the Bengal Government, Mr. C. W. Bolton, from Alipore, acting as Secretary to the Board and Mr. F. R. S. Collier, from Shahabad, being appointed as Magistrate and Collector of the 24-Pergas.

THE Secretariat Clerical Service Examinations—Upper and Lower Divisions—will be held not simultaneously but at different times, so as to enable those who fail in the Upper to appear in the Lower Examination, of course, on payment of the fees.

THE Great Eastern Hotel Co. sued, in the Calcutta High Court, Dewan Luchmundas of Cashmere for Rs. 2,725-8 for goods sold and delivered. The ex-Dewan made many promises of payment but no money was forthcoming. The suit was undefended, and Mr. Justice Norris decreed the suit with costs on scale No. 1. The same Judge has admitted another plaint in which Messrs. Dykes & Co. sue the same Dewan for Rs. 2,440.

THE prosecution of the *Garib* ended in an apology from the defendant, but the *Dacca Gazette* holds out still. The prosecution against it has closed. The witnesses to prove malice would not appear though warrants were out against them. Charges were framed and the plea of not guilty has been entered. The case stands adjourned to the 11th for evidence of the defence.

MESSRS. Field and Tuer, the antique printers and publishers, have issued *The Hieroglyphic Bible*. It has not been discovered among the excavations in Egypt, nor is it inscribed in the ancient picture-writing of that country, having descended to them from an older duct of bibliopasts. In the early years of the century, some ingenious people invented a plan of translating the Bible into pictures—a very different thing from illustrating it. Of course, to turn the whole Scriptures into this kind of business would fill a large library, so selected passages only were subjected to this process. This was done by Messrs. Dean and Munday, in 1819, in their *Hieroglyphic Bible*. Even they could lay no claim to originality, having drawn their inspiration from the old *Biblia Pauperum*. And now Field and Tuer have reprinted the work of 1819. It is a quaintly got up curious publication, in which the substantives of selected passages from the Scriptures are expressed by quaint cuts to which a key is subjoined. The object of this Biblical puzzle is to put boys on their mettle to recognise the text and understand the meaning. It is doubtless hoped that, in a country possessing a great deal of superfluous wealth—where large numbers of people move about from place to place or drink and gamble away, or purchase broken bits of old China, or collect old postage stamps of different countries, or hunt after the hair of notable persons, for want of a better occupation—there will be a good demand for this curiosity.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

LORD SALISBURY, in reply to a question, informed the House of Lords that the Porte had denied the outrages said to have been committed by Mahomedans on Christians in Armenia. Several Armenians have been arrested at Erzeroum, on suspicion, for plotting against the Turkish Government.

It is expected that the Delagoa Railway question will be referred to arbitration.

It has been proposed to divert a portion of the fund of the Imperial Institute in the establishment of schools in modern languages in connection with the University and King's Colleges in London.

The British are engaged in the congenial occupation of honising their Persian cat. The Shah has arrived in England. The Prince of Wales received him at Gravesend on the 1st. They next steamed to the Speaker's Steps, Westminster Bridge, where they landed and then drove amid the cheers of an enthusiastic crowd to Buckingham Palace, where the Princess of Wales and her daughters welcomed the Shah. On the 2nd, Her Majesty's Ministers paid His Majesty a formal visit and the royal visitor lunched with the Queen at Windsor. The next day, the Shah was entertained by the Lord Mayor at the Guildhall and presented with the Freedom of the City, followed by a *déjeuner*. In reply to the address of the Corporation, His Majesty said that he was greatly impressed with the reception given him by the people of London, that he held the friendship, power and industry of England in the highest esteem, and that he hoped his present visit would be the commencement of a new era between the two Governments. At the *déjeuner*, England's Premier reciprocated the good feelings of the Shah. Lord Salisbury hoped that Persia would remain prosperous and strong. He asked for England no exclusive privilege in Persia but only freedom of trade. On behalf of the people of England, the Premier offered the friendship which would not end in a war but lead to conquests by enterprise and industry. The city was decorated, but the weather marred the brilliance of the scene. The Shah was not forgetful of Mr. Gladstone. On the 4th, he received in audience the members of Mr. Gladstone's last Cabinet. The same day Mr. Dadabhai Nowrojee presented the Shah with an address from the Parsees thanking His Majesty for the improved condition of the Zoroastrians in Persia, and received in reply the royal assurance that he was their protector and that he greatly liked the Parsees. In the evening, the Shah was sumptuously entertained by Mr. Reuben Sassoon at the Empire Theatre. The Prince and Princess of Wales and family and other distinguished personages were present.

Stirring news comes from Egypt. Lieutenant-Colonel Wodehouse opposed, on Sunday night, the advance, at the head of one thousand foot, two hundred horse and six guns, of Wad-el-Njuni and met and routed the Dervishes near Acquin. It was at first reported that two English officers were wounded, seventy Egyptians lost, five hundred of the Madhi's men killed and one of Wad-el-Njuni's guns captured. A later telegram adds that desultory fighting continued all through the 2nd with numerous casualties among British officers. Captain Mason received a bullet wound in the leg and a spear wound in the wrist. Lieutenant Cunningham was wounded, though slightly. Two more guns were captured with 50 horses. Many Madhists deserted and went over to the Egyptians. The pursuit of the Madhists was continued by Colonel Wodehouse with three Black Battalions, a squadron of Cavalry, Camel Corps and Mule Battery. Six hundred more prisoners were taken. The cavalry still kept after the remnant. The latest news is that the Dervishes are reduced to extreme distress, being kept out of the Nile and other supplies of water by the gun-boats, &c. They are mad with thirst. Colonel Wodehouse further adds that there is still a large reserve of Dervishes numbering three thousand who kept themselves away from the skirmishes during the week.

On the motion of Mr. Smith, the House of Commons have appointed a Committee to consider the messages from the Queen for provision for Prince Albert Victor of Wales and Princess Louise. They will also report what principle should be adopted in future with respect to similar grants. There was opposition of course. Mr. Labouchere could not let go the occasion without speaking out his mind as regards royalty and contended that the grants to members of the Prince of Wales's family should come out of the Civil List. Mr. Bradlaugh utilized the occasion for pressing his view with regard to

the Civil List and asked that the Committee be empowered to examine the List generally.

They have started at St. Petersburg, under Government patronage, a Company to compete with English traders in Central Asia, chiefly in Persia and Afghanistan.

MR. COLOQUHOUN has been suspended. The *Pioneer* says it is for his partiality for a particular newspaper, communicating information after he had been warned. Mr. Coloquhoun had a considerable share in the annexation of Upper Burma. In concert with Mr. Holt-Hallet he advocated a scheme of an Indo-Chinese Railway. The bait took and poor Theebaw was coolly sacrificed. Mr. Coloquhoun had his reward, in being put in charge of the Ruby Mines as Deputy Commissioner of the District. He has now doubtless repaid the confidence placed in him by the Government.

MR. JUSTICE NORRIS presented himself before the Chief Presidency Magistrate in quest of justice, and obtained a summons against the driver of a hackney-carriage for furious driving near the Mayo statue, thereby damaging the famous carriage of Justice which the Dharma Avatar was wont to drive through the Law—Courts.

But the carriage of Justice—what is that? Let not the reader be uneasy on that score. In the old French Monarchy, they had a bed of justice. It is but natural that the British who defeated the French, should improve upon their rivals and start a carriage. We for one are prepared for even a 'Bus, the strength—only numerical—of the High Court Bench furnishing enough material for the most extensive stage—coaching.

THE Chief Engineers of the first Class as such have been declared entitled to the privilege of private entrée to Government House. We are not aware of the reasons of this Home Department notification, but this we know that the right of private interview and private entrée and the privilege of the Government House are too lightly conferred now-a-days. Undesirable persons, including such as have expiated their offences against society in a House of Correction or been otherwise disgraced, are seen airing their impudence in the Palace of the Viceroy. It was time also that the Levée List should be revised.

A REPRESENTATION was made by the Commissioner of the Presidency Division to the Government of Bengal, that there are some Zemindari dak lines that are not really paying postal lines. Zemindars are made to pay salaries to postmasters and other postal staff, altogether disproportionate to the requirements, for strictly Zemindari dak purposes, but which are needed to secure men capable of doing ordinary postal work, and sufficiently trustworthy for employment in connection with money-orders, savings banks, &c. They are no doubt more efficient for Zemindari dak purposes, but they are not needed for Zemindari dak duties, and it is not fair to allot and sanction money for one purpose under a law which contemplates its being levied for another. If the Government think it reasonable to require Zemindars to contribute to the cost of the general Postal Department, in consideration of their relief from their liability under the old regulations to carry the communications between the Magistrate and the Police, when there were no regular postal lines, it is better to declare officially and formally that intention. Be it notified to all concerned that, in lieu of the old liability, Zemindars shall henceforth pay a cess at a fixed rate, to be paid along with revenue into the treasury where the revenue is paid. This rate should be uniform throughout Bengal and may be computed so as to yield the same amount that is now paid by all the districts at the present rates. That would also place the relations of Government with regard to the cess on a more satisfactory footing.

With regard to the objection to the present system on the ground that Zemindars are made to pay salaries to postmasters and others, disproportionate to the requirements for Zemindari dak purposes, the attention of the Commissioner has been drawn to Sec. 5 of Act VIII of 1882, empowering him to revise the scale of expenditure in case of extravagant estimates.

For the rest, the Government of Bengal have replied that there are not sufficient reasons to reopen the question regarding the commutation of the liability for the expenses of the Zemindari dak. Nor do we wonder. The subject occupied the attention of Government from time to time, for half a century, before the last legislation.

THE *Advocate* is in raptures over the amenities of civic life as illustrated in the meetings of the local municipality. He instances the proceedings on a Thursday towards the end of June. The Engineer of the Water Works made a casual proposition to the Board to buy up the apparatus of an electric light company at Nagpore. Munshi Newal Kishore thereupon saw the darkness of his own interior and meekly sought enlightenment as a preparative to judge the question before the meeting. He inquired the distance to which the light would travel. This call for light staggered most of those present who seemed to want it badly themselves. Mr. Mulock confessed himself as much in the dark as his friend the Munshi. An enlightened Mahomedan came to the rescue. Nawab Mehdi Ali Khan had no hesitation in saying, addressing himself to the enquiring member of the Fourth Estate, "Right up to your Press." A roar of laughter, says the local chronicler, followed this extraordinary sally of wit. Mr. Thomas, another of these famous Lucknow jesters, saw his opportunity, and joined the guffaw with the "well-meant but humorous remark" that this was the opportunity for his friend to prove his mettle by purchasing the plant of the Nagpore concern and making a heroic present of it to the city. The object of this attention was equal to it, as, it is said, a broad grin lightened up the countenance of the worthy Munshi. He was not yet let off by his fellows. At any rate, the Chairman would not close the day's sport without emptying his barrel on the prostrate carcass. As leader of the company of Municipal Jesters of Lucknow, he, doubtless with the solemnity befitting such an occasion, gave

"the finishing touches to the general fun, with the equally well-seasoned remark, 'You are a very *punya* person: there was really much *punya* in your giving your fellow-citizens the benefit of the electric light.'"

This crowning effort closed the performance. The force of wit could no farther go—even in Lucknow, the Paris of the East. We are not informed of the effect on the Munshi of this jest final, whether the aforesaid grin which brightened up his countenance, was heightened and broadened to sardonic perspective and *chiaroscuro*. At the best, the Munshi was liberal with his face only. It does not appear that the churl was a Rupee out of pocket for all his profuse grinning. Our contemporary, notwithstanding, winds up the performance with this deliberate expression of satisfaction:—

"These amenities of civic life are a pleasant feature of the local Municipal meetings."

Verily, they are not particular in Oudh!

LAST year, there were at the Alipore Reformatory School 108 boys, but the year closed with 106. That is, there were 24 new admissions and 25 were released and 1 escaped. Of the released 64, only 6 follow the trades they were taught, 9 were in jail, 1 is dead and 9 could not be traced, the remaining 45 are said to bear a good character. The question of release lately came under the consideration of Government. Towards the close of 1884, the local Government directed that all cases of juvenile offenders sentenced to imprisonment but detained in Reformatory Schools under Section 8 of Act V of 1876, who attain the age of 18 years before the expiration of their original sentences, should be reported to Government a month or two before they reach the age of 18 years. Such then continued to be the practice till Dr. Lethbridge went home on his last furlough. The Doctor was succeeded by a Civilian, and soon a notable change crept into the management of the whole Department. The Great Covenanted might come in the shoes, but was not to follow the well-beaten track, of the Little Uncovenanted. Mr. Westmacott as officiating Inspector-General considered himself competent equally with the Magistrate to exercise the authority, independently of Government, vested by Section 10 of the Act, of releasing boys on attainment of the age of 18. On his return, the permanent incumbent, finding a departure from the old practice and the express orders of Government, applied to Government, towards the end of last year, for authority to continue the new practice. The Local Government now consulted the Legal Remembrancer, and that Law Officer gave it as his opinion that "Nothing in Section 10, Act V. of 1876, authorized the unconditional release of juvenile offenders by the Magistrate or Inspector-General of Jails on their attaining 18 years, while a portion of the original sentence was still unexpired. Section 10 forbids the detention of such juveniles after they attain 18 years of age in a Reformatory School. If their sentence has still some time

to run, it should be carried out in jail. The power of unconditional release is given to the Local Government by Section 11."

The Legal Remembrancer is not so certain on the question of bringing back to prison discipline the prematurely released. He says:—

"The question as to whether those juveniles who have been improperly released can be legally re-arrested is a difficult one. I am disposed to think that there is no legal obstacle, but as a practical question there appear to be serious objections to the exercise of the power in such cases as the Inspector-General of Jails refers to."

On the strength of this opinion, the Government of India simply pronounces the practice, hitherto followed of releasing such prisoners without reference to Government, illegal, and directs the Inspector-General to report to Government a month or two before the boys reach the age of 18 years.

It would be interesting to know how many little *Budmashes*—hobble-dehays born, certainly bred up, in crime—were thus, under the régime and ruling of Mr. Westmacott, early, in hot haste, and in infringement of judicial sentences, let loose on society.

TOWARDS the end of May, the Hindus in the little Himalayan State of Mundi were overwhelmed with horror, as at the approach of the dissolution of the world, from the news that the sacred temple of Tongghur, situated on a lofty spur 9000 feet high, overlooking the upper waters of the river Beas—twenty miles off the city of Mundi—had been robbed of all its gold and silver jewellery worth at least Rs. 5,000. It only proves the ascendancy of the Iron Age. Probably, the good people of Mundi are not aware that, less than 25 years ago, the Holy of Holies, the shrine of Badrinarayan itself was despoiled of all its effects. The temple is shut up during the cold months, the Mohant and priests and every body going down to winter at the foot of the hills, leaving the God to solitary confinement with one ghee lamp burning—which, by the bye, continues to burn all the time, it is said, till the men return. On opening the door of the Great Temple, on their return, one fine summer day, what was their horror to find the whole of the valuable jewels of his Godship and the massive plate all gone! A greater surprise was reserved for the Hindu community when it was whispered that the Mohant knew more about the missing property than he pretended.

HERE, indeed, is something for candid agnosticism to ponder upon!

"Mr. Isaac Roberts, F.R.S., exhibited at the Royal Society a set of star photographs, and remarked that instead of the 350,000 stellar worlds that the astronomers of the last generation knew of, the star seekers of to-day have now discovered, in a great measure through the art of photography, no fewer than 16,000,000, with the almost perfect certainty that at least another 160,000,000 now unseen will come to view."

Photography had early increased our knowledge of the physical geography and geology of the Moon. But who could dream that this art would so indefinitely augment the sphere of our knowledge? It has already enlarged for us more than a hundred-fold God's Universe, and promises to enlarge it to an extent that passes understanding. Nor is this fresh annexation of science an addition of an unprofitable waste—a reclamation of empty space. The whole is peopled with worlds, doubtless as rich as ours or richer perhaps, whose number simply staggers the mind to contemplate. That, after all this, there should still be men of science and thought who honestly believe that such a stupendous system has no intelligent originator and sustainer is the greatest marvel of all!

A CASE of great interest in local native society, has lately been decided in the Police Court. We did not notice it hitherto for fear of prejudicing parties in a delicate contention. Even now we might have held our tongue but for the disreputable conspiracy by which it was kept out of the press. Throughout its tedious progress, not a word was reported by the exemplary purveyors to the morning papers.

Bismillah Jan, a daughter of the well-known songstress Sheereen Jan, laid a complaint in the Northern Division Magistrate's Court, in March last, against Haji Noor Mahomed, son of the late Maimon merchant Haji Zakaria Mahomed, claiming maintenance for her 4 year old son, Noor Ahmud. She alleged that Noor Mahomed had married her by *Nikah*, and the child was the offspring of that connection. The parties were represented by Messrs. Henderson and Garth. The Hon'ble Syud Ameer Hossein did not take up the case, but left it to Moulvie Abdool Jubbar. After a number of sittings and the examination of a large number of witnesses on both sides,



the Magistrate finally disposed of the case about a month ago. The Haji denied that he was legally married to her and would not admit the paternity of the child. In support of his contention, he insisted on the mother being examined in open Court, but she as stoutly claimed the rights of a Puidanasheen, and offered to give up the original claim if the Magistrate insisted on her being openly examined. After that, Moulvi Abdool Jubbar allowed her to be examined in her *palki* in Court, but he was not impressed with the proof in support of the marriage. He, however, felt no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that the child was an illegitimate issue of the defendant's house. The Moulvi in his judgment says that "the mother of the child asserts that the defendant is its father, and there is sufficient proof that he was in the habit of visiting her about the time she became pregnant. No evidence is adduced by the defence to rebut her statement that she was in his keeping \* \* \* While on the other hand, the evidence of the mother that the defendant is the father of the child is corroborated by the ocula proof which the child itself furnishes. Although the witness for the defence, Aga Mahomed Ali, says that the child resembles the defendant in thinness only, no one who has seen Haji Noor Mahomed and sees the child, can fail to observe a strong resemblance between the two. The child is in fact a miniature representation of the defendant." He accordingly directed Haji Noor Mahomed to pay Rs. 15 per month for the maintenance of his illegitimate child, Noor Ahmud. The defence objected to any order for maintenance, as the Magistrate was not satisfied that there was any marriage and the claim was not on behalf of an illegitimate child. But the Magistrate was not to be scared away by such a technical objection. The suit was a claim for maintenance and not to establish the legitimacy of the child. The secondary object no doubt was, if possible, to make the child the lawful heir of the Haji. The Magistrate's decision makes the child a distant heir though, on failure of all legal heirs, and Noor, we understand, has no direct legal descendant.

As was to be expected, a motion was made to the High Court to set aside the Magistrate's order. Messrs. Justices Beverley and Trevelyan admitted it and have called upon Bismillah Jan to shew cause why the affiliation order should not be set aside. They would not express any decided opinion at that stage. At the same time, they thought that the defendant was a competent witness, and the fact that he was not examined, went very much against him. Their Lordships issued the rule in order that the matter might be more fully discussed.

THE Lieutenant-Governor returned to Belvedere yesterday.

At their Special meeting of Thursday, the Municipal Commissioners decided to apply to Government for sanction to borrow four lacs of rupees for extension of drainage operations and ten lacs for extension of Water Works. By law, they are "required to complete and extend throughout Calcutta drainage works and open out and improve bustees," at an annual cost of not less than two lacs of rupees, to be raised by Debenture loan with the sanction of the Governor-General in Council. The Drainage system having proved a nuisance in the generation of sewage gas, the Commissioners would have been prudent to restrict themselves to the lowest sum for this particular loan enjoined by law, without hastening the completion of a work which will have to be exchanged for a more healthful disposal of the sewage of the town.

At the Ordinary meeting of the same day, the City Fathers were unaccountably prudent. They deferred the acceptance of Mr. Harrington's offer of destruction of the town refuse. They would not bind themselves to him for ten years, without more deliberation and consideration of other offers towards the same purpose. They are scarcely to be blamed for this hesitation, if it is in good faith. But it is not *bona fide*, seeing that there is no alternative scheme *in esse*. Some canny persons bent on making a cat's paw of Mr. Harrington, are staving off his contract for the purpose of fishing for rival plans *in posse*.

COLONEL NEILL, Superintendent of Works, Calcutta Division, is preparing to retire from India. He applied for special leave which the Government would not grant. He therefore goes on furlough. He has just completed the transfer of the Akia brick factory and estate to the contractor Rai Bahadur Gunga Bistu Roy, for five years, commencing from next August. The Baboo takes the same on a rental of rupees six thousand a year, and undertakes to supply the Government with 250 lacs of first class bricks in the first year, and in the subsequent

years such quantities as Government might require, at the fixed price of Rs. 8 and 4 per thousand bricks, with liberty to sell to outsiders any surplus quantity that the factory might be made to produce. He will besides pay for the use of the machinery. The Factory, we understand, has been worked to the great advantage of Government by the present Superintendent, and we hope, in accepting the offer of the Bahadur contractor, the Government does not yield to any panic of the hour. The Colonel would also like to see Government retire from the Burtakar Iron Works.

ON Wednesday, Mr. Marsden issued summonses against Mr. Chesney, the editor-in-chief, and Mr. Dare, the printer and publisher, of the *Pioneer*. He was all gracious to Mr. Rose who made the application on behalf of Captain Hearsey. He did not take any evidence as to publication in this city, but was only anxious that sufficient time was allowed to the *Pioneer* to answer the summonses which he made returnable in three weeks. It was a superfluous kindness, as Allahabad though geographically 504 miles distant, is within 24 hours by rail from Calcutta. The *Pioneer* is in hourly telegraphic communication with this capital, and must be apprised, no sooner it happens, of every action taken about itself. Captain Hearsey's case, in particular, is no surprise to it. He and his friends have been complaining ever since of the chuckle with which it related its damaging personal history of the Captain, when he was sentenced to jail, at the information of its Editor, by the Cantonment Magistrate of Allahabad. If it has any defence, it is to be presumed that it is ready with it. Still as Mr. Marsden has only followed his ordinary practice in such cases, there is nothing to be said. This preliminary tenderness will not avail in the long run. The prospect is far from pleasant for the *Pioneer* or the Press either. It is believed in well-informed circles, that the case will be committed. Mr. Marsden will hardly take the responsibility of deciding so important an issue, with the prospect of another criticism in the High Court on his proceedings. It would be well perhaps for all parties and for the liberty of the Press too, in which we are chiefly interested, that the matter went before a jury. Although wishing the justice of the law to Captain Hearsey, we are naturally inspired with sympathy for the head of our craft, Mr. Chesney. Under the best circumstances, it is most troublesome for a literary man to be involved in a lawsuit, particularly as accused of criminal libel. We are not surprised to see that the original author of all this bad blood has quietly slipped out of the country. Mr. Kipling, whom Captain Hearsey identified with the writer of the account of the Congress at Allahabad, in the *Pioneer*, in which he was first called a "brown Captain," an offence which was avenged by Captain Hearsey on the person of the Editor, making it blue, in the latter's sanctum, in the heart of the great *Pioneer* office, has placed the sets and many countries between himself and Captain Hearsey and the Law of British India. He will scarcely give the offended Captain an opportunity of getting at him, either with a whip or a summons. For more reasons than one, Mr. Kipling, we believe, is not likely to be back in this country. He is one of the few men of genius discovered of late in India, and is sure of an honorable career as a man of letters in any of the Colonies or in England.

CAPTAIN HEARSEY seems at last in luck. He has suffered so much that no one ought to grudge him a crumb of comfort when he gets it, particularly as there is no knowing who her the silver lining just now discernible in his Kismet will endure to the end of even the present chapter. Be that as it may, let him enjoy the shining hour. His case is attracting notice in England. Already his treatment in the Naini Jail at Allahabad has been brought to the notice of the Secretary of State. His friends were ready to bring the matter before Parliament, but they preferred to give Lord Cross a quiet opportunity of learning the case. Accordingly, the *Statesman* containing Captain Hearsey's letter regarding the extraordinary discipline to which Dr. Hall subjected him, was placed in his Lordship's hands. Although Lord Cross said he could not interfere until the matter came before him through the proper channel of the Government of India, it is a great advantage to Captain Hearsey that the Secretary of State is acquainted with his statement.

Meanwhile, in India, the Government of the N.W. Provinces has taken up the case and ordered an inquiry, by a special officer who will examine both parties, into the charges brought by Captain Andrew Hearsey against Dr. G. C. Hall, Superintendent of the Naini Jail.

WHILE the masses here feel the scarcity of the mango crop, Madras is over-stocked with that fruit of the season.

It must even be pleasant to be called upon to discuss the mango. But in regard to things contributory to human nourishment, the reality is better than the reflection, and even at the fag end of the season one cares more for the gastronomic discussion than the purely intellectual. Still lovers of the fruit divine will be glad to learn that an exhaustive monograph on mangoes by Mr. Maries is ready. This accomplished horticultural expert, lately in the employ of the Maharaja of Durbhunga and now in Gwalior, appears to have paid much attention to this fruit and has written a work on it. A correspondent of the *Statesman* informs the public that his manuscript is ready and now in the hands of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society. We hope there will be no unnecessary delay in putting it in the printer's hand.

Meanwhile, "Afooz"—the correspondent in question—gives the following information :—

"Malda' mangoes are known in Calcutta only as 'Fuzli,' a big coarse fruit which I certainly class as 2nd rate fruit. The history of it was given sometime ago by Mr. Reily of the Chanchal Estate, Malda. Malda mangoes of Saharanpore, Lucknow, and other gardens in Upper India are the celebrated 'Shah Pusund' (Shah's favourite), a big, irregular shaped fruit, sometimes weighing 3lbs., and I think a better fruit than Fuzli to eat. This is also common in Malda and Tirhoot. It is marked No. 18 in Mr. Maries's list and rate 2nd class. The best Malda mango is 'Gopal Bogh,' the food of the god Gopal. This is a dirty looking small fruit, spotted and specked over with black, often reddish peach on the top and a whitish bloom, it weighs about 6 to 8 ounces only. This equals the finest Afooz from Bombay. There are several varieties very much like this, but none to equal it. It is a shy bearer generally, and not known in the market. I obtained fruits from Chanchal. Other Malda's are 'Berrua Malda,' 'Gowraya Malda,' 'Kusapat,' 'Chipka Malda,' 'Kova Pahari,' 'Subza Malda,' 'Safada,' 'Mohun Bogh' or 'Ram Pershad,' 'Jhalli Bandi,' 'Lamba Budaya,' 'Dilshaz,' the four last being very late fruits. I believe all these mangoes are well known under these names in Malda, and all were planted and many bore fruit in the model plantations laid out by Mr. Maries in Durbhungah. By the way writing about these plantations it would be well if the Agri-Horticultural Society would procure grafts of all sorts of mangoes from these celebrated gardens; such collections of fruits do not exist in any other place in India. Upwards of 150 sorts of mangoes, all good ones, are there collected from all parts of the country at enormous trouble by Mr. Maries. Most of the grafts made by him were from trees landed with fruit, so that the names of the trees are correctly given."

The *Fuzli* is a fraud and a delusion.

WE are glad to notice signs of activity among the Sonar Baniyas—Savarna Vaniks or caste of gold traders. Notwithstanding the foolish contempt with which the anticommercial spirit of Hindu theocracy held them in as a caste, they must, as money scribes and bankers, have played a most important part in Hindu society. Debarred from any other career, they naturally acquired the vices of a single narrow attachment. They clung to money-making until they came to vegetate in it. They lost the better qualities of mercantile men—their very enterprise and activity, until they almost justified the reproaches of the Rishis against them. We, therefore, hail with pleasure every symptom of renaissance in this essential component of our society.

At a meeting of their castemen at the house of Raja Doorga Churn Law of this city and under his presidency, the Sonar Baniyas have deemed it "necessary to establish an Association having for its object the relief of persons suffering from poverty or incurable diseases and for educating and maintaining pauper children" of that community.

*Holloway's Ointment and Pills.*—Health's Defences. None save the strongest can with impunity pass through the sudden transitions from wet to dry, from cold to muggy weather so prevalent during the autumnal and early winter months. Influenza, bronchitis, cough, sore throat, or quinsey will attack those most watchful of their health; but they can readily arrest any of these complaints by rubbing Holloway's Ointment twice a day upon the skin over the affected parts, and by assisting its corrective action with appropriate doses of his Pills. This well-known, safe, and easy mode of treatment efficiently protects the invalid both from present and future danger without weakening or even disturbing the system in the slightest degree.

It is thoroughly and entirely a Sonar Bania movement and only Sonar Baniyas will find relief and employment in the Association. It has originated with Baboo Odit Churn Mullick, who has been at it for several years. Were it not for the selfish obstructiveness of the late Raja Rajender Mullick, the institution would long since have been a *fait accompli*. It is a queer enigma that a famous philanthropist should have prevented an unexceptionable scheme of benevolence to the members of his own tribe. And it is a fine illustration of the law of compensation, that the death of a man almost universally mourned, should be the possibility of a distinctly and eminently good work.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1889.

### THE SALE OF JUSTICE.

IF loyalty is the obligation of the subject, protection is the responsibility of the sovereign. Protection is the people's due and the Ruler's duty—protection from internal as well as external aggression. This protection is not only the only substantial ground for the people's loyalty—their duty to support the Government—but forms the only justification for taxation. The people must pay for the army and navy, the Police and the Courts, which must be employed and maintained for preserving the peace, external and internal—protecting the people from enemies without and rebels within, from civil outrage and discord—the mutual aggressions of subjects, whether arising from blood-thirstiness, hate, avarice or mere mischievousness. This is an unquestionable principle of the organization called the State—most others are subsidiary or debatable. In so far as a State performs its service as the protecting agency well, it is entitled to the attachment of the citizens composing it and obtains it. Failure, on the other hand, brings on it discredit and causes dissatisfaction, culminating, according to the degree of its ill success, in disaffection. It is only where failure is not only marked but at once habitual and systematic—that is, where it is a necessary consequence of its radical maxims and method—that such an extreme impression is imprinted on the people. The British Government in India leaves nothing to be desired in respect of the first branch of its duty of protection. Peace, external and internal, is maintained to perfection. The empire is free from foreign invasion and from risings within. Even civil disorder is well kept down. Thus the most important part of Governmental functions is thoroughly fulfilled. Then, turning to the more delicate, and very difficult, part of general civil protection, we first experience signs of weakness. Protection from outrage—specially the violence or fraud of professional offenders and leagued enemies of society, is still far from completely achieved. There has unquestionably been great progress in protection. The sense of security has been growing from the third decade of the century, but Dacoity has not yet ceased and burglary and thefts are too common. The Police is untrustworthy and inefficient. The judicial administration is full of inequalities and anomalies and obscurities and obstructions. Everything must now-a-days be done through the courts, and the courts are costly and frequently presided over by uninstructed or incompetent men. Practically precluded from deliberation, encouraged to sweep off causes as if they were so many nuisances,

commanded to make haste rather than make sure of correctness of decision, their function as a protecting agency is very indifferently discharged. And, worst of all, such justice as is dispensed is simply sold!

There is no occasion to start. We are far from accusing the judiciary of corruption, specially of the vulgar kind. That corruption of a sufficiently mean and dirty kind exists among our public officers, native and European, revenue, civil and criminal, cannot, after recent revelations in different parts of the empire, be gainsaid. But there has been a vast improvement in this respect. On the whole, the majority of them are free from the suspicion of avarice, direct or indirect. Not so the Government. We use the word *avarice* advisedly, instead of *bribery*. With corruption, the Government is not connected, nor is chargeable. Its offence is different, but nonetheless mean. There is no secrecy—nothing underhand. All is aboveboard, but not all correct. It practises extortion, though not fraudulent extortion. Its avarice is confessed, and it is legal. So much, though, the worse for the law! It makes a business of its courts—a trade of its function of giving civil protection. It uses its privilege of deciding the differences between its subjects for the purpose of making money. In fine, it sells justice by public advertisement.

It does not, to be sure, sell its decisions to the highest bidder. But it virtually does something of the kind. Its judgment-seat is securely guarded by sentinels, and there is no approaching it without a fee, more or less heavy. We do not allude to the gratification to the lictors and the myrmidons surrounding the house of justice, but to perquisite of the State which is the condition *sine que non* of a hearing. No subject is permitted to cry to the sovereign for redress from a hurt to person or credit, without this preliminary payment. A subject cannot complain of having been pounded to a jelly by a public servant, unless he is prepared to spend a Rupee at the outset. This is admitted by European philosophers to be indefensible—to the Asiatic mind it is simply atrocious. But the preliminary fee is the least part of the expense to which the suitor is, in the long run, put. The aggrieved man is not only practically forced to employ professional advocates, but every step in the progress of his complaint is attended with legal expense, without counting the illegal smart money he has to pay. In civil causes, it is far worse. The State itself levies an *ad valorem* duty on the amount of claim. Of course, the smart money is exacted on the same approved principle, while the services of professional advocates are equally costly. Besides, all the numerous petitions and pleadings and papers which have to be presented are taxed. Black-mail is levied on each such presentation. Or, shall we say, white-mail, considering that it is a charge imposed and regulated by law—whatever one might think of the justice or policy of that law? Between one impost and another, the pursuit of justice is a most costly luxury which only the very rich can possibly indulge in. To others, it is a ruinous quest. Considering the kind of article often dispensed, the game is scarcely worth the candle. To the poor, the costs are simply prohibitive.

The British Government derives a large revenue from its monopoly of deciding the disputes of its subjects. It has grown sogrey in this evil livelihood, that it scarcely suspects its own disgrace. It is bad enough to make the people as suitors pay for the machinery of justice, how much worse when a regular profit is made! It is not even a case of a little sur-

plus remaining after the payment of establishments, but an absolute and unblushing trading so as to leave the largest margin of gain. The surplus is the object, or has come to be—not the maintenance of judicial establishments or the dispensation of justice. The balance is the thing—the disbursement a secondary consideration. On principle, every pice of the stamps and fees should be expended in the improvement of the machinery of justice, increasing the salaries of the judiciary and the ministerial and other auxiliary agencies, providing better accommodation, aids and arrangements for the health and comfort of all concerned, in the shape of fine court-houses and offices and out-offices and conveniences for judges, clerks, advocates, officers, bailiffs, messengers, libraries, furniture, thermantidotes, &c. If these are thoroughly well-provided, then the clear duty of Government is to remit some of the imposts or reduce their scale. Instead, the establishments are starved and crying requirements are withheld, in order to swell the unholy surplus. The late Chief Justice of Bengal felt the enormity of the practice, and endeavoured to rouse the conscience of the State. He wrote a trenchant, well-argued minute on the subject. To convert an impecunious Government, ambitious of military enterprize, was beyond an archangel's eloquence. It would require long years of hammering to awake our rulers to the consciousness of the guilt of appropriating the proceeds of judicial taxation.

#### THE SMALL CAUSE COURT.

THE Court of Small Causes in the metropolis affords a good illustration of official ethics on Judicial Finance. Its efficiency is not only not perfect, but almost below par. It is an engine for the manufacture of judgments, and, working by steam, it succeeds in turning out the required number of the article. Under the action of a blind force, the quality is necessarily very inferior to that of the productions of conscious deliberate human volition. Hasty justice is nasty justice. It is enough if it come up to mill average. Besides rapidity of production, mill produce has the recommendation of cheapness. This Small Cause justice has not even that merit. The reason is that the suitors are taxed out of all proportion to the expenditure for their benefit. The policy is to extract as large a surplus as possible, to be diverted to the general treasury. This is not only unreasonable, but involves an aggravation of wrong. Under the circumstances, there is no excuse for imperfection of quality of the article given to the public. The surplus ought certainly to be utilised in improving the efficiency of the Court. The imperfections of a double quick procedure might, to a great extent, be obviated by enlarged first class machinery and by employing more hands and expert hands. The liabilities of quick proceedings might be reduced to a minimum by an able and well-provided judiciary, assisted by able and honest ministerial and other auxiliary agencies. A summary system specially requires the best men and appliances to work it. And in the present case there is money enough to provide the best of every kind. The public themselves who use the court pay handsomely for all possible efficiency. But a good deal of the payment, is misappropriated to the dwarfing and impoverishing of the institution.

The Calcutta Court of Small Causes is thus a profitable concern to Government, whatever the justice doled out through it to the people. The cry of the Judges, for several years past, has been that the work has

increased, that they are overworked and that they want more hands still. The Government does not find it convenient to respond to the cry in the direction suggested. Several expedients are tried, but none removes the grievance. For the true remedy is not applied—the obvious necessity of strengthening the Bench is not recognised. The Government will not slacken its grasp of the surplus. Instead of appointing additional Judges to dispose of the increased business, it adopted an artificial method of reducing the crush and relieving the judges. This was no other than to divert a great proportion of the judicial work to be made over to the executive. It was an astute measure but a retrograde one, tending to intensify the perfunctory character of summary judicature and lowering the already not very exalted credit of the Court. We allude to the change by which the head of the ministerial agency, the Registrar, was vested with judicial powers to a certain amount. Accordingly, all the pettier causes of this petty Court—the suits for sums up to Rs. 20, which form the staple—came to be dealt with by this officer. Thus, by one stroke of the pen as it were, the work of the Judges was lessened. But litigation in a growing city kept up its normal progress, and this doubtful reform failed to give permanent relief. Soon the cry for more hands was heard again. Then recourse was had to what is called the Revision system—of the famous Mr. Tom Jones of the same Court—under which one Judge took upon himself the task of finding for all the Judges their day's work. He took a survey of all the causes, postponed such of them as could be deferred, decided the ex-parte ones, leaving the other Judges free to take up only contested causes. It was a miserable expedient which contained the seeds of its own dissolution. It had no recommendation but that of novelty, and was simply impracticable. Introduced in 1887, it could not be worked for more than three months. It only added to the inconvenience of the public and retarded the stream of justice. On their visit to the Court, the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Wilson were so impressed with its absurdity, that they knocked it on the head.

In the latter end of 1886, Government addressed the Court, recommending it to reduce its establishment, if possible. Mr. Millet, the Chief Judge, replied that the establishment was poorly paid and that no hand could be spared. There was another call for reduction in 1887, when Mr. Millet was on leave and Mr. Seonce was acting Chief Judge. This was Mr. Jones's opportunity. He submitted his scheme through the Chief *pro tem*. The Government wanted the opinion of the Chief Judge and his associates. Mr. Millet had now rejoined his place, but was induced, after some hesitation, to give his partial support to parts of the plan, while Messrs. Acworth, Beeby and Sreenath Roy were opposed to any reduction. They argued that the scale of pay was already low and that a still reduced scale would only invite corruption. The matter is still under the consideration of Government, for nothing has been heard in reply yet. Meanwhile, Mr. Millet again went on furlough, preparatory it is believed to retiring, leaving the field open to the irrepressible Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones lost no time in reviving his plan. He took upon himself to inform Government that the Judges have now accepted his scheme and have already begun to act under it, vacancies being filled accordingly. Thus, Superintendent Warrant Département from Rs. 115 to Rs. 80. Head assistant Rs. 65 to Rs. 40. Other assistants from Rs. 50 to Rs. 30. Rs. 40 to

Rs. 30. Rs. 33 to Rs. 25. Rs. 30 to Rs. 25. Rs. 25 to Rs. 20 and Rs. 20 to Rs. 15. Burkundaz Rs. 7 to Rs. 6.

It must be remembered that Government has not pronounced itself one way or the other on the scheme, and yet it is being given effect to. We trust Government will inquire and ascertain for itself if this is so, and insist upon knowing the reason why.

We may here mention that the Appraiser draws Rs. 120 a month, his commission in addition averaging from Rs. 500 to Rs. 600 a month. The European bailiff's pay is Rs. 120, commission about Rs. 200. These and the European staff and Judges are not proposed to be touched, the pruning knife being applied to the native and the ill-paid staff.

A second trial was given to the Revision System. It failed as it was bound to do, as before. And now, notwithstanding repeated failures, it is again to be enforced. After the first failure, in another six months' time, one Judge and the Registrar were told off to *revise* the cases. This too was found unworkable by Mr. Millet and abandoned. The present plan is to appoint the Registrar the sole revising Judge, and to appoint a Deputy Registrar with a staff of clerks, for the Registrar's duties. This new expenditure must be met and who better suited for the sacrifice than the poor, unprotected native subordinate staff?

#### INTERMAHOMEDAN SECTARIAL FEUDS IN UPPER INDIA.

FOR some time past, there had been a great ferment in the town of Lucknow, owing to a serious dispute between the *Shi'ahs* and *Sunnis*. Both the sects claimed the right of offering their prayers in a particular mosque. There was an appeal to the authorities, and they in their usual way bungled over a difficulty capable of easy solution. The question ought to have been definitely settled. There should have been an enquiry as to the founder and foundation of the mosque—whether a Shi'ah or a Sunni—and in the absence of any positive proof to the contrary, the people of the sect of the founder should alone have been allowed to pray in it. But no, the authorities willed differently, and both the sects were left free to use the mosque for prayer. This was sure to lead to a conflict, for the Sunnis take serious exception to the form of the *Azan* (call to prayer) in vogue among the Shi'ahs, while the Shi'ahs insist upon having it. We are not well informed of the details of this quarrel, but we can unhesitatingly say that the two sects should never have been permitted to pray in the same identical mosque, as we know that, though both the sects belong to the same religion, the form of prayer of the one is highly repugnant to the other. We do not think that Protestants and Roman Catholics can be conveniently permitted to offer their prayers in the same church. The official attitude of impartial neutrality and the absence of precautionary measures on the part of the city authorities, in the beginning, led to the inevitable result. There was a bloody riot between the rival sects, in which a large number of men were seriously wounded. Numerous arrests were made by the Police, and the rioters of both the sects hauled up before the city Magistrate. The trial was long and arduous—a trial to the Magistrate himself who finally decided it on the 10th instant.

All the defendants of the Sunni sect, numbering 8, have been acquitted, while of the 13 Shi'ah defendants 4 have been acquitted and of the remaining 9, the ring-leader Ahmad Hosain, has been sentenced to 6 months' rigorous imprisonment, Asaff who had struck the Duffadar Heera Singh, to 3 months' and the rest (7) each to 2 months' hard labor. We give below a translation from the *Musheer-i-Kaisar* newspaper of Lucknow of the 19th instant, which will give some idea of the commotion caused by this dispute in that city.

"The local correspondant of the Oudh Akbbar writes:—

"Monday the 10th June was a very interesting day in the City Magistrate's Court. From 10 A.M., people began to come in groups. The City Magistrate was unusually late. The suspense that prevailed was worth seeing. The people were mustering strong on all sides.

At 10 minutes after 3 P.M., the Magistrate's carriage was seen coming. All was confusion for a time. All eyes were raised at once and impatient glances were thrown at the Magistrate to read, as it were, his thoughts in his face. Alighting from the carriage, he ordered the Court Inspector to clear the Court—the accused in the case were alone left inside the Court. Nobody was allowed even to stand in the verandah. As for the arrangements outside the court, 200 constables from the Lines were posted all round, so that nobody was allowed to move from his place. Inside the court, were on duty Baboo Sitaram and the Inspector of the Sadatgunge thanah and Niaz Muhomed Khan, Inspector of the Wazirgunge Thanah, and some other officers. Your correspondent was also present in the court. With the City Magistrate also sat Mr. Oliver, Secretary to the Municipality, and Sah Goburdhun Dass, Honorary Magistrate. The accused belonging to the Shiah party were called up first. The Court Inspector called out the names of the accused. Of these four persons were discharged, seven, *viz.*,—Nazir, Hadi, Raza Hussain, son of Ameer Ali, Chittun, Enayet-Abbas, Mehdi, and Muhomed Hussain, were sentenced, under Section 147 of the Indian Penal Code, each to two months' rigorous imprisonment. The accused Asaf, who struck Heera Singh Duffadar with a stick, was ordered three months' hard labour. Ahmud Hussain, the ring-leader of the Shiah party, was sentenced to six months' hard labour. They were handcuffed in the presence of the Magistrate and removed to the jail. About 3.30 P.M., the Court Inspector read out the names of the accused of the Sunni party who were placed before the magistrate. His worship discharged all of them, eight in number, and told them to go to their respective homes without making any noise. The people—belonging to both the parties—present at the time the case was going on, numbered about 5,000 or 6,000. The Sunnis in large numbers went to the "durga" of Shah Minah Saheb, to offer prayers of gratitude, and from thence they went to their homes quietly. At that time, the police were stationed here and there, lest, elated with their success and discomfiture of their enemies and fired with an unconquerable zeal, they did any mischief. Now the case has come to an end. Nobody was allowed bail till the evening. On the 11th, they were removed to the sudder jail."

This is not only a lamentable business but a sufficiently serious one. We trust the Government of the North-Western Provinces will take the matter up in earnest. It is not one to be left to the tender mercies of the local bureaucracy. It is never safe to allow tribes or classes or other bodies of people to settle their differences by force. The practice quickly grows into a habit—the contagion is apt to spread from man to man, from class to class. Even in Bengal or Madras, such things are demoralising. How much more so in more martial countries! The recruiting ground of Northern India is about the last place where they could be permitted. It is bad enough when Hindus and Mahomedans fall out, but when Mahomedans meet Mahomedans then comes the tug of war. These religious feuds are no new phenomenon in Oudh. They have ever been the bane of the Province inhabited by Hindus and a large Sunni population ruled by a bigotted Shiah Court. They specially disgraced the weak *régime* of the last King. Ordinarily, the Hindus put up with much inconvenience and injustice. If the Sunni subjects were disposed to be accommodating, the Pathan mercenaries from Central Asia were always ready to resent any offence. The streets of Lucknow were from time to time drenched with blood from the fights between the Candaharis and the Shiahs. Happily, under the strong arm and impartiality of the British, such things have been suppressed, and the lion and the lamb drink peacefully of the same fountain.

We are confident that Government will not permit their revival. But what a commentary are they on the amiable visions of an elected legislature in the immediate future in our unhappy land!

#### JESSORE DISTRICT.

*Narail, 5th July, 1889.*

Owing to the incessant showers of rain, the price of rice, which had decreased to Rs. 3, has again risen to Rs. 3-4. The Rabi crop also does not promise well. The public health is good.

A petition was lately sent to the Government, praying to put some check upon the alleged tyranny of Mr. Shelvey, an indigo-planter of Nawahatta, over the poor rayyets of the village. Our Sub-Divisional Officer went down to the place to enquire into the validity of the charges brought against the gentleman. The *Sanjibani* has appointed Baboo K. S. Sukul, Principal, to investigate the matter. We have the highest opinion of Mr. Shelvey, and hope the charges will be found groundless.

## Public Paper.

### RESOLUTION.

The further experience that has been gained in the management of the Forest School, and in the instruction afforded at that institution, has rendered some modifications necessary in the Memorandum of Conditions promulgated with the Circular Resolutions [of the Government of India, in the Revenue and Agricultural Department (Forests) No. 12-F., dated 30th May 1887, and No. 19-F., dated 27th September 1887.] The Governor-General in Council is, therefore, pleased to prescribe for adoption in future the following "Prospectus of the Imperial Forest School, Dehra Dun," in supersession of that Memorandum:—

#### *Prospectus of the Imperial Forest School, Dehra Dun.*

There are three Courses—one in English, for candidates for the Ranger's Certificate; a second in Hindustani, for candidates for the Forester's Certificate; and a third and higher Course for candidates for the Sub-Assistant's Certificate.

#### 2. Three classes of students are admissible:—

- (1) Government students.
- (2) Students from Native States.
- (3) Private students.

#### ADMISSION OF GOVERNMENT STUDENTS.

##### *To the Ranger's Course.*

3. Government students may be selected by Conservators of Forests, acting under such orders as may from time to time be given by the Local Government or Administration concerned. Such students usually receive a Government stipend.

4. Students must, on admission to the School, be not less than 18 or more than 25 years of age. Exceptions to this rule require the previous sanction of the Government of India. Each candidate must furnish a certificate of sound health, good vision and hearing, from the Civil Surgeon of the station nearest to his place of residence.

5. It is the duty of the officer who selects the candidate to satisfy himself that he is of good moral character and active habits; also that he possesses fair powers of observation, sense of locality, and such other qualifications as are necessary for an officer of the Executive Staff of the Forest Department.

6. For the above purpose, candidates may, before presenting themselves at the Entrance Examination, be required to prove their fitness for Forest work by service in the Subordinate Staff of the Department, either permanent or temporary, for a period of twelve months. Exceptions to this rule require the previous sanction of the Local Government.

7. Candidates for admission to the Ranger's Course must pass before an Officer of the School, or before a Conservator of Forests (or such other Officer as the Local Government may appoint to represent him), an Entrance Examination in the following subjects, *viz.*:—

- English—composition and conversation.
- Arithmetic.
- Algebra—up to and including quadratic equations.
- Elementary Plane Geometry.
- Mensuration—lengths, area, and volume.

Conservators of Forests, including the Forest Officers of Coorg and Ajmere, are required to despatch to the Director, on the 15th March in each year, an application for the number of sets of examination papers to be sent to them for the candidates of their respective Circles, or an intimation that no such papers are required. The examination papers will be forwarded from the Director's office, under sealed cover, not later than the 15th of the following month.

The examinations will be held simultaneously throughout India on dates, between the 15th and the 25th May, fixed by the Director or at the time that the examination papers are sent out. Examinations held on dates other than those thus fixed by him are treated as invalid. The candidates' written answers will, after countersignature (with date) by the Officer presiding at the examination, be returned in a sealed cover to the Deputy Director of the School. The Director will subsequently inform Conservators of the result of the examination.

##### *To the Forester's Course.*

8. Candidates for admission to the Forester's Course may be similarly selected; but, in lieu of passing the Entrance Examination laid down in paragraph 7, must furnish a certificate of having passed the Middle Class Examination in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, or an equivalent standard in another Province, as well as a certificate that they possess a competent knowledge of Urdu or Hindi.

##### *To the Sub-Assistant's Course.*

9. Candidates for admission to the Sub-Assistant's Course may be selected in the same manner as candidates for the Ranger's Course, and must satisfy the conditions required by paragraphs 3 to 5

for Ranger candidates. Unless they are University graduates in Arts, Science, or Engineering, they must pass an Entrance Examination in the following subjects, *viz.* :-

English---composition and conversation.

Arithmetic.

Algebra---up to and including quadratic equations, the binomial theorem, progressions, permutations and combinations, simple and compound interest, annuities.

Elementary Plane Geometry.

Plane Trigonometry---up to and including the solution of triangles.

Mensuration---Lengths, areas, and volumes.

Elementary Statics---composition and resolution of forces, moments, and the mechanical powers.

#### ADMISSION OF STUDENTS WHO ARE ALREADY FOREST RANGERS.

10. Forest Rangers who may be sent to the School in order to qualify themselves for further advancement either to the higher grades of Rangers, or to the class of Sub-Assistant Conservator, may be above the age laid down in paragraph 4, and are not required to furnish the medical certificate prescribed in that paragraph. They must, as a general rule, pass the Entrance Examination for admission to the Ranger's or the Sub-Assistant's Course, as the case may be; but in exceptional cases they may be admitted without passing that Examination, if the Conservator of Forests under whom they are serving can satisfy the Director of their ability to profit sufficiently by the instruction given at the School.

#### ADMISSION OF STUDENTS FROM NATIVE STATES.

11. Candidates from Native States must apply, through the Darbar, either to the Director or to a Conservator of Forests. The conditions for their admission are similar to those laid down for Government students. Compliance with paragraph 6 is, however, not insisted on; but it is considered desirable to depute candidates for one year's practical work under a British Conservator of Forests, prior to their joining the School.

#### ADMISSION OF PRIVATE STUDENTS.

12. Private persons, who may desire to join the classes, must apply for admission through a Conservator of Forests of the Province in which they reside, and must otherwise comply with the rules.

13. Private students must supply their own note-books and stationery. Books from the book-depôt are supplied to them on cash payment only. Breakages and damages of School property must be paid for at once. As security for the due fulfilment of this condition, each private student, on entering the School, is required to deposit a sum of Rs. 50 with the Director, the balance of which will be returned to him when he leaves.

14. Private students must, during their stay at the School, defray their own expenses, including the cost of travelling. Fees are not at present charged.

#### GENERAL RULES.

15. Candidates admitted to the School must join at Dehra Dun on the 25th June next after the date of their passing the Entrance Examination.

16. The Courses of training extend over 21 months, the time being spent as follows :--

1st July---31st October	...	At Dehra.
1st November---22nd December	...	In camp.
23rd December---5th January	...	Vacation.
6th January---31st May	...	In camp.
June	...	Vacation.

17. At the close of the Course of instruction, successful students will receive a Ranger's, Forester's, or Sub-Assistant's Certificate, as the case may be. Students of special merit may be granted certificates with Honours. Students of the Ranger's Course who fail to obtain the Ranger's Certificate, may be granted the Forester's Certificate; and, similarly, students of the Sub-Assistant's Course who fail to obtain the Sub-Assistant's Certificate, may be granted the Ranger's Certificate.

18. Students who have completed their Course leave the School at the end of March; but any student who has failed to obtain his certificate may, at the discretion of the Director, and with the sanction of the Local Government or Darbar, be retained for re-examination in June, or to complete another full year's course of instruction. Conservators of Forests whose students are about to undergo their final examinations are required to inform the Director, before the end of February in each year, as to the place to which each student on leaving the School is required to go, and as to the amount of the advance, if any which may be given to enable him to reach it.

19. The average *minimum* monthly cost of living at the School is calculated to be as follows, *viz.* :--

		Rs.
For students living in {	Ranger's Class	...
	Forester's Class	...
the Native style ... {	Sub-Assistant's Class	...

For students living in { Ranger's and Forester's Classes ... 38  
the European style... { Sub-Assistant's Class ... 58

The above figures include the cost of food, ordinary clothes, uniform, rent, books, and instruments. The expenses of travelling and camping of the year are calculated to come to something like an additional Rs. 4 per mensem for each of the two first-named classes, Rs. 7 for each of the next two classes, and Rs. 10 for the last class. The ordinary travelling allowances admissible to Government students who are in receipt of the above stipends will cover these expenses.

20. All Government students below the rank of Forest Ranger must, unless otherwise permitted by special order of the Director, live in the School quarters, if rooms therein are available. The rent charged varies from Rs. 6 to Rs. 18 per annum, according to salary. Private students may be given quarters on the same terms.

21. During the Course of instruction, the Director will furnish Conservators, or Darbars of Native States, with monthly reports on the character, application, and progress of the students sent by them to the School.

22. Students are liable to the following punishments :--

- (1) Reprimand by the Teacher in class.
- (2) Reprimand by the Director or the Deputy Director at any time.
- (3) Reprimand before a Meeting, convened by the Director, of not less than three School Officers, one of whom must be either the Director or the Deputy Director. The proceedings of the Meeting will be reported to the Conservator or Native State deputing the student, and, if the Meeting so decides, a note of them will be made on his final Certificate.
- (4) The Director, acting with the consensus of the Meeting referred to under (3), has power to inflict, in addition, a fine to the extent of one-third of the salary or allowances of the student for a period not exceeding three months.
- (5) The Director, acting with the consensus of a full Meeting of the School Officers presided over by himself, has power to dismiss any student for misconduct; and a student thus dismissed cannot be re-admitted to the School.

The Director may remand any student who, in his opinion, is not sufficiently promising.

#### PROSPECTS OF GOVERNMENT STUDENTS.

23. Holders of the Ranger's Certificate are eligible, on the occurrence of vacancies in the Province or Circle to which they belong, for appointment to the class of Ranger; and, after five years' approved service as Ranger, they are eligible for promotion to the class of Sub-Assistant Conservator. Holders of the Forester's Certificate are eligible, on the occurrence of vacancies in the Province or Circle to which they belong, for appointment to the class of Forester. But any student who has gained the Forester's Certificate with Honours is eligible for appointment to the class of Ranger after 2 years' satisfactory service; and, similarly, any student who has gained the Ranger's Certificate with Honours is eligible for appointment to the class of Sub-Assistant Conservator after 2 years' satisfactory service.

24. No person who does not hold a Ranger's Certificate, or a Forester's Certificate with Honours, can be appointed to the class of Ranger, without the special sanction, in each case, of the Local Government. When, in consequence of the absence of qualified candidates, other persons are, under this rule, appointed to the class of Ranger, holders of the Forester's Certificate are *ceteris paribus* considered to have a prior claim.

25. Holders of the Sub-Assistant's Certificate are eligible, on the occurrence of vacancies in the Province or Circle to which they belong, for appointment to the class of Sub-Assistant Conservator. No person who does not hold a Sub-Assistant's Certificate, or who, having gained the Ranger's Certificate, or the Ranger's Certificate with Honours, has not put in the necessary qualifying service as laid down in paragraph 23, can be appointed a Sub-Assistant Conservator.

26. Government students are required to continue in the Government Forest Service for a period of not less than five years after their return from the School, and a bond has to be given to this effect.

27. The monthly pay of Foresters, Rangers, and Sub-Assistant Conservators under the Government of India is at present as follows, *viz.* :--

Foresters, Rs. 15 to Rs. 40; Rangers, Rs. 50 to Rs. 120; Sub-Assistant Conservators, Rs. 150 to 250.

#### PROSPECTS OF PRIVATE STUDENTS.

28. Passed Private students are eligible for appointments in the Government service; but such appointments are not guaranteed to them, and Government has no responsibility for their career after they have left the School.



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## TRAVELS &amp; VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,

BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDOON JAH BAHADOOR,

(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street, CALCUTTA.

## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridood Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From

the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract].—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. VIII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1889.

No. 382

## CONTEMPORARY VERSE.

### THE BALLAD OF PANDAVA.

(Entbehren sollst Du, sollst entbehren.)

#### PART I.

THE King, the great Pandava,  
Sat down in his tent door ;  
His brethren stood on either hand,  
His wife knelt low before.

The sun sank red below the sands  
That reach so wide away ;  
The golden desert flamed, and died  
In lilac and in grey :

"For seven years and seven again  
Our sun hath set," he said,  
"Too long we wander far from home,  
A price upon our head.

"But thrice an Agel's voice hath spoken,  
And three times have I heard  
The voice that cries : 'Arise and strike !'  
—And this night is the third."

The King strode out in silence  
Into the desert dim ;  
The Queen and his four brothers :  
They hastened after him.

And all night long they wandered  
Across the sandy ground ;  
The King, his brethren, and the Queen,  
And last of all the hound.

But, when the morning broke, the sun  
Rose over tower and dome ;  
And all those princes shouted,  
For they knew they were at home :

"Behold the towers of Delhi,  
The dear ancestral towers !  
Before the sun goes down, my brothers,  
They shall again be ours !

"A hundred princes take their ease  
About our fathers' bowers ;  
My brothers, we are five in all :  
The battle shall be ours !

"The people in the market-place  
That sell their fruit and flowers,  
To-day they shout another name :  
To-morrow it shall be ours !

"I come ! I claim thee, Delhi,  
For I am Pandu's son !"  
And with the bugle at his lips  
The battle has begun.

And twenty to a man, all day  
The battle raged again ;  
But in the dusk the Pandava  
Had won his own again.

And all the people marvelled,  
For they knew it was well done,  
The King should have his own at last  
Since he was Pandu's son !

Then for a year Pandava reigned  
As none had reigned before,  
Holy and just, the widow's staff,  
The father of the poor.

#### II.

The market-place of Delhi  
Is empty all day long ;  
The gallant Knights of Delhi  
Go by without a song.

The Counsellors of Delhi  
Pass in with all of these,  
To kneel within the Golden Hall  
At King Pandava's knees.

"Why art thou sick at heart, our King ?  
What ails thee, lord of all ?  
Dost thou not reign in Delhi  
Within the Golden Hall ?"

Pandava lifts his shaggy head,  
Lifts up his hollow eyes  
"Where are the kings of yesterday,  
O light-of-heart ?," he cries

"They reigned. What was the end of it ?  
They died. And what shall be  
The end of us, the end of all ?  
My brothers, answer me !

"Was it worth while to strive and slay  
For such a little thing ?  
To fill one's dreams with wrath and blood,  
And only be a king ?

"Lo, since you ask me what I would,  
To heal me of my woe,  
I would be quit of Death and Sin !  
Grant me the boon, or go !"

"I have no place among you ; past  
The mountains, past the sea,  
Far hence the Eternal City shines ;  
I go—remember me !"

*Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.*

Slowly the great Pandava  
Rose from the crystal throne,  
And passed along the Golden Hall,  
As one would fain be gone ;

But with a roar of anguish,  
Like lions struck at heart,  
The four Pandava brothers rose  
And let him not depart.

"Go where thou wilt, Pandava,  
Follow the heavenly way,  
Whither thou wilt, Pandava,  
But wherefore should we stay ?

"Nay, as we entered Delhi, so  
We leave its holy ground :  
Thou first, then we, then Draupadi,  
And last of all the hound."

[ *To be continued.* ]

A. MARY F. ROBINSON.

*-The Indian Spectator.*

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

TELLURIUM had hitherto been considered a simple substance. Dr. Brauner, professor at the Czech University of Prague, has decomposed it into several elements, naming one "Austriacum." So much for the boast of Chemistry ! We, for our part, are prepared for many similar discoveries. The numerous simples with which the laboratory has of late years been crowded, are, most of them, doomed to the same fate with the poor Tellurium.

WHILE the Powers, great and small, of the earth are anxiously deliberating on the fate of Bulgaria, and even preparing armaments and inquiring after strategic points, to meet possible eventualities, a new incursion of the country has taken place by an extraordinary host from a quite unexpected direction, without passing through the cordon of the surrounding states. According to a telegram from Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria, a multitudinous army of *pastor roseus* has arrived and encamped in the neighbourhood of Sofia. They are not anything like the howling Derwishes of Turkey or the parti-colored Fakeers of farther East, being unclerical, indeed thoroughly secular, pastors of a pretty rose colour, with a fine voice. They are Oriental intruders. They appear exhausted and give the tract of country where they have settled the appearance of a black and red carpet. These are rare birds, in every sense, though, and Asiatics. If they ever leave their Eastern Hive, they occasionally migrate from Asia to Africa. They have reappeared in Bulgaria after twelve years.

A WIDOWED mother in New York left a minor daughter and 23,000dols. When the daughter came of age, she sued her guardian for account. The guardian shortly answered "I have spent 23,000 dols. on her education, and to-day she is the best-educated woman in New York." And without a dollar for bread and cheese ! At the best, the poor thing must be going a-begging, we are afraid. Who, in that new county of business, will wed such a prodigy, unless one of the dons of Harvard take pity on her ? We hope the lion's share of the dollars has not gone to the stomach of the guardian as the chief educator.

IN the old Laconian town of Pharis, they have unearthed some ancient tombs containing some objects in gold, silver and precious stones, and several copper vases—all of great value—and worked in the best form of Greek art.

WE read—

"In digging the foundations of the new Palace of Justice in Rome has been found, at the depth of eight metres, a marble sarcophagus bearing the name of Crepereta Triphæna, with the lid still firmly fastened with rivets of iron embedded in lead. Inside was the skeleton of a woman, upon which were found (1) a pair of gold earrings with pearl pendants; (2) a gold necklace with hooks of *pietra dura*; (3) a large and elegant gold brooch having a carved amethyst representing a stag fighting with a hippocrieff; (4) a thick gold ring with setting of cornelian representing two hands clasped, with two other rings of the same kind, one bearing the name Filetus; (5) a ring composed of two

gold circles conjoined, but movable; (6) a long amber spiral pin (7) two combs of boxwood; (8) a silver box; and a few other objects. With the skeleton lay a very delicately carved *bambino* of hard wood, about thirty centimètres high, and once gilt, the arms and legs being in full relief."

AT Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge's sale of the second portion of the Earl of Crawford's library, the best lots were :—

"First edition of the great 'Catholicon' of Balbus de Janua, printed by Gutenberg in 1460, on vellum, 300*l.*; 'Budeus,' a superb specimen of the library of the famous Diane de Poitiers (bought by Lord Crawford for 130*l.*), 305*l.*; 'Cicero on Old Age,' black letter, small folio, by W. Caxton, 320*l.*; and 'Christine of Pisa' (translated by Caxton), black letter, 1489, 235*l.* The day's sale realised upwards of 2,000*l.*"

MESSRS. SOTHEBY have also sold some original manuscripts of Lord Tennyson :—

"'The Dedication to the Queen,' 30*l.*; 'The Daisy,' 24*l.* 10*s.*; 'The Letters,' 18*l.* 10*s.*; 'Stanzas to the Rev. F. Maurice,' 23*l.*; 'The Brook,' 51*l.*; 'Maud,' 111*l.* The manuscripts had been previously valued at 200*l.*, and they now realised 248*l.*"

Lord Tennyson, we are told, has indignantly protested in the *Times* against the sale.

AGAIN—

"The history of book auctions scarcely affords parallel to the extraordinary price paid the other day at Sotheby's for a lot which consisted of six original drawings by R. Seymour for 'Pickwick,' a number of early impressions of the plates, and an autograph letter from Dickens to Seymour, a portrait of Seymour, and a few other items loosely arranged on five or six pages of a scrap-book. Separated from the paper upon which the prints are pasted, the entire lot could be comfortably stowed away in the waistcoat-pocket. Starting at 10*l.*, the 'hundreds' were soon reached, the biddings being chiefly between Mr. Quaritch and Mr. B. F. Stevens. The lot was eventually knocked down to the former for 500*l.*—a sum which, in 5*l.* notes, probably represents more than the actual weight of the lot itself. On June 13 the same auctioneers sold for 64*l.* an interesting and very scarce book relating to Dickens. It is 'An Account of the Origin of the "Pickwick Papers,"' by Mrs. Seymour, widow of the distinguished artist who originated the work; with Mr. Dickens's Version, and her reply thereto showing the fallacy of his statements.' This work, which was suppressed, also contains letters of her husband and other distinguished men. The Mackenzie copy of this pamphlet realised 72*l.* Another lot—'Mr. Thackeray, Mr. Yates, and the Garrick Club, the Correspondence and Facts stated by E. Yates,' with a long letter from Dickens to Thackeray, printed for private circulation—was knocked down to Mr. Quaritch for 19*l.* 10*s.*"

THE Commissioner of Lucknow has threatened the Taluqdars with confiscation of the Kaiserbagh, unless the buildings are put into repairs within six months. The Kaiserbagh in the possession of the Taluqdars has been an eyesore to the officials from the moment Lord Canning made that graceful present.

A SEPOY of the office of the Official Assignee has obtained a summons against Mr. Branson, Deputy Accountant-General lately come from Madras to Bombay, for assault. It is said Mr. Branson slapped the sepoy because he had omitted to *salaam* the Saheb.

THE following facts and figures regarding Krupp's establishment are taken from a work published at Essen :—

"It appears that in 1833 there were only 9 workmen, and in 1848 74. In July 1888 the establishment employed 20,960 men, of whom 13,626 were at Essen. Including the families of the workmen they supported a population of 73,769 souls, of whom 24,193 lived in houses provided by the firm. There are at Essen 1,195 furnaces of various constructions, 286 boilers, 92 steam hammers of from 100 to 50,000 kilogs, 370 steam engines, with a total of 27,000 horse-power, 1,724 different machines, and 361 cranes. Of coal and coke, 2,735 tons are used daily, and 11 high furnaces of the latest constructions produce nearly 600 tons of iron per day."

THE fee of rupees ten has been reduced to one on explosives imported under a license into a British port and exported thence to another British port named in Rule 10 of the Rules under the Indian Explosives Act, 1884.

SIR F. R. HOGG, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., Director-General of the Post office in India, retired from the service from the 13th May 1889.

MR. J. WESTLAND, C.S.I., has been appointed Chief Commissioner of Assam, Mr. D. Fitzpatrick going over to Hyderabad as Resident, Mr. A. P. Howell reverting to his own in the Home Department.

ALL transit dues have been abolished in the State of the Nawab of Loharu in the Punjab.

MR. D. R. LYALL has obtained three months' leave. He will be succeeded, during that period, in the Commissionership of the Chittagong Division, by Mr. J. C. Veasey, Inspector-General of Police.

THE river Kusi and its channels within the districts of Bhagnpore and Purneah, have been declared, by the Lieutenant-Governor, as areas within which all unmarked wood and timber, and all wood and timber on which the marks have been obliterated or defaced by fire or otherwise, shall be deemed to be the property of Government, unless or until any person establishes his right and title thereto under the provisions of the Indian Forest Act (VII of 1878) and the rules under it.

MAHARAJAH Sir Narendra Krishna Bahadr has resigned the Honorary Presidency Magistrateship of Calcutta. Does he mean to retire from public life like another Knighted Maharaja of this town?

THE Mohant of the *Mirror*—the High Priest of Theosophy in Bengal—having returned from the pilgrimage of Orissa, would seem to be making up for his late asceticism by a foray in another direction. We are told that "the Maharani of Cooch Behar gave a dance to her special friends at the Hermitage, Darjeeling." Our contemporary, who appears to have been one of the galaxy of beauty and fashion who tripped it on the light fantastic toe on the occasion, is able to report that "the decorations of the rooms and everything else necessary for the pleasure, comfort and enjoyment of the guests was provided in profusion."

FRANCIS RICHARD GARRETT has been sentenced to six years' hard labor for embezzling Rs. 6,037-7-3 and Rs. 500 as Post Master of Ranikhet. He had held that charge for twenty years and was latterly given to drink to which he attributed his ruin and to the Native *employés* under him. In passing sentence, Mr. Justice Straight addressed the prisoner thus:—

"You have been convicted of a grave public offence, and you have aggravated that grave public offence by making the most wanton and grave charges against your native subordinates. There is not a redeeming feature in your case from the commencement to the end of it. Any feelings of compassion I might have had in dealing with you on the question of sentence have been removed. Your wicked attempts to cast your own crime upon these unfortunate natives who had the misfortune to be under your control are abominable. The public service of this country cannot be carried on without native *employés*, and they are very much in the hands of their European superiors; and I am glad to think and to know that their European superiors have confidence in them and treat them well, and that there is a good feeling between them. Until you found yourself driven into a hopeless position by the sudden and unexpected visit of Mr. Hawthorne, you never dreamt of making any imputation upon any human being, and it was only when you found that you could not creep out of the difficulties into which by your own systematic course of percolation you had placed yourself, you bethought yourself of making that attempt. If the jury had arrived at any other verdict than that which they have, they would have recorded a perverse verdict—the evidence was overwhelming. Whether the period over which you have pursued your course of conduct is a long or a short one, you know best; but you have been helping yourself to public funds, and no doubt much of the money has gone for the purpose of carrying on your independent business. I think the Post Office are very much to blame for having allowed you to remain in one post for so long a time, and I hope it will be a lesson, as far as that Department is concerned, not to keep one man in a position such as you occupied for too lengthened a period—certainly not in such a post as Ranikhet, which is a long distance off from any immediate supervision. I have the greatest difficulty to know in my own mind what to do with you. I have on the one side a strong feeling of sympathy with a man twenty years in the public service, who has forfeited his whole life's character and lost the pension he otherwise would have got, and who, at the expiration of any punishment he may now receive, will have the stigma of disgrace attached to him—I do feel all that; but, on the other hand, you have aggravated your position so enormously by the attitude you have taken up with regard to the native *employés*. Your plea was going to show me some certificates of character. You must have had a good character to get into the public service, and to a certain extent to remain there. How you got hampered with difficulties I do not know, and you are to be pitied for it; but you aggravated a thousand times your position by this miserable taking to drink, which has probably been the foundation of all your disasters. I am not sure I am doing my duty in passing as light a sentence as I am going to pass upon you. If you were before a judge in England standing convicted of this offence, you would undoubtedly receive a very severe sentence indeed; as it is, I sentence you to six years' rigorous imprisonment."

The sentence passed, the prisoner wanted to have his Bible. On the Judge's direction, a large family Bible containing the record of his birth and other occurrences, was made over to Garrett.

MR. CLAYDON, in his just published volumes *Rogers and his Contemporaries*, has clearly availed himself to the full of the Pleasures of Memory to step into fame. Rogers the plutocratic poet, the esthetic banker, was greater as a gossip and a Meccenas than a poet. He will be remembered more as a patron of wits and *connoisseurs* of art who treated his friends to good dinners and better stories than as the author of sumptuous, well-illustrated volumes of poetry of tranquil beauty. Mr. Claydon shows that with the *Recollections of Samuel Rogers* the mine was by no means quite exhausted, though his book will bear no comparison with the great master's own.

Not the least rich of the original collection were the recollections of the brilliant Horne Tooke before whom Junius himself quailed. Here are some of the best of his sayings collected by the London Correspondent of a contemporary:—

"There are men who pretended that they come into the world booted and spurred to ride you." "Pieces of money are so many tickets for sheep, oxen, &c." "When a pension is given, or a salary, a draft is issued on the tiller of the soil." "So I understand, Mr. Tooke, that you have all the blackguards in London with you?" said O'Brien to him on the hustings at Westminster. "I am happy to have it, sir, on such good authority," replied Tooke. When Judge Ashurst said in one of his charges, "The law is open to all men, to the poor as well as the rich," Tooke remarked, "And so is the London Tavern." Lord Grey said to him, "If I was compelled to make a choice, I should prefer despotism to anarchy." "Then you would do," replied Tooke, "as your ancestors did at the Reformation; they rejected Purgatory and kept Hell." Tooke's political notoriety as an opponent of the Government brought him much annoyance. Rogers went with him one night to Brandenburg House to private theatricals, and somebody behind them said, loud enough for Tooke to hear, "There's that rascal, Horne Tooke." Tooke showed his annoyance and went home, Rogers going with him, and sitting up very late to listen to his talk. He met with singular insults in coffee-houses. One of his sayings was that, when bad times came, he should go to his garret window and take no part in them but that of a looker-on. "When the surgeons are called in the physician retires."

HURST and Blackett have issued one of the collections of legal jokes and anecdotes which are continually appearing. Sergeant Robinson, the collector, has probably been encouraged by the success of Sergeant Ballantine. Here is a story of the well-known Irish barrister Phillips as Commissioner of Bankruptcy. He

"once detected a witness kissing his thumb instead of the Testament and having rebuked the misguided person who thought that swearing created two standards of truth, he said, 'You may think to deceive God, sir, but you won't deceive me.'"

Quite Hibernian, to be sure—whether consciously so or unconsciously, that is the question.

Some of the best things in the book are fathered on Sir William Maule. On one occasion he said, "People talk about a man and his wife being one. It is all nonsense; I do not believe that, under the most favourable circumstances, they can be considered less than two. For instance, if a man murders his wife, did anybody hear of his having committed suicide?"

Mr. Sergeant Robinson relates the following about Lord Westbury. His Lordship, although known to be a staunch Churchman, was remiss in the duty of attending public worship. On being charged with inconsistency by a friend, who told him that he was bound to support his theory by his example, Lord Westbury replied, "I daresay you are right; but I am like one of the buttresses of the edifice, which are of much more service to it on the outside than the inside."

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

AN important factor in the Hyderabad politics has been permanently withdrawn. Sir Salar Jung II. died on Sunday. He was only 26 years of age and leaves a son only few weeks old.

THE Lords were opposed to the Land Transfer Bill and, in spite of the protest of Government, voted an amendment, by 122 against 113, against the spirit of the measure. Lord Salisbury found it prudent to withdraw the Bill.

For his zeal for the excited tenants in Donegal, Mr. Conybeare must suffer the three months' imprisonment ordered. The Appeal Court would not reduce the punishment nor quash the conviction. For inflammatory speeches, two more Irish Members—Mr. Thomas Patrick Gill for South Louth and Mr. Joseph Richard Cox for East Clare, were arrested in London and transported to Drogheda for trial. The charge has since been dismissed, the Magistrate considering the evidence of

the policemen and witnesses unreliable. The trial of Messrs. O'Brien and Lane have been deferred to end of August next. Their Plan of Campaign having been exposed in the Special Court, the Irish Irreconcilables with Mr. Parnell as their head have fixed upon another League to be called the Tenants' Defence League to overawe the Government. The avowed object is to furnish tenants with legal advice against landlords. The ways and means are expected from members. Collections will also be made in America and Australia.

The Government intend to pass the India Council Bill this session.

The Parliamentary Committee to consider future Royal Grants consists of eleven Conservatives, two Liberal-Unionists, eight Gladstonian Liberals and two Nationalists—among others, Mr. W. H. Smith, Mr. Goschen, Lord Hartington, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Morley, Mr. Labouchere, and Mr. Parnell.

THE war in Upper Egypt develops. Two Battalions of two Regiments have been ordered from Malta to Egypt. From Cairo one hundred and forty British Mounted Infantry and an artillery reinforcement of four guns proceed to Assouan. General Grenfell has arrived there and threatened with death any native found in any way assisting the Dervishes. The Dervishes are still being pursued. Wad-el-ngumi and his force have arrived three miles to the south of Abusimbul. The Egyptian troops move up the river parallel with the enemy. The west Bank of the Nile between Wady Halfa and Assouan has been cleared of all natives dwelling there. The plan is to keep the Dervishes away from water. One thousand of them are already Colonel Wodehouse's prisoners, but their number still puzzles the gallant Colonel.

THE American cotton crop is backward. The average of the eleven cotton States is given at 87-6/10 per cent. The failure is attributed to the drought and cold of May and June. In the Gulf States, the crop has been injured by caterpillar and bollworm.

THE rains, once so scanty, have begun their work of destruction of the season. A considerable portion of the Bolan Railway has been washed away. Landslips also are reported on the Hurnai line. A native telegraphs to the *Englishman* on the 10th from Sibsagar that "Distress prevails in the northern part of the Sibsagar sudder division. Up to the town thousands of rayyets' houses are under water, and the whole country is presenting one vast white sheet. The water is running in a strong current over several miles of the trunk road near the town." Only two deaths are reported.

THE Hon'ble Syud Ameer Hosain resumed charge of the Northern Division Magistrate's Court on the 8th instant, after 3 months' leave, during which time, Moulvi Abdool Jubbar, the Suburban Police Magistrate, officiated for him.

Moulvi Abdul Jubbar is a tried officer of long experience esteemed for his integrity and courage. He belongs to the small batch of strong Deputies in the sense of performing their judicial duties conscientiously without fear or favour. He gave perfect satisfaction to the public in the Calcutta Police Court. It was creditable to the legal practitioners in the Court that they did not allow him to take his leave without an expression of their appreciation of his services, during the quarter that he presided at the Bench of the Northern Division.

THE *Dacca Prakash* still fights the Kalawars. It has entered into its defence and examined two pleaders of the local Judge's Court who do not consider the articles complained of harmful to the repute of the complaining brothers—as regards, we believe, their position in Hindu society. But the brothers Rup evidently consider themselves demeaned in the eyes of the European community and they have applied to a European Magistrate to set them right with that community. The *Dacca Prakash* has virtually to contend against the European prejudice against the Hindu caste system. And that is indeed an uphill work.

WE are glad to learn that a school of Mahomedan Medicine, called the *Madrasai Tibbia*, has just been opened at Delhi, at the instance of Hukeem Abdool Mujeed Khan, the eldest son of Hukeem

Mahmood Khan. The latter is the great Delhi Physician whose fame has spread all over India, in consequence of his success in curing numberless cases given up by the best medical practitioners of the other Schools as incurable and hopeless.

There are large numbers of Hukeems—practitioners of the Mahomedan system—distributed in different parts of the country, who have received their medical education from various more or less qualified teachers in Greco-Arabic Science. But there has been no regular public school in India for imparting instruction in the system. There are professors in plenty, but no organized institution. This want is now to be supplied by the exertions of Hukeem Abdool Mujeed Khan, the worthy son of a worthy father, who has already established a high reputation for himself as an accomplished and successful physician.

THE Madrasai-Tibbia was opened with great *eclat*, at Delhi, on the 23rd June last. The ceremony was presided over by Nawab Mahomed Mumtaz Ali Khan Bahadur, Chief of Dojana, and attended by a large number of Mahomedan and Hindu gentlemen of Delhi and the neighbouring districts. The Deputy Commissioner of Delhi also was present. The Hon'ble Sir Syud Ahmed Khan Bahadur, himself originally a Reis of Delhi, came on purpose from Aligarh, and made a speech in support of the project, and a telegram received that very day from Nawab Abdool Luteef Bahadur, Calcutta, was read congratulating Hukeem Abdool Mujeed Khan on the opening of the new institution and expressing his good wishes for its success.

THE Chief Magistrate of the Town has vindicated the dignity of the High Court as represented by the Original Mr. Justice Norris. He has proclaimed that no man shall drive ahead of any of Her Majesty's Judges—not even a black man with a rude rickety trap, drawn by starving diminutive tats. The third class Jehu who was lately caught red-handed in the act doubtless incurred the highest penalty of the law, but Mr. Marsden is famous for tempering justice with mercy. If the mercy of certain Magistrates is apt to be a microscopic quantity, Mr. Marsden can scarcely help that. Let us all acknowledge with gratitude that he did not order the rash misguided driver to be drawn and quartered, nor even exhibited in the pillory all through Black Town. He has only sentenced him to one month's hard labor for driving his carriage and pair across the brougham of the judicial luminary, thereby damaging the brougham and endangering the safety of its occupant.

THE High Court (Justices Trevelyan and Beverley) have upheld the Magistrate's order on Hajee Noor Mahomedan for maintenance of the child born of Bismilla Jan, whose paternity the Hajee disclaimed altogether. Messrs. Woodroffe and Garth had been retained by the Hajee, but they, after the manner of counsel, failed to appear, being engaged elsewhere, and Mr. Phillips was then and there instructed to oppose the Magistrate's order. Messrs. Gasper and Henderson appeared in support of the rule issued on the Magistrate. Mr. Phillips contended that when the Magistrate held there was no marriage between Noor and Bismillah Jan, he should have dismissed the claim for maintenance for an illegitimate child, at least an opportunity should have been given for meeting the new charge. The Magistrate was wrong in applying his own knowledge of the defendant in support of his argument of the paternity of the child based on similarity of appearance between Noor Mahomed the father and Noor Ahmed the son. The similarity of names, again, on which the Magistrate laid stress, was, according to Mr. Phillips, mere accident, which could not enter into any serious argument. Lastly, the distance of time between the birth of the child and the institution of the claim for maintenance—3½ years—is completely ignored by the Magistrate. The High Court agreed with Mr. Phillips as regards similarity of appearance and name, two

*Holloway's Pills.*—Sudden transitions from heat to cold, or from raw inclement weather to oppressive climates, favour the development of manifold diseases, which may in most instances be checked and rendered abortive by an early resort to these purifying, regulating, and strengthening Pills. This well-known and highly esteemed medicine affords a safe and easy remedy for almost every constitutional wrong which unhealthy climates, rapid changes, or dietetic errors, can engender, and effectually removes any weakness self-indulgent habits may have induced. In all conditions of the system bordering on disease such as are indicated by apathy, listlessness, and restlessness, Holloway's Pills prove especially serviceable in begetting the vivacity of mind and body appreciated by both sound and sick.



strong points in the Magistrate's judgment, and with the Magistrate in the other points commented on by Mr. Phillips. The Judges had no doubt that Noor Ahmed was the child of Noor Mahomed and that the lower Court was right in making the order for maintenance in the case. It was certainly wrong in not compelling the attendance of the father to examine in court the similarity of the persons of the father and son, but probably it wished to spare the father the humiliation of personal attendance in an ugly contest on behalf of the child he disowned. The rule was consequently discharged.

DEFALCATIONS to the tune of eight thousand Rupees, have been discovered in the cash, in charge of Kedernath Mookerjee, the Head Clerk of the Office of Superintendent of Political Pensions, and Mr. Bolton has, at the instance of Moulvie Abdool Jubbar, called upon the Baboo, to make good the amount missing. It is strange that large sums of money are allowed to be kept in the hands of a subordinate ministerial officer, who gave no security for good conduct except the favor of his European chiefs.

THE Lieutenant-Governor starts next Monday for Patna. "The rains have come in well" and, as the Commissioner of the Division continues, "have put an end to most of our troubles, but have brought some new ones with them." Mr. Boxwell sums up the report on the scarcity for the fortnight ending June 30th, thus:—

"The coming of the rains has relieved us of all anxiety in Shahabad, Gya, Patna, Sarun, and Chumparan, and has so far improved prospects in Firohpoor that we need have no fear for the result. But in the worst part of the affected area in both districts, Mozufferpore and Durbhunga, a new trouble has arisen—famine or almost famine rates of food and cessation of import, with a large number of people already enfeebled by want of sufficient food. This mischief the district officers are quite able to meet."

MR. GOODRICKE has been fortunate in his forced retirement. The Government has sanctioned the amount (Rs. 400) to which his length of service entitled him. He had applied for more, for he had sacrificed his health in the service of his employers. Mr. Goodricke might as well have pointed to over a lac of rupees which his severance from the post of Collector of Income tax has enabled Government to add to the revenue.

DR. DAVID BOYES SMITH, formerly of Calcutta and latterly Professor of Military Medicine in the Army Medical School at Netley, died on the 3rd June, of a tumour of the brain. He will be remembered as one of the earlier sanitary reformers in Bengal and an accomplished and amiable physician.

Dr. David Boyes Smith was a distinguished student of the University of Edinburgh, at a time when that city had still some pretensions to be the Northern Athens, when its Medical School was second to none in Europe. Endowed with a robust constitution and fired alike with a passion for adventure and zeal for science, he readily went on an expedition to the Arctic regions. Returning with health unimpaired, he entered the Indian Medical Service. He was, we believe, an Assistant Surgeon in charge of the Base Hospital at Delhi, and it was there that he got the spinal affection which troubled him all his life and, doubtless, was the earliest change in his nervous system which ended in his death from brain disease. The publication by him of some papers on sanitary statistics early brought him to the notice of the N.-W. P. Government and led to his appointment at Mussoorie. Here, in 1862, he started, we believe, at any rate edited with credit, a sturdy political weekly called the *Hills*. We never knew Dr. Smith, but at this time we were in Oudh giving shape and permanence to a brother Baboo's idea of that Association which has done so much for the Talookdars as a class and so much more for individual Talookdars. Among our other duties we "coached" the English organ of the Society. Within a short time of our assuming the Lucknow journal, the *Hills* complimented us on the marked improvement visible in our paper. Soon after, after the unfortunate manner of our cloth, we fell out and came to blows—with printer's ink. Long and earnest were the controversies in which we became plunged. Not an issue of either paper but contained some dispute with, or some fling at, the other. Neither side gave up a single point. Latterly, as usual, the tired combatants descended to pick holes in each other's grammar and orthography. Neither editor had the smallest notion of who his assailant might be,

except that one was a European and the other a Hindu. And this went on for months together. But not for a moment was there the least loss of mutual respect—not an insolent or ungenerous expression passed. The *Hills'* writer was never brilliant or eloquent, but always effective. He had no humour properly called, but a large fund of dry wit which served him in good stead. But his greatest merit was the wonderful temper and courtesy he maintained towards a native opponent in a protracted and vigorous literary warfare. That showed the man. He was a model of an Indian Editor.

He next began the *Indian Medical Gazette* which still carries on its good work and is the only successful medical publication in India. He was not long suffered to be locked up in the distant Doon. His reputation had so steadily advanced that the way was cleared towards a more important and lucrative field. It was no small distinction to be brought to Bengal as the first Sanitary Commissioner. He then became successively Civil Surgeon of Patna, of Howrah and again of Dacca. He officiated as Principal of the Medical College and Professor of Medicine while Dr. Chevers was on leave, obtaining the permanent appointment on Dr. Chever's retirement.

His last days of service were clouded by a great persecution. His fame and success had made him many enemies, those of his own profession being the worst. Sir Ashley Eden having come to the throne of Bengal burned to be a reformer. He had long since made his peace with his old butt the planting interest, and wanted a weaker victim. His secret medical adviser offered him the doctors in superintendence over the Hospitals, and the Lieutenant-Governor seized the opportunity. There was laxity no doubt, and Sir Ashley made the most of it. Dr. Smith, conscious of his integrity, fought for the honour of his department, and only irritated his ruler. He then took furlough and went round the world with General Sir Henry Norman, lately Governor of Jamaica and now of Queensland. On his return, he found the question of hospital expenditure had been gone into by a Committee presided over by Mr. Justice O'Kenealy and directed by Surgeon-General Payne. He did not take quietly the changes that had been introduced or the reflections which he thought had been cast on himself and his predecessors. So he did not hit it off with Dr. Payne. He resigned the Principalship in consequence, reverted to the Army and then retired altogether from the Indian Medical Service. He married and set up as a general practitioner in Calcutta. His great abilities, his large experience and his upright ways made him a general favorite. Then was offered to him the Professorship of Netley.

A fare-well dinner was given him ere he left, at which Dr. Coates, his successor in the Principalship of the Medical College, presided, a proof that, though opposed to each other on Hospital management, the two Doctors were always friends.

He wrote many papers on medical and sanitary subjects.

He leaves a wife and daughter badly provided for.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1889

### CAPE POLITICS AND SIR HERCULES ROBINSON AND SIR JOHN POPE HENNESSY.

THE modern Hercules had strayed beyond the pillars which marked the limits of the peregrinations of his ancient prototype or rather name-sake. He had gone far, far down the coast, below the Line, to the extreme South, where the Atlantic and the South Indian Oceans meet in mutual but angry embrace. After tarrying there some years, and treating the gaping inhabitants to some exhibitions of doubtful valour, he has left the Cape, without performing all his labours. At any rate, the Augean stable remains uncleared. Nay, he had stirred the puddle to such perfection that nobody could be induced to take his place. He primed the forward party of the Colonists with impracticable hopes which, without being, within a reasonable space, ever fulfilled, must always be a difficulty in the side of administration. In his part-

ing speech at the Cape, the High Commissioner was understood to favour their pretensions not only to the absolute control of the existing colonies, but also to the sway over all the extensive territories beyond, won and maintained by Imperial sacrifices, although the authorised report a good deal disguises the matter. He thus managed to carry away the good opinion of the South African "patriots." But the Home Government experienced great difficulty in finding a successor. The post went a-begging. Luckily, a bold man has at last come forward to undertake the perilous mission.

The High Commissioner, we see, has managed to alienate his best admirers. He had hitherto been the ideal Colonial Governor of the Settlers throughout the Colonies and Dependencies of Great Britain. He was regarded as the antithesis of Sir John Pope Hennessy, the protector of the native races and the upholder of the Law and the representative of the Righteousness of England. By his persecution of that able and upright public servant, he finally endeared himself to all the more selfish Colonists throughout Greater Britain. Sir John Hennessy's triumphant vindication of his administration of Mauritius against the conspiracy of the Robinsons and the Clifford Lloyds, clinched by his late success in the libel suit against the *Times*, was the first severe blow to the Herculean cult. His farewell African demonstration has given the finishing stroke.

We were agreeably surprised to read the following excellent editorial note in the *Englishman* of last week:—

"Sir Henry Brougham Loch's acceptance of the Governorship of the Cape has relieved her Majesty's Ministers from a difficulty which they were beginning to find embarrassing. It is no secret that the appointment has been offered to at least half a dozen people, some of them persons who under ordinary circumstances would hardly have been deemed equal to its responsibilities, not one of whom could be induced to become Sir H. Robinson's successor. For this singular unwillingness to accept a position of considerable dignity with a befitting income, however, the retiring Governor, and not the Colonial Office, appears to be answerable. Sir H. Robinson is the most distinguished advocate of what is known as the 'forward' policy in South Africa, and in that capacity has formulated the demands of the Cape Colonists for dominion over the whole country between Capetown and the Zambesi in language which no prudent English Minister could endorse. What he desires is nothing less than the gradual, but not long delayed, conversion of South Africa into a second India, to be conquered by British arms and at British cost, but to be handed over as soon as acquired to the Colonial Government, in which the predominant influence happens to be neither British nor Native, but Dutch. How Sir Hercules came to persuade himself that his preposterous proposal would be adopted is not quite clear, but so far as can be inferred from his public utterances he believes it to be the only alternative to separation and the rise of a great Dutch-African Republic which would oust England from the southern half of the Dark Continent for ever. It does not seem to have occurred to him to count the cost, or to consider whether, when we have obligingly handed over a vast new territory to the people of the Cape, they would be likely to become better subjects than they have been in the past. Lord Salisbury and Lord Knutsford had to look at that point, and their decision, as might have been expected, was against having anything to do with an unnecessary scheme of aggrandisement for which England would have to pay while the Cape would reap all the profit. Sir Hercules thus lost his chance of becoming the Warren Hastings of South Africa, and the blow to his ambition was too great to allow of his remaining at his post. He resigned; and the awkwardness of the situation he had created at Capetown was so generally recognised that no one in England could be found to take his place. The appointment of Sir Henry Loch, who has at last been brought over from Victoria, marks the final defeat of the policy of forward, but will not, it is to be feared, improve the temper of the 'Afrikaner' party."

We have nothing to add to the above just remarks. The regular readers of that paper cannot, however, have forgotten the songs of a different tune—the pæans to glorify the strong god in the Colonial Service. How when the High Commissioner came over to Mauritius to inquire into the complaints of and respecting Sir John Pope Hennessy, and soon plunged himself a willing prisoner into the arms of the unholy conspiracy against the righteous Governor and left in a hurry without doing his work or even giving Sir

John an opportunity for explaining matters and proving his case, and reported against him, our contemporary supported its hero and adjudged the experienced and accomplished Governor a firebrand and an incapable sentimentalist. In justice to it, we are bound to say that the *Englishman* was not alone. Our Native brethren of the quill are not familiar with Colonial politics and have indeed very hazy notions of the situation and statistics of Mauritius or Seychelles, or the difference between Guiana and Guinea or between the several Guineas, New and old. But almost the entire Anglo-Indian Press, then still under the influence of the feelings by the controversy on the Ilbert Bill, voted with one voice for the rampant High Commissioner and against the honest and truly liberal Governor of Mauritius. *Reis and Rayyet* was about the only journal in India which stood up for the well-tried public servant condemned without a hearing. While others swallowed every *ex parte* statement and every insinuation of his enemies against him, we refused to believe without proof that he had been guilty of injustice and highhandedness against the Colonists, far less subverted the constitution and plunged the island in a strife of races, out of a maudlin humanitarianism in favour of the blacks. We knew that elsewhere he had been just, and expected him to be so in Mauritius. And so the event proved. Sir John made a triumphant defence. He not only proved his own case to the hilt, but took the war into the enemy's camp. He exposed the intrigues of Mr. Lloyd and demonstrated the Herculean animus, showing how his rectifying the mischief of the Herculean régime in Hongkong as Governor after him and overturning his policy, had made the High Commissioner his lasting foe. Long before the decision of the Home Government, we came into possession of all the material documents and were able to set the Indian public right. But there was no sign of repentance in any of our contemporaries. Perhaps, their offence was too fresh. We are glad, however, that the truth is at last making way. The *Englishman* is the first to show a better disposition. Now that Hercules is unmasked, there is a prospect of justice for his victims. Soon we expect to see Sir John Hennessy recognised as one of the ablest and most just and liberal Governors that England has ever sent out to rule her numerous colonies and dependencies.

#### INTERMAHOMEDAN SECTARIAL FEUDS IN UPPER INDIA.

WE have in our last issue given an account of the great sensation latterly created at Lucknow, between the Shiah and Sunnis of that city, owing to the use by the Shiah, at one of the mosques of that town, of certain additional words in the *Azan* (call to prayer) which were highly repugnant to the feelings of the Sunni community, leading to a great row between the two sects, and causing bloodshed. The Police and the authorities had to interfere and a large number of men of both sects were arrested and a number of the followers of the Shiah sect after a lengthened trial were convicted and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment.

In the course of this week, we have come across the proceedings of another case of a similar and perhaps a more aggravated nature, between the Shiah and Sunnis of Allahabad. We here give the particulars from the *Morning Post* of Allahabad:—

"A sensational dispute, ventilating the differences of the two sects of Mahomedans, the Sunis and Shias, has been before the Allahabad

courts for some time. In this case, one Moulvie Mahomed figures as the plaintiff, and the two defendants are Syed Mahomed Aga and Mir Khorshed Ali. The case first came up on the 18th of June, 1887, in the court of Pundit Inder Narain, Moonsiff of Allahabad. The plaintiff's pleaders were Moulvie Sher Ali and Mahomed Husain. The defendants were represented by Messrs. Gordon and Dillon, barristers-at-law, and Mr. Mahdho Pershad. The claim of the plaintiff was that the stone fixed by the defendant No. 1 in his mosque should be taken out, and that the defendants should be prevented from uttering the words '*Khalifa-i-bila fasl*' (immediate successor) in the '*Azan*' (summons to prayer). The defendants objected to the claim as being groundless, and stated that the suit was one of prejudice, and that there could be no interference as to modes of worship. The '*Azan*' was not a departure by the defendants; that, admitting that the plaintiff was grieved by the proclamation of the words as pleaded, the defendants were more grieved by their withdrawal. It was elicited in the hearing of the case that the defendants built a mosque on or about the 14th of June, 1887, and on the arch thereof engraved the following words: '*La ilaha illallah Mahomed ar-rasul allah Ali wali allah wasi rasul allah khilafat wali ullah bila fasl*,' which means 'there is no other beside God, Mahomed is his apostle, Ali is his saint and executor of the will of the Prophet and Caliph without any one intervening.' The defendants call aloud these words in the '*Azan*'. In this proclamation the words '*Khilafat wali ullah bila fasl*' are contrary to the religious belief of the plaintiff. It was generally known and admitted in this case by the statements of both parties, that the Shias consider Hazrat Ali as the khalifa (successor of the Prophet), and after him they acknowledge eleven other Imams as successors to the 'kingdom.' The first of them (*i. e.* Caliphs according to the belief of the Sunnis.—*ED. R. & R.*) is Hazrat Abu Bakr Sadiq, the second Hazrat Umar, the third Hazrat Osman, and the fourth Hazrat Ali whom they consider as successors to the Prophet of God. According to the views of the Sunnis, the khalifat, succession, ceased after Hazrat Ali. The words '*Khilafat wali ullah bila fasl*' admittedly meant that Hazrat Ali, the apostle of God, was first khalifa, or successor, without any intervention. This faith was opposed to that of the Sunnis in provoking '*tabarra*' (curse). Therefore the plaintiff, as a Sunni, could not tolerate in any case, either to hear these words, or to see them openly engraved on the mosque. According to his allegation in the plaint, 'it wounded his heart and the hearts of the entire Sunni community.' The plaintiff also alleged that the mosque was endowed property, and, as such, open to Sunnis and Shias alike. The plaintiff further supported his claim on the grounds of partnership with the plaintiff. After hearing the arguments of both sides the Moonsiff, in a very long judgment, passed an order, the translation of which is as follows:—'That the plaintiff's claim, according to reference on oath, be decreed in this way, that the defendants be perpetually prohibited from calling out the words '*Khilafat wali ullah bila fasl*' at a time and in any prayer of any time, and the claim to the stone fixed be dismissed. The defendants' costs to be charged to the plaintiff, who will bear his own costs.' Against this judgment there was a cross-appeal, which is now before Mr. F. E. Elliot, the district and sessions judge. Mr. Colvin, barrister-at-law, with Messrs. Simeon and Madho Pershad, support the appeal of the defendants, and the plaintiff is represented by the same pleaders who appeared in the lower court."

It seems in this case that the Shias have, in addition to the objectionable words in the '*Azan*' in a particular mosque, affixed a stone slab on the arch of that mosque, containing an inscription, even more obnoxious and insulting to the feelings of the Sunnis than the '*Azan*'.

The case was tried by a Hindoo Moonsiff, who appears to have decided that the Shias should be perpetually prohibited from calling out the objectionable words in the '*Azan*'. But we cannot understand the reasons which induced that officer to allow the stone slab with the objectionable inscription to continue on the arch of the mosque.

The Moonsiff ought to have discovered that the inscription on the stone was a standing source of annoyance to the feelings of every Sunni going to that mosque or passing along that way.

We are well aware that the verbal use of certain objectionable words (called the '*Tabarra*') by the Shias in the presence of Sunnis, has always been the cause of a great deal of conflict between the rival sects at various towns of India, almost invariably ending in broken heads.

But this is the first instance that we have heard of an inscription affixed in a prominent place at a mosque, which is calculated to invite objection from the Sunnis and to give them cause for annoyance and dispute. We are not aware of such an inscription being prominently affixed to any Shiah mosque in any part of India.

The effect of such an inscription would be similar to a tablet placed at the door of a Protestant church,

within the sight, of every passerby, in which the Pope is described as an imposter, or an inscription in front of a Roman Catholic church damning Luther and Calvin and Henry VIII.

We are not quite sure if the affixing of such a stone slab, may not be an offence under Section 298 of the Indian Penal Code, which provides that "Whoever, with the deliberate intention of wounding the religious feelings of any person, places any object in the sight of that person," shall be punished with imprisonment and fine.

By giving prominent notice to this matter, our object is to draw the attention of Sir Auckland Colvin to this very unpleasant dispute between the two sects. Our firm hope is that he will make a thorough enquiry into this question, and promptly put a stop to the causes leading to such quarrels before it assumes formidable dimensions.

Before concluding, we would advise Hindu and Christian Judges and Magistrates, dealing with religious disputes between the two rival Mahomedan sects, to make a thorough and exhaustive enquiry into the relative merits of the religious differences of the parties before passing the final order. This is the only way to avoid mistakes.

#### THE LATE BABOO DWARKA NATH DUTT.

BABOO DWARKANATH, of the Chorebagan Dutt, of Calcutta, banian to Messrs. Ralli Brothers, died at his new residence at Shampooker, in the native town, on Thursday last, at the age of 48. He always looked older than his years, a consequence of diabetes and other complaints. In due course consumption came with the dread summons. He might have delayed execution by a timely flight to the sea or at least a better climate and a suitable regimen. But he scarcely believed in European doctors and their recommendations, and clung to his employers, trusting on the favour of the gods, to whom he was more than ever unremitting in his *pujals*, to save him. But Siva and Sakti failed him. After a final struggle of three months he gave his soul to his Maker. His end was more comfortable than his life. An orthodox Hindu, with feeble health, careful of all the minute observances and endless prayers and fasts of his faith, his life was necessarily a good deal one of torture. As such, he ought, towards the close, when least capable of command or resistance though most in need of comfort and tender attention, to have been hurried on the shoulders of men unaccustomed to such burdens to the bank of the river, to be more or less summarily despatched. We are glad that he was allowed the benefit of an easy death at home, in the midst of his near and dear ones. Europeans cannot possibly comprehend all that is involved in all this. We for our part admire and respect and bless those who achieved this feat.

Baboo Dwarka Nath Dutt has left a widow and four sons, two of them grown up. The banianhip of Ralli Brothers continues in the deceased's family. He had trained his eldest son Babu Dhirenhanath in his business and the firm had accepted the son for the father while in his sick bed.

The second son Hirendranath is a promising young man still at College. He graduated with distinction at the last B. A. examination of the Calcutta University, standing, in two of the subjects, at the head of all other competitors, winning medals and a first class scholarship. We hope he will take better care of his health, which is not equal to his aptitude for knowledge.

The deceased cultivated no interest besides business. Hence, there is not much to say for, or about, him. The family scribes themselves, who have promptly and liberally supplied the press, have evidently been at their wits' end for want of materials for their obituary notices. Fortunately, there is nothing against the subject, which is more than can be said of many another who has not a fraction of the business of the deceased. Not having any taste for general society, his intercourse was necessarily confined to his numerous

dependants and would-be dependants. For friends he had the far-seeing wights who had an eye to his Rupees as well as the large patronage at the disposal of Messrs. Ralli Brothers' Native manager, and such other wedding-guests of Prosperity, to use an expressive Bengali phrase. Such company cannot be improving. That is the moral of the life just closed. We draw it not to criticise the good man who is gone beyond the reach of earthly praise or blame, but, what is of more practical moment, to warn the living who have our best wishes. Baboo Dwarkanath was not fifty when he died, yet he was essentially a man of the Past. As a Hindu of the old class, it was enough for his honour to be regular in his devotions, unfailing in the celebration of the thirteen Festivals in the twelve months—to use another Bengali expression—sumptuous in his feasts, and liberal in his gifts to Brahmans and beggars. His sons are youths of the Present and will be of the men of Future. Let them betimes study and cultivate a higher ideal.

In this connection, we cannot help noticing the strange behaviour of a contemporary. The *Indian Mirror's* notice of this incident almost adds a new terror to death. It has certainly dealt a left-handed blow to the survivors, at a time when they are the objects of commiseration of every well-regulated mind. The offence may be unwitting, but its effect is all the same. Our contemporary has contrived to make the mourning family ridiculous. The praises of the obscure dead in the corners of newspapers are obviously inspired, if not actually paid for as advertisements. Such accounts of the deceased as appear must, of course, be furnished by relatives or friends. But no journal that professes to employ an editor or sub-editor, ever can swallow the whole camel offered. Not so our contemporary. It sticks at nothing, however offensive, and it has stomach for the entire zoology of the land in every stage of composition or decomposition. Uncaring for choice or selection, it knows no pruning—no omission, far less alteration: Recomposition is out of the question. The patient hack carries whatsoever burden is imposed on its back. More exemplary than the proverbial back, *this* hack never complains of the straw that breaks the other's spine. It adopts with a good face everything brought to it and coolly offers it without disguise as without compunction. Thus, it has printed a couple of notices of the recent death, because it received two, without any effort at combining them, or even at harmonising the two accounts. And it *naïvely* tells the world that it received two, thinking *that* a sufficient excuse for inflicting either, much less both, without recast or revision, upon the reader. That is, of course, its customary way. It is at the best a bad way, one of which any respectable paper ought to be ashamed. But, in the present instance, it amounts to an outrage on the family—perfectly unjustifiable, because absolutely gratuitous. There was no earthly occasion to display to the world their solicitude for the reputation of their lost head—to show clearly and specifically how, at the very first moments of their grief for the departed, they had been at the pains to compose not one but two different obituary notices of him. If the notices may be supposed to emanate from outside friends, the character of these effusive effusions still must cause the members of the family humiliation and pain. They are conspicuously exhibited and numbered *seriatim*. No. 1 in especial is ill written to a degree, to begin with. It is conceived in the worst taste, surcharged with the exaggerated expression of a grief which might become the widow and sons and nearer relations and particular friends of the deceased and even the Brahman recipients of his bounty, but which others have no business to feel and would be hypocritical to pretend to, and which would be extravagant and eminently foolish in public journalists. In publishing these writings as received and adopting them so to say and yet stamping them as outside communications, the *Mirror*, so far from lessening, has simply aggravated the mischief. It has made a mockery of the whole business.

The two might easily have been reduced to one, at any rate. They might be regarded as the produce of the same mint, one as an afterthought, intended not to supersede the previous one but to supply its deficiencies. The second notice, as pitched in a moderate key, is a fair piece, as well written as any of the *Mirror's* own, and it might have been adopted editorially, to the saving of all this unnecessary trouble and annoyance.

Notwithstanding the "heavy heart" with which the "sad

death" and the "melancholy event" is recorded, there is too much obtrusion of self-consciousness for genuine grief.

For melancholy, silent maid,

With leaden eyes that love the ground,

would scarcely, at the very outset, and in the same breath with the assertion of sorrow, care to dwell with the eye of an upholsterer or decorator on the architecture of the death-spot, with its puerile ornamentation of chess-board statuary for want of living sepoy guards. That "picturesque residence at Shampooker" in the midst of the *bustees* and slums of Black Town reduces the whole thing to bathos. Nor is that the only touch of absurdity in the notice.—But enough of this unpleasant episode of a sad event.

### THE PAKPARA RAJ SUIT.

BENGAL and the Bengal Government are singularly fortunate in the Chief Secretary. By all accounts, he is a sterling man. His antecedents are all in his favour. He early earned his Companionship of the Bath by pluck and prudence on a difficult expedition. Had it not been for his enterprise, courage, and management, the mission to Soopoo Lal would have failed like some others in that and other regions, or even might have been a scandal like the Eden embassy to Bhootan. The Deputy Commissioner not only succeeded in the specific undertaking, but, by his good administration, left a good name on the Eastern Frontier. He only wants ambition and advertising to make a great figure. His recent elevation to the Knighthood of the Indian Empire, though thoroughly deserved, must have been as great a surprise to him as to a good many. It is not such true men that are usually selected for the honors of the world, Sir John Edgar avoids ostentation, and loves to do his duty in silence. Yet, he is never wanting in social amenities and is ever ready to devote his good offices to the good of the people of this country in all possible ways, whether or not in his direct line. Thus, though a stranger, he lately tried to save the Pakpara family from the ruinous cost and bitterness of the litigation then, and we may say even now, pending in the High Court. It was a thankless task, in which success was most uncertain and the risk of displeasing all parties most imminent, yet he calmly undertook it and took a lot of trouble—to find it all for nothing. After all, the unfortunate cousins renewed the fight in court. There, it so happened however, that Judge Norris added his weight to the negotiation—on which Kumar Inder Chunder had set his heart—for a less expensive settlement of disputes between the contending litigants. The suit came on for hearing before Mr. Justice Norris on Monday the 8th April. A *rule nisi* had been obtained by Mr. Gasper on behalf of the Plaintiff Kumar Sarat Chunder Singh for the appointment of a Receiver. Messrs. Evans and Bonnerjee appeared to shew cause on behalf of Kumar Inder Chunder Singh. The Advocate-General and Mr. O'Kinealy represented Raja Poorna Chunder Singh. Mr. Pugh put in appearance for Ranees Puddomukhee, widow of the late Raja Protap Chunder Singh, father of the Plaintiff, Mr. Phillips represented the infant defendant Sirish Chunder Singh, a son of Raja Poorna Chunder and the adopted son of the late Kumar Grish Chunder, the eldest son of the late Raja Protap Chunder. Messrs. Woodroffe and Gasper appeared in support of the rule on behalf of the Plaintiff. Mr. Evans contended that the suit was not maintainable, in the face of the Agreement dated the 1st September 1887, by which Raja Poorna Chunder and Kumar Inder Chunder and Sarat Chunder, for themselves and as executors to the estate of the late Grish Chunder, bound themselves to refer all matters in dispute between themselves, including the partition of the joint property, to arbitration, and that, although a clause in the Agreement throws the whole cost on the recusant party in case a suit was brought, yet the Agreement is a bar to a suit if the conditions are not observed. A question now arose whether two counsel could be heard for one party. After a consultation with Mr. Justice Traversan, Mr. Justice Norris decided to hear both. The Judge wanted to hear Mr. Woodroffe before allowing Mr. Evans to go into the merits. Mr. Evans had other grounds and threw out the hint that those supporting him might be heard before Mr. Woodroffe, and suggested the appointment of a common manager under the Bengal Tenancy Act. The Advocate-General said the infant was bound by the clause about arbitration and therefore Plaintiff could not object on that score. Mr. Phillips would take no part in this dispute, but only wished that if there was to be a partition it ought to be carried out

least expensively. Mr. Pugh had nothing to say against the course proposed by those who shewed cause, but as there was no provision in the agreement for a share to his client, and as there might be difficulty in obtaining it in the event of the case being withdrawn by permission, he would ask for specific directions for a share. Mr. Woodroffe said Puddomukhee was entitled to a share, but the agreement makes no provision about it. He narrated the history of Section 21 of the Specific Relief Act and Section 28 of the Contract Act. Section 28 of the latter Act has been modified by Section 21 of the former. Section 28 is the substantive law and what follows simply modifies that. He then read the exceptions, and the repealed part of the section, and went into the history of the Act. The Judge interrupted Mr. Woodroffe, saying he could not allow him to refer to the Objects and Reasons given in the reports of the Council. After some further argument by Mr. Woodroffe, the Judge suggested that a Receiver be appointed and the suit withdrawn and the matters in dispute referred to two arbitrators with an umpire, without raising any questions of law at all. Mr. Woodroffe would have an arbitrator appointed in the suit and suggested the name of Mr. Belchambers. The Judge shewed a disinclination to discharge the rule, for then there might be an appeal and considerable delay and expense. He would prefer a Bengali gentleman of the bar for the partition of the estate who would command implicit confidence of both sides, as he would not like to see the old estate frittered away. He would order the arbitrator to proceed *de die in diem*. He wanted to know if the parties agreed. Mr. Woodroffe asked the Court to appoint a Receiver and an arbitrator. The Court next adjourned for parties to consult and agree.

On the Court reassembling, Mr. Evans announced that he was willing to accept Mr. Phillips as arbitrator, and Mr. Rajnarain Mitter as Receiver and manager on Rs. 1,000 a month. Mr. Woodroffe added "by consent of all parties." The Judge then declared that the course proposed was for the benefit of the infant defendant. Here Mr. Woodroffe suggested some matters to minimise the delay and expensiveness of partition proceedings which reflect very much on the discreditable system now ruling. It is time enough the Law Member took up the subject and devised some plan to save the existing Hindu joint families from the all absorbing law costs. Mr. Woodroffe would have Mr. Phillips as the sole referee. In case Mr. Phillips retired from any cause, he would have a second person appointed with equal powers who should not begin *de novo*, power being reserved for separate reports. He wished that the arbitrator be not at liberty to walk over the properties with his host of clerk, interpreter, engineers and attorneys of the parties to swell the costs on the plea of making himself acquainted with the subject of partition for a thorough and impartial division. Authority should also be reserved to call on parties to furnish the arbitrator with valuation lists of all items, such valuation lists to be taken as conclusive of value against them, also to call upon the Receiver to furnish the arbitrator with all information in his power. The arbitrator is to be left free to divide in any manner he pleased, and as far as possible to allot to each person whole estates. The arbitrator should have power to state cases—such as questions which may arise as to *debutter* property and maintenance of Mr. Pugh's client.

Mr. Evans would make Mr. Phillips the sole arbitrator on all questions, as all were agreed that he was perfectly competent to decide such questions which Mr. Woodroffe would reserve. The Advocate-General was willing that Mr. Phillips should decide whether a property was *debutter* or not and all questions of *stridhan*, amount of maintenance and all. Mr. Justice Norris ordered accordingly. Each party to bear his own costs, the infant's costs being paid out of the infant's property. Mr. Mitter was appointed Receiver without security, quite free to appoint and dismiss officers, and to lease out property. He is also to collect the rents of the *debutter* property, but to keep a separate account pending the decision of the arbitrator.

### THIRTY YEARS OF INDIAN FINANCE

BEING

Extracts from the "Memorandum on some of the results of Indian Administration," prepared at the India Office and lately presented to Parliament on the financial history of the last thirty years in India.

*Finance.*—The thirty years now under review began when the financial difficulties caused by the Sepoy Mutiny were at their height; between the years 1857 and 1862 those troubles caused a great excess of expenditure over revenue, and an addition of

Rx. 42,100,000 to the public debt of India. In the year 1861-62 equilibrium was practically restored to the finances. For the purpose of the present remarks it will be best to take the years before and after the financial disturbance caused by the mutiny. In the year 1856-57 the total revenue of India was Rx. 33,378,000, and the year closed with a deficit of Rx. 474,000. During the 20 years previous to the Mutiny there had been 14 years of deficit and six years of surplus, yielding a net deficit of Rx. 18,626,000, and an addition of Rx. 16,737,000 to the debt. During the 25 years from 1862-63 to 1886-87 there were 14 years of surplus, and 11 years of deficit, yielding a total surplus of Rx. 6,169,000. For the purpose of this reckoning the sum of Rx. 7,829,000, set aside between the years 1881-82 and 1886-87 to meet future liabilities on account of famine relief, has been treated as surplus. The debt of India on the 31st March 1887 was Rx. 92,654,000 and £84,228,000, or about 177 millions in all. But against this should be set 78 millions of capital spent on railways, 25 millions on irrigation works, and 7 millions on loans to Native States or local bodies; this outlay yields upon the whole a net return of about 5 per cent. The public debt of India, apart from capital thus invested, is therefore 67 millions, as against 51 millions before, and 93 millions after, the mutiny period. The reduction of the real burden of the debt has been achieved by spending in prosperous years large sums on reproductive works, and by investing the sums set aside against future famines either in the public stocks or in reproductive works. At the end of the mutiny period the rupee debt bore interest at rates ranging for the most part from 4 to 5½ per cent., and it was difficult to borrow money in England for India under 5 per cent. In 1888 the Indian debt bears interest at rates ranging from 3 to 4½ per cent.; the conversion of 53,261,820*l.* India 4 per cent. stock into a corresponding amount bearing only 3½ per cent., having been very recently effected; and during the present year money has been raised to pay off Indian loans or to pay for railways at the rate of 3-1/10 per cent. in England and of 4 per cent. in India.

*Income and Expenditure.*—The total revenue of India in 1886-87 was Rx. 62,859,000, exclusive of railway earnings and municipal funds. This is nearly double the revenue of the period before the mutiny; yet the increase is almost entirely due to the growth of revenue under old heads. The only new revenues are the income tax, the provincial rates, and the forest receipts; they yield in all about Rx. 3,500,000, which sum is not much greater than the yield of the customs, salt, and inland duties abolished at different times during the last twenty-five years. New local cesses and other imposts for local, municipal, and port improvements have been imposed since the mutiny; but they are expended entirely by local bodies on local objects, such as roads, harbours, hospitals, and town improvements.

The current expenditure of the year 1886-87, apart from capital outlay on railways and from local or municipal funds, was Rx. 61,492,000, which shows a very large increase over the expenditure of Rx. 33,852,000 in the year 1856-57. This increase is due partly to the fact that revenues and charges are now shown "gross," whereas in former years some heads were shown "net," partly to enhanced outlay on public works of all kinds, partly to the increased Army charges and partly to the silver difficulty described in the next following paragraph; but it is mainly due to the growing requirements of a civilised and improving administration. The interest payable for capital spent on reproductive works is larger; the pension list has increased; the land revenue administration is more elaborate; there are many more courts of justice and more police; the outlay on post offices and telegraphs has grown; the expenditure on education, on hospitals, on forest administration is many fold larger than it was in 1856; the standard of wages has risen; the average salaries paid to educated Native officers of all ranks have more than doubled, while the salaries of but few European Civil officers have increased, though the value of salaries paid in silver has fallen for the purpose of savings or expenditure in Europe. In order that the administration of India should be improved in accordance with the growing requirements of the present time, very much of this increased expenditure was absolutely unavoidable. Special commissions or inquiries are frequently instituted to check and reduce expenditure, and in this way economies are effected or increase is checked. The guardians of the Indian exchequer are constantly occupied in resisting proposals for additional expenditure, even though such proposals are shown to be in themselves reasonable and beneficial. But, with all this, the cost of a civilised government tends to increase, as is seen in England and other countries of Europe, and the increase has been more rapid in India, where such a government is of comparatively recent growth. The financial difficulties caused by the fall in the gold value of silver, and by the enhanced cost of the Army, have compelled the Government, both in India and in England, to take very stringent steps for restricting expenditure and preventing further increase.

*Current difficulty.*—During the last fifteen years the task of administering the finances of India has become much more difficult by reason of the fall in the value of silver as compared with gold. Ever since India has been a dependency of Great Britain, a consider-



able expenditure on account of India has had to be incurred in England. Three generations ago India paid what might have been called tribute, just as the Dutch East Indies do at the present time. But the days of such tributes from British India have long passed away; and the English expenditure of the Indian Government is on account of interest on so much of the public debt as was borrowed in England; on account of interest on guaranteed railway capital, nearly all of which was payable in gold; on account of stores, arms, and material for railways, troops, and public Departments; on account of the depôts and despatch of British troops for India; and on account of pensions to retired public servants and soldiers. About 15 millions sterling has, in these ways, to be spent in England on account of the Indian Government, and this has to be paid in gold, while the Indian revenues are raised in silver.

For nearly a hundred years, up to 1871, ten rupees of Indian money could on the average be exchanged for one pound sterling of English money. And at that rate Rx. 15,000,000 (or fifteen millions of ten rupees) would suffice to cover India's yearly liability of 15 millions sterling in England. But since 1871 silver has been practically demonetized in Europe; India and China are now the only great countries that freely coin or absorb silver; and the relative value of silver, as compared with gold, has gone steadily down. During the present year the sterling value of the rupee has been as low as 11.4d., as against 2 shillings, the usual value of former times. At this reduced rate it would cost India Rx. 22,500,000 (or twenty-two and a half millions of ten rupees) to meet her liabilities of 15 millions sterling in England. Thus the Indian exchequer may have to provide for the service of the year, on account of charges in England Rs. 7,500,000 more than it would have had to provide under the exchange rates of former times; and the charge thus arising fluctuates, from year to year, or from month to month, in accordance with the silver market, to an extent that the Indian financial authorities are wholly unable to foresee. By borrowing for railway extensions or other purposes in India instead of in England, future aggravation of the silver difficulty is to some extent avoided. During the present year a strong Royal Commission have been considering the currency difficulty, which was alleged to have injuriously affected trade. The great charges caused to the Indian Treasury by the fall in the gold value of silver account in great measure for the present difficulties of Indian finance; they form the principal reason why deficits have sometimes occurred in recent years, why the income tax has been revived and salt duties have been enhanced, why the rice duty has not been taken off, why outlay on public improvements has been restricted, and why some authorities advise the reimposition of customs duties on importations in India.

*Financial system.*—Before 1858 the absolute control of all the finances throughout India, down to the smallest detail, was in the hands of the Supreme Government. Not even a messenger on a rupee a week could be permanently engaged without the sanction of the Governor-General in Council; and detailed projects for even small and urgent works had to be submitted to the Government of India. There were no Budget Estimates published annually; and though expenditure was vigilantly restricted, and accounts were carefully audited, detailed grants of money were not fixed for each head of service, against which grants expenditure could be checked and brought to account. By Act of Parliament in 1858 the entire control of the revenues both in India and elsewhere is vested in the Secretary of State in Council; but as a matter of practice he delegates a large portion of this power to the Government of India under rules and regulations laid down from time to time.

In 1860 Mr. James Wilson introduced the system of annual Budget Estimates, with sanctioned grants for each sub-head in every province and district. Under this system Budget Estimates for the Empire are compiled from the sanctioned Estimates for each province and department; and the final Estimates are made public before the beginning of the year, together with the accounts and revised Estimates of the two preceding years. When the Budget Estimates of any year involve legislation for the reduction or increase of taxation, the Estimates are laid before the Legislative Council, whose sanction is sought to the projects of law brought forward. Every department and official is rigorously bound to keep expenditure within the sanctioned grant, or to report at once for orders if unforeseen circumstances, such as failure of crops, famine, or war, prevent the fulfilment of the sanctioned estimates of revenue, or necessitate excess outlay beyond the sanctioned grant. Behind the control of the Government of India is that of the Secretary of State for India in Council, who has laid down the principle that without his sanction no new office carrying a salary of more than Rx. 3,000 a year can be created, no serious departure from the sanctioned Budget Estimates is permitted, and no large scheme involving fresh expenditure can be launched. Mr. Wilson's system, with certain modifications of detail, is still in force. From the time when he made his Budget speech in February 1860, the Indian Budgets or projects of law relating to financial measures of the year have been discussed on 18 occasions in the Legislative Council, and have on 11 occasions been published without such discussion.

*Provincial Finance.*—As the business of the administration increased, it was found increasingly difficult for the Supreme Government to exercise a detailed control over every item of expenditure throughout the Empire. Although the Budget system imposed a strict limit on expenditure during any year, yet at the end of each year the Local Governments were constantly pressing that more funds should be devoted to administrative and other improvements in their provinces. Lord Mayo's Government in 1870 decided that wider financial responsibilities and powers might advantageously be delegated to the Local Governments; they transferred to the provincial authorities the entire management of certain heads of civil expenditure, allotted to each Local Government fixed grants to pay for these services or Departments, and left them full discretion to spend those grants to the best advantage, subject to Budget rules and to the reservation of the powers of the Secretary of State. At the same time a more complete control was delegated to Local Governments over expenditure from all funds raised for local purposes. It was found that his partial provincialisation of the finances saved much correspondence and friction, conduced to efficient administration, and led the Local Governments to introduce important economies and improvements that might otherwise have been indefinitely postponed.

In 1877, and again in 1882, the provincial system was carried much further; the remaining heads of civil expenditure, as well as the irrigation canals and some of the State railways, were placed under the financial control of the Local Governments. At the same time, the interest of the provincial authorities were still further increased in the development of the revenue by the delegation to them of the management of all heads of provincial revenue, and by allotting to them shares of that revenue instead of a fixed money grant, to meet the provincial expenditure. As the provincial finance system now stands, the Supreme Government keeps under its own control the opium, salt, customs, post office, and telegraph, tributes, mint, and currency receipts, and also the expenditure under those heads, on the army and military works, on political relations, on the public debt, and on certain trunk railways. The administrative control of other heads of revenue and expenditure devolves on the Local Governments. In round numbers and exclusive of railways, the Supreme Government keeps the control over Rx. 22,000,000 of revenue and Rx. 44,000,000 of expenditure, including payments in England, while to the Local Governments is delegated the control of Rx. 42,000,000 of revenue and Rx. 20,000,000 of expenditure.

Neither the Secretary of State in Council nor the Government of India is divested, by the provincial finance system, of responsibility for the finances or for the administration of provincialised revenues and departments. By the Budget rules, under provisions enacted by the Legislature, and by means of constant reports, they maintain control over the proceedings of the Local Governments. They reserve the right of modifying the provincial finance arrangements either periodically or when special need arises.

*Paper Currency and Mint.*—The three Presidency banks had a note circulation which reached Rx. 3,317,000 in the year 1860, and which was hardly current outside the cities of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras. In the year 1862 the private note circulation ceased, and the Government introduced a paper currency on the basis of complete convertibility into silver. There are now eight circles of issue, each of which gives in exchange for money notes ranging from Rs. 5 to Rs. 10,000 in value. Notes can be cashed up to any amount at the circle and head-quarters; and they can be obtained or cashed in moderate quantities at most of the district treasuries in the circle. The value of the currency notes in circulation, which began with Rx. 3,690,000, amounted in March 1888 to Rx. 16,424,000; for some years previous it had kept at about 14 millions without showing permanent tendency to advance. The service performed by the note circulation is more considerable than the foregoing figures might imply; for the returns of the past year show that from April 1887 to March 1888 Rx. 83¼ millions worth of notes were issued by the currency department for cash, while Rx. 80½ millions worth were cashed at currency offices and agencies. The Currency Act allows a part of the silver received for notes to be invested up to a maximum of Rx. 6,000,000. The full amount has been invested in Government securities for some years past; and the interest yielded by this investment amounts to Rx. 250,000 a year, while the expenditure of the Currency Department amounts to Rx. 37,000 a year.

Before the year 1858 there were three mints in British India. By reason of the railway communications and of improvements in mint processes and machinery, it was found possible to close the Madras mint, and to do the work of the country with two mints. The Indian mints now work as well and as economically as the present state of scientific knowledge permits, and minor improvements or economies are being introduced from year to year. The total value of the silver and copper coined in British India from 1859 to 1887 inclusive has been Rx. 188,098,000; the heaviest coinage in any one year was Rx. 16,329,000 during 1877-78, the year of the great famine, when large quantities of silver were sent to the mints either by importers or from hoards and jewellery in the distressed districts.



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BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,

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Nawab Faridoon Jah Bahadoor,

(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know; and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From

the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract].—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because he little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious; he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. .... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1889.

} No. 383

## CONTEMPORARY VERSE.

### THE BALLAD OF PANDAVA.

(Entbehren sollst Du, sollst entbehren.)

[ Concluded from p. 326. ]

#### PART III.

The priests and all the people  
Are out by Delhi Gate,  
And silently they watch the King  
Who leaves them desolate.

But never to the left hand,  
And never to the right,  
And never backwards turns the King ;  
And his face is changed and white.

And such a shining in their eyes  
Has dazzled men, they say,  
Who, having seen too bright a light,  
See nothing else away.

Not one of all that company  
Of men that weep and yearn  
Not one of all that company  
(Seeing those eyes that burn)  
Not one of all that company  
That dares to say, " Return ! "

But long they look, and hard they look,  
And very long they wait,  
Till but a wandering speck of white  
Is seen from Delhi Gate.

#### IV.

The sun burns down from morn till night,  
And underfoot the sand  
Blisters the feet of them that go  
Unresting through the land.

Far off the sea, a shield of steel  
Shines cruel and accurst,  
And fills the blazing air with brine  
That keeps them aye athirst.

" Oh, turn a little while, Pandava,  
Tarry and turn thee round !  
Thy wife that was so fair and kind  
Lies dying on the ground ! "

" My way lies on in front, brother,  
I may not turn aside ;  
She loved another more than I,  
And, therefore, hath she died. "

" Oh turn, by all our love, Pandava,  
For lo ! at thy right hand  
Our youngest one, our Lionheart,  
Lies senseless on the sand ! "

" My way lies on in front, brother,  
I may not turn aside ;  
He gloried vainly in his strength,  
And, therefore, hath he died. "

" Nay, hear me now at last, Pandava,  
The twins, the crown of grace,  
Lie dying in each other's arms  
And ask to see thy face ! "

" My way lies on in front, brother,  
I may not turn aside :  
Too well they knew that they were fair,  
And, therefore, have they died. "

" Nay, I, thine other self, brother,  
I sink upon the sand,  
Oh say, what was my secret sin !  
Oh, reach thy helping-hand ! "

" My way lies on in front, brother,  
I cannot help thee, I :  
Thou deemd'st thyself more wise than God,  
And, therefore, must thou die. "

Straight on goes King Pandava  
Alone but for the hound,  
He goes towards the Heavenly Gates,  
Nor ever turns around.

#### V.

When seven days were come and gone,  
Pandava fell asleep  
Beneath a palm tree on the sand ;  
And his sleep was sound and deep

And when he woke at last, abashed,  
While still the dawn was bright,  
Lo ! at his feet an Angel  
Stood in a rush of Light

" Lo ! I am here, Pandava !  
My chariot waits for thee !  
And gladly would that King have gone,  
But his hound moaned long and dree.

" Fain would I come, thou Angel,  
But lo ! I am not free ;  
I cannot leave my faithful hound  
Who mourned so long with me. "

" Oh, thou art a loyal master, King,  
If he is a loyal hound,  
Wert thou as true to them that lie  
Unburied on the ground ? "

" The dead, they sleep at ease, I think,  
'Twas they abandoned me.  
My faithful hound had never died  
In my necessity.

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"Through heat and cold, the days of thirst,  
The dreary nights and dim,  
He went with me; and now, Angel,  
I e'en must go with him!"

"—Nay, call thy hound to thee, O King,  
In heaven he is no hound!  
He only is a faithful soul  
Whose service knew no bound.

"Oh, call thy hound and mount with me  
My chariot tarries long."  
And gladly would that King have gone,  
But his heart mourned sore and strong.

"Fain would I come, thou Angel,  
But I must stay behind;  
I cannot leave my dead brothers,  
My wife, the dear and kind.

"As I forewent the joys of earth  
So Heaven I now forego,  
And as I left my dead brothers,  
Thee must I leave also."

"Nay, dry thy tears, O King, for still  
My chariot waits for thee:  
Lo! at the gate of Heaven  
Thy dear ones shalt thou see.

"They stand around the Throne of God,  
Like lilies dear and white;  
But thou shalt enter Heaven alive,  
Among these souls of light.

"They stand around the Throne of God,  
Like roses white and fresh;  
But thou shalt enter Heaven alive,  
Still in thy robe of flesh.

"Lo! thou shalt enter Heaven alive,  
Because thou didst forego  
More utterly, more deeply,  
Than any man may know."

He ceased: a trembling took the earth,  
The skies were strange to see,  
And lo! the heavens opened,  
The stars shouted for glee.

One lightning flash from Earth to Heaven  
And by the stricken palm,  
There was for miles no living thing,  
Only the endless calm.

Nor shall the like again be seen  
Of all the saints that strive,  
No other King Pandava  
Shall enter Heaven alive.

A. MARY F. ROBINSON

*The Indian Spectator*

(Mdme. James Darmesteter.)

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

MR. A. MACKENZIE, C.S.I., goes on two months and sixteen days' leave. The Hon'ble R. J. Crosthwaite, Judicial Commissioner, acts during the period the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

THE two Members of the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, are now formally permitted to exercise generally all the duties, powers, and authority vested in the Board collectively. Accordingly, the Honourable F. M. Halliday will have independent power in the department of Land Revenue. That includes revenue, survey, settlement, land registration, land improvements, the sale or lease of waste land and Government estates, the management of wards' and attached estates, the collection of cesses, the realization of arrears of revenue, and the recovery of public demands, rent suits, embankments, pensions, the examination, enrolment, &c., of revenue agents, putni sales and the

supply of provisions for troops. Mr. F. B. Peacock, now Mr. J. Beames the other officiating Member, will be lord over the departments of Miscellaneous Revenue, including excise, assessed taxes, salt, opium, customs, stamps, and stationery, tolls and canals, the partition of estates, and the acquisition of land for public purposes.

THE dog-tax has been sanctioned for the Cantonment of Quetta and fixed at one rupee, per calendar year, for every dog of the age of six months or more. It will be recovered from the person or persons owning or having charge of such dog but not from any warrant officer or from any non-Commissioned officer or soldier of Her Majesty's regular forces. They are exempt as also persons not residing for more than thirty days in a year. The tax is payable on the first day of March and recoverable by a summary proceeding under the Code of Criminal Procedure.

THE preliminary and final tests of the competitive examination for admission into the Superior Accounts Branch of the Public Works Department for the current year will begin on the 5th August and 18th November respectively, at the Thomason Civil Engineering College, Rurki, and at the Office of an Examiner of Accounts of the P. W. Department as may suit the convenience of the candidates who have received nominations.

THE Magician Mr. S. J. Kilby has charmed his way up to Simla. He will now draw his pay from the Department of Finance and Commerce. Mr. W. P. Vanspall, Inspector, Preventive Service, will perform the additional duties of Superintendent, Customs Preventive Service and Sulkeah Salt Golahs, and Mr. R. Drake, Sub-Deputy Opium Agent, will act both as Superintendent of Stationery and Stamps and Collector of Income Tax.

BABOO MOHENDRA NATH BHATTACHARJEE, Deputy Collector, Howrah, has been accepted as Personal Assistant to the new Commissioner of Excise under the Board of Revenue. Baboo Pran Kumar Das, a rising young officer, had reckoned on this post, but meanwhile the family seem to have wearied of the department of publicans and sinners—rendered more than ever undesirable, we suspect, from the fierce light of public discussion, here as well as in England, which has of late been let on it—and he cast a longing eye on another similar office at the Presidency. No sooner desired than got, he recently found himself smuggled into a Personal Assistantship of the Presidency Commissioner, to the amazement of Baboo Tariney Kumar Ghose, who was shunted out *instantly*, and *not*, we are constrained to add, to the credit of the Commissioner, still less of the Bengal Office.

MR. A. U. FANSHAWE has been confirmed as Director-General of the Post Office of India.

MR. H. A. D. PHILLIPS does not go back to Rajshahi. He is *Gazetted* for Dinagepoor.

THE Bengal Government has been enabled to do some justice to Baboo Durgagaty Banerjee. The Baboo has been confirmed as Deputy Collector of Calcutta and Superintendent of Excise Revenue. He has infused new vigor into the Departments and removed many abuses.

THE Jail in the Town of Bardwan will be extended. Eleven beegahs of land have been declared under the Act. Has there been a fresh importation of budmashes?

THE *Army and Navy Gazette* thus comments on the present movements of Stanley and Emin Pasha:—

"Some portions of the latest news respecting Mr. Stanley are not very intelligible, and at present it is quite impossible to understand where the gallant explorer is, or what he has been doing. But it is plain that he was alive and well quite recently, although his expedition seems to have suffered terribly, and we may expect to hear of him from Mombasa—the chief station of the British East African Company—in the course of the next few weeks. Both he and Emin Pasha appear to be forcing their way down to the East Coast, but as to what route they are taking, or what force they have at their disposal, we are in absolute ignorance. It is certain, however, that the district through which Stanley and Emin would have to pass to reach the East Coast is most dangerous. It has of late been the centre of the Arab movement of which so much has been heard, and which must be regarded as one of

the effects of Mahdism in the Soudan, although in all probability it was greatly intensified by the action of German officials in the neighbourhood of Zanzibar. In ordinary circumstances the life of a European in these regions would not be worth an hour's purchase, but, fortunately, Mr. Stanley's influence with the native tribes has always been most remarkable, and, in addition to this, he seems to have the assistance of Tippoo Tib, whose influence with the Arab slave-traders is enormous. Stanley and Emin must, too, have a powerful force, that is if Emin is bringing away his Egyptian and black soldiers, a force that ought to be quite strong enough, we should think, to beat down any opposition that might be offered. Before the summer is over we shall probably hear of the final success of one of the most difficult and daring undertakings ever attempted."

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AN amorous swain of a young farm labourer at Villenouvelle, near Toulouse, asked his master for the hand of his daughter. For this impertinence the fellow was dismissed from service. He took it very seriously to heart, and had his revenge by murdering the father and mother as well as the labourer who had replaced him in the labour of the farm. Nor did he spare the poor girl whom he had proposed to make his wife. What a horrible brute for a Christian or civilised country to produce!

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THE Lord Mayor of London is raising a fund for the Pasteur Institute of Paris and for the assistance of English patients seeking its services. The Prince of Wales has given 100 guineas in aid of the fund.

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THE explorer Dr. Nansen has read an account before the Royal Geographical Society of his successful journey last summer across the interior of Greenland. It is said, early next spring, he contemplates another journey further north, and if that prove successful, he will make for the North Pole itself.

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THE Lick Observatory, Mount Hamilton, boasts of the largest telescope in the world. The United States Naval Observatory, Washington, keeps a telescope of 26-inch lens; the University of Virginia has one of the same calibre; the Imperial Observatory, Pulkowa, Russia, has still more telescopic power by 4 inches; but the Lick Observatory outdistances them all by its 36-inch telescope. These are all by Mr. Alvan G. Clark, of Cambridge, Massachusetts. He is now engaged on a yet larger telescope, of 40-inch lens, for the University of Southern California. The cost has been estimated at 100,000 dols. Mr. E. F. Spence, of Los Angeles, has given enough funds to guarantee this large sum. The glass plate from which the lens is to be ground is now being made in Paris by M. Mantois. It is expected the lens will be completed in 1892.

We hope this great advance in telescopic power will be more fruitful of discovery than hitherto. The great Rosse monster has proved a disappointment.

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THE Silly season of collectors has been abolished in America, and there is mourning among the caterers to bibliomaniacs. The *Book-Lover* of New York says "It is rapidly becoming an established custom with Americans to discard all kinds of hobbies during the summer season." The monthly will be accordingly suspended during the hot months.

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HERE are more of Mr. Serjeant Robinson's reminiscences in the just published *Bench and Bar*. There was a Judge at the Old Bailey named Arabin who was a famous breeder of that variety of intellectual zoology called bulls.

Thus, in sentencing a prisoner, he once said—

"Prisoner at the bar, if ever there was a clearer case than this of a man robbing his master, this case is that case." He also told a prisoner that he should have 'a chance of redeeming a character that he had irretrievably lost.'"

Again, in passing sentence on another prisoner, he claimed to temper justice with mercy, saying—

"It is in my power to subject you to transportation for a period very considerably beyond the term of your natural life, but the court, in its mercy, will not go as far as it lawfully might go."

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THE *Statesman's* Srinagar Correspondent reports a story current there. The State Council from Srinagar sent a telegram to Radhakishen, the present Governor of Jammoo, (sometime Governor of Ladak) to order the Chief Judge at Jammoo, Babu Dassedram, to come up to Srinagar at once. The Baboo wanted a few days' time to go as he was suffering from ill health. The Governor reported accordingly,

whereupon an order came from the Council dismissing the Chief Judge. The latter called on the Governor and called for the authority of the Council to dismiss him. It is said that the Governor told him that the Maharaja was now a cipher and the Council all in all, and that he must obey the Council. The Chief Judge thereupon turned round upon the Governor and questioned his authority to speak thus of the Maharaja. He called for the order appointing the Council and refused to give up office till the Maharaja's orders to the Council to dismiss him were shown. He then repaired to the Maharaja who was at Jammoo and reported what had happened, and afterwards arrested the Governor for the remark he had made against the Maharaja. The Governor has been set at large, but the Judge is still in office.

That is a mere story, we believe—highly exaggerated, if not utterly unfounded.

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It is said that Muckly the Man of Munmon, of America, and his wife are about to sue two London journals for libel for insinuating that they came by their fortune by questionable means. Here is a prospect indeed for the lawyers and the *quidnuncs*.

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THE late proceedings at the Mansion House, in honor of the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava and Earl of Ava, have been received throughout Great Britain in a spirit most flattering to his feelings. The whole press, without regard to party differences, have endorsed the "ovation," and the criticism on his Lordship's own utterances on the occasion have been generous to a degree. Yet, there has been no lack of appreciation of the merits of the general questions involved in a judgment on the late administration. The annexation of Burma was felt to be a difficulty by his best friends. Thus, the *Leeds Mercury*, notwithstanding its warm sympathy with the demonstrations of honor in the ex-Viceroy's favor, does not hesitate to say—

"Burmah, thus far, is rather a reproach than a glory to the English name. It was in November, 1885, that Upper Burmah was annexed by us, and it cannot yet be pronounced to be even approximately pacified."

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THE same journal concludes its eloquent and well-merited *éloge* on the late viceroyalty in these words:—

"What we have really done, notwithstanding nearly a century of experience in India, and more than thirty years of experience in Lower Burmah, has been to commit blunder after blunder; to demonstrate an inconceivable incapacity for the suppression of, and the discrimination between the real and the imaginary, dacoity; to alienate the orderly and the peaceful, and to aggravate into bitterness the patriotism we ought to have done our utmost to conciliate. We have more than once signalled some of the notable blunders that have marked our mismanagement, and amongst them the disbanding at the outset of disaffected troops without disarming them, and the subsequent carrying out of a ruthless and indiscriminating disarmament of townsmen and villagers. The fatality still clings to us. The latest of the so-called measures of pacification seems to rival the worst of its predecessors. The *Times*' correspondent at Rangoon says 'the Deputy-Commissioners throughout the upper province have been granted power summarily to compel the inhabitants of the smaller villages to leave their homes and transfer themselves to larger villages. This measure, which, by massing the villagers in greater numbers, is supposed to place them in a better position to resist dacoits, often involves for the villagers the necessity of moving many miles and abandoning their crops. These forced removals entail so much hardship and loss on the people that they are migrating to the lower province in great numbers.' The *Rangoon Gazette* and the *Mandalay Herald* equally condemn this measure. 'Villagers who for generations have depended on certain occupations, which the locality of their old villages enabled them to follow, have been removed to places where the pursuit of any occupation by which they could earn their bread was rendered impossible.' No wonder that this is described by the Press as an 'absolutely unaccountable policy,' and one that is resulting in 'an unjustifiable amount of real and avoidable distress, and in rapidly depopulating the upper provinces.' No wonder also that the *Mandalay Herald* adds, 'This particular policy of the local Government specially deserves the attention of the House of Commons.' We trust that Mr. Bradlaugh will persist in his avowed dissatisfaction with Sir John Gorst's recent reply to his question respecting our rule in Burmah, and will call the attention of the House seriously and resolutely to this—though not only to this—latest manifestation of the unwisdom with which the welfare of the Burmese and the honour and the interests of the English Empire are being damaged and imperilled. If Sir Charles Crosthwaite should really be about to retire, it is earnestly to be hoped that the Government may at last be able to nominate a Chief Commissioner who will know how to take up responsibilities which have been thus far most unhappily misplaced."

It is satisfactory to know that the provincial press of England, which is now practically more important than the metropolitan journals, keeps an intelligent watch over at least the larger transactions of the Indian Empire.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THEY are talking in the Mother Country of the prospect of a normal prorogation of Parliament and no autumn session.

The cotton manufacturers, at a meeting in Manchester, have resolved to work for a month half time.

Mr. Parnell has given a new turn to the Parnell Commission. All the counsel on his side have been withdrawn. On the announcement, on the 16th, by Sir Charles Russell that he and Mr. Asquith had been instructed to withdraw from the case, Sir James Hannen said that Mr. Parnell continues under the jurisdiction of the Commission.

The Whitechapel murders have not ceased. Another dead woman was found, on the 16th, in Castle-street, with her throat cut and body lashed horribly. The Police have not yet spotted any murderer. They have not to seek him far, we suspect.

The mobilisation has commenced of the British Navy at Spithead for the grand review and naval manœuvres next month before the Emperor of Germany.

Mr. Gladstone suggested a compromise for the Royal grants and the doubling of the grant to the Prince of Wales to £80,000 per annum. The Government have agreed to the compromise with certain reservations.

Lord Salisbury, at a private meeting of Conservative organisers at the Tower Hamlets, has expressed the opinion that the only means of preserving peace was for the country to be thoroughly armed.

The French Chamber of Deputies has voted sixty-one million francs for better coast defences and for more ships.

As a check against Boulangism the Chamber has passed a Bill forbidding any one to stand for more than one constituency.

The Committee of the Senate has finally ordered the trial of General Boulanger, Count Dillon, and M. Rochefort for conspiracy to overthrow the Republic. The General is further charged with gross malversation.

The Chamber has closed its sessional labors.

In Egypt, the Dervishes continue to cause anxiety. They have taken up a strong position at Khor with 2,500 fighting men. General Grenfell called upon Wad-el-Njumi and his Dervishes to surrender, but the bearer of the message got a beating and was sent back without a reply. A reply has since been received reminding the General of the fate of Hicks Pasha and General Gordon.

SIR Evelyn Baring, in a letter to Lord Salisbury reporting the progress in Egypt, says that though the reforms so far undertaken have been in a great measure due to the English military occupation which supports the British advice in Egyptian affairs, frankly admits the cordiality with which the Khedive and his ministry have introduced improvements.

THERE have been several and serious landslips in Simla. A condemned and untenanted three-storeyed house in the bazar, near the Ripon Hospital, has been carried away by one of the slips.

LORD LANSDOWNE has offered, during his stay in India, five silver and two bronze medals to successful female medical students in connection with the Lady Dufferin Fund. He might have spared the bronze *bagatelle*. Depreciated silver is the cheapest metal for the British Mogul to descend to.

THE Calcutta Lady Dufferin Hospital Fund has been enriched by Rs. 20,000, out of the balance of the local Jubilee Fund.

SIR STEWART BAYLEY, accompanied by the Revenue Secretary Mr. C. E. Buckland, the Private Secretary Mr. P. C. Lyon, and the A. D. C. Captain Currie, started on his Patna tour by the ordinary up-mail on Monday evening. The party dined at Burdwan and arrived at Bankipur at nine next morning. There were present at the platform, Mr. Boxwell the Commissioner, Mr. Tweedie the Judge, Mr. Kemble the Opium Agent, Mr. Faulder the Collector, the Maharaja of Hutwa, Dewa Jaiprakash Lal of Doomraon and others.

THE Chief Secretary Sir John Edgar has gone to Orissa to enquire into the distressed condition of the Tributary Mahals.

MISS EDITH MABEL DUFF has been sent back to prison. The N.-W. P. High Court considers the punishment already suffered, too short for her secret love, and open horror, of a native torch-bearer—*musalchi*. The particulars will be found in the following judgment of the Chief Justice:—

"The Hon. the Chief Justice (Mr. Justice Straight and Mr. Justice Tyrrell concurring): Edith Mabel Duff was convicted by the Joint-Magistrate of Allahabad on her own confession for having committed perjury in a statement which was made to the Magistrate on the 6th December 1888, in which she charged one Mr. Edwards with being the father of her illegitimate child. On that statement on the 6th December 1888, a summons was issued to Mr. Edwards to show cause why an order in bastardy should not be made against him. The girl Duff had been in the service of one Mrs. Gordon. That statement, as far as we know, she persisted in until it was withdrawn by her formally on the 8th May 1889, when she went before Mr. Elloy, the Deputy Magistrate, who had heard her application on the 6th December. On the 8th May last she retracted what she said on the 6th December 1888, and said that a *musalchi*, and not Mr. Edwards, was the father of the child. Arising out of this original statement of hers, a prosecution was instituted against her step-father, Mr. Stewart. He, assuming that her story was true, appears to have written the letter in respect to which he was prosecuted for defamation. In the course of the prosecution, the evidence of Mrs. Gordon on the 16th January 1889 was taken on commission. Mrs. Gordon's evidence shortly was that the girl Duff had confessed to her that this *musalchi* was the father of the child. It is almost impossible to believe that the girl Duff was unaware of Mrs. Gordon's evidence being taken: and it was not until the eve of Mr. Stewart's trial for defamation in this Court that the girl went before Mr. Elloy to withdraw the application she had preferred for maintenance of the child. The girl was charged with the offence of perjury with regard to the statement made by her on the 6th December 1888. The case came before the Joint-Magistrate of Allahabad on the 31st May 1889. On that occasion she pleaded guilty, and threw herself on the mercy of the Court. The Joint-Magistrate's judgment was as follows:—Miss Duff pleads guilty. As the facts of the case stand, it does not seem to be a very serious offence. In consideration of her age, nineteen years, and sex, the only sentence will be a week's simple imprisonment. We know the facts of the case as before the Joint-Magistrate, which were that the girl had given birth to an illegitimate child; that the father of that child was a *musalchi*; and that, in order to mitigate as far as possible her misconduct, she wilfully and deliberately went before Mr. Elloy, and, upon oath, stated that Mr. Edwards was the father; that he had seduced her whilst she was under his roof and in his employment. The Joint-Magistrate could have seen nothing from the fact that the girl was only nineteen years of age, or in the fact of her sex, to induce him to think that one week's simple imprisonment was, in the interests of justice, likely to be a sufficient or deterring punishment. It is to my mind a most wicked offence. The public must be protected against repetitions of offences such as this was. We think that the girl's evidence was aggravated by having persisted in it until the time had arrived when Mrs. Gordon's evidence on commission was taken. We have considered carefully what ought to be done in this case. Speaking entirely for myself I might say that I consider cases of perjury, particularly where character is concerned, should be dealt with severely by courts of justice; and had it not been for the fact that I see before me a girl in delicate health, I would have been disposed to suggest a severer punishment than that which we have decided to inflict. The fact that she is only a girl of nineteen years of age, or that she put forward before the Magistrate her innocence and inexperience and distress, does not weigh with me at all. The more apparently innocent and youthful a girl is who makes a statement of this kind, the more likely the public is to believe that statement is well founded, and we pass upon her an enhancement of sentence amounting to three months' simple imprisonment."

We can understand the difficult situation in which the poor girl was placed, and in some measure almost sympathise with her. How could she avow such a degrading connection as she had embraced? But she had no excuse for ruining the innocent. Her callousness is frightful. She deliberately lied away the honor and liberty of a fellow Christian who had done her no harm whatsoever. She has got her desert only. It is right that an example has been made of her. It is a relief to find that the High Court, without succumbing to a maudlin sentiment in behalf of weak woman, has had the courage and firmness to do full justice. The protection of society required such a stern measure.

THE Braided Wire Company brought an action against Thompson and Co., the eminent corset makers, for infringing their invention in bustles, the object of which was to provide a light, cool, and elastic bustle, or dress improver, of novel construction, which should be graceful in outline, easy on the wearer, and durable in use. The invention was further described as composed of a tubular section or sections of braided or plaited wire secured to the waistband. Mr. Justice Kekewich decided against the plaintiffs, holding their patent to be invalid. The Judges of the Court of Appeal reversed Mr. Justice Kekewich's decision, and the majority of the Judges of the House of Lords have now agreed with the Court of Appeal, so that the American Company's patent is upheld. Heaps of ladies' dresses and dress improvers—different styles of bodices and busks—were pro-



duced in Court—to the profound edification of the grave and reverend seigniors of the Bench, who pored over them with the solemnity of the experts of the great House of Thompson—the melancholy for which tailors are famous. All the mechanism and mystery of female attire, was—without the least immodest suggestion—laid bare to be the sport of male furies paid to kick up a row over it, and the object of the graver deliberation of the Bench. It might be an overwhelming disclosure under certain circumstances and in particular cases, but it is to be presumed there was no danger in the present instance, either to the female world or to the rather effete, gray-beared wiggery on the bench. The Lord Chancellor said :—

“It is certain that the thing itself, a bustle, is old, and was made of horse-hair and whalebone, and other elastic materials, before the date of the plaintiff's patent. A pillow or pad is neither more nor less than a pillow or pad, and even if it could be truly alleged that a pillow or pad had never been used as a bustle before, it would need strong argument to convince me that placing a pillow or pad behind the female waist, to stretch out a dress, was a subject matter for a patent.”

Lord Watson, on the other side, was much more appreciative. He had evidently taken his wife into counsel. He spoke quite in the language of Thompson's advertisements, saying that “the result of the plaintiff's invention was a complete article, light, effective, not likely to get out of order, and capable of being manufactured and sold cheaply.”

THE Magistrate of Allahabad, Mr. F. Porter has been commissioned to enquire into the complaint of Captain Hearsey against Dr. Hall. Next Monday has been fixed for the purpose. But the Captain is unable to be present at Allahabad that day, as his case against the editor-in-chief and printer of the *Pioneer* comes on before our chief Presidency Magistrate on Wednesday following. The Captain is also anxious that charges of cruel treatment against the Superintendent of the Naini Jail should be investigated by a Government other than the N.-W. P., and has appealed to the Governor-General-in-Council to that effect. The Captain has therefore asked the Magistrate of Allahabad to postpone his enquiry till the reply of the Supreme Government. That is an idle request, seeing that the Magistrate is under the orders of his Government. Practically it is all the same whether that official listens to the Captain or not. He cannot proceed with the inquiry without Captain Hearsey, unless indeed he is specifically commanded in that behalf. He will report Captain Hearsey's reply to the Lieutenant-Governor. But we do not suppose Sir Auckland Colvin will, at this stage, order such a useless thing as an inquiry behind the party aggrieved. It is doubtful whether the hero of the hour will be as successful with the Government of India as he has been with the Calcutta High Court. The ordinary course would have been to address the Government of the Upper India. But Captain Hearsey has received so little fair-play from the officials of the North Western Provinces that we can well understand his reluctance to have anything to say to any of them. Anyhow, even a well-founded grievance of that kind will scarcely postpone the constitution.

Two days ago, we heard, from a source which we had no reason to suspect, that the *Pioneer* was anxious to compromise the case in the Calcutta Magistracy. This so well tallied with our own speculations—our wishes as well as expectations—that we the more readily believed our information. We were told that a letter had gone from Allahabad to lawyers in Calcutta to ask them to effect an amicable settlement. Here, however, we see no signs as yet. At any rate, Captain Hearsey has heard nothing. There has been a request made to him to dispense with the personal attendance of Mr. Dare, the printer of the Allahabad paper, which has been generously complied with by the complainant. That is all.

As members of the Press we are interested in this matter. The less of press prosecutions the better for us all. We would therefore naturally see this matter made up between the belligerents, before active hostilities broke out. The *Pioneer* can derive no benefit from the issue of this litigation. There is no triumph in store for it or its Editor—the utmost it can hope for is to escape the clutches of the law. As for Captain Hearsey, he only seeks the vindication of his honor. For this, he has been taking all this trouble, far away from home and family and children.

BROTHERS Rup and Raghu are the luckiest dogs going—to use an expressive colloquialism. They are having a continued run of fortune.

First the *Garib* apologised to them for having represented native opinion, not wisely but too well. And now the editor and the printer of the *Dacca Probash* have been sentenced to imprisonment. The accommodating Magistrate Mr. Hare has prescribed one month's simple imprisonment and Rs. 500 fine for the editor and one day's nominal imprisonment—that is, till the rising of the Court—for the printer—the latter, who had basely deserted his master and gone over to the enemy, having been recommended to the mercy of the court by the complainants. The editor was bailed out and an appeal on his behalf has been made to the Judge.

THE Crawford scandal, as was to be expected, has led to other scandals. The Blue-book on the subject has arrived in India. Its most notable content is a confidential report which ought never to have been allowed to go out of the secret drawers in the Secretary of State's bureau. We are not surprised that the Inspector-General of Police, Mr. H. T. Ommaney's elaborate narrative has roused the passion of Bombay. He not only hints at foul dodges, but makes open charges against many good individuals from Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy and Mr. Chiplonkar of the Poona political association called the Sarvajanic Sabha. The Parsis as a race are condemned. They are concerting plans to clear themselves. In justice to the Inspector-General, we must say he does not spare his own people. The whole atmosphere of Bombay is corrupt. Mr. Ommaney has certainly displayed extraordinary courage and devotion. His report is the best vindication of the good faith and singleness of purpose of the Bombay Government in this arduous Crawford business. We publish elsewhere some extracts from Mr. Ommaney's memoranda.

THE Governor-General in Council has accorded his permission to the Calcutta Municipality to raise the debenture loan of fifty lacs of rupees, at an interest not exceeding five per cent, for the new central road from the Howrah Bridge to the Sealdah Railway station. It is not proposed to raise the amount all at once, but in instalments as found necessary, and for terms not exceeding five years. The original plan of acquiring extra lands to sell for meeting the cost of acquisition and construction has, we believe, been partially abandoned. Owners giving up to the Municipality, free of cost, the necessary land for the road, will be left unmolested in the enjoyment of the remaining portions of their holdings. That will reduce the profit from the sale of surplus lands.

WITH the Chief Justice for Vice and virtual head, and a lot of lawyers of every grade, from Judges to Pleaders, on its governing board, they are naturally tending to make a regular Chancery of the University.

On a requisition from sixteen members, there was, on the 29th June, a special meeting of the Senate of the Calcutta University “to appoint a Special Committee to enquire into the cause which led to the very unsatisfactory results at the last Arts Examination of the University, and to report thereon to the Senate.” In the absence of the Vice-Chancellor (Sir Comer Petheram,) Mr. Justice Trevelyan was voted to the chair. On a call from him, the Registrar, Mr. Tawney, read the notice convening the meeting. The reading over, he begged to point out that, under the byelaws, “No question shall be considered by the Senate that had not been in the first instance considered and decided by the Syndicate.” The Chairman thought it would be a pity if no business could be done at that unusually large meeting, and invited the members to point out the way, if any, out of the difficulty. There was a discussion as to the rights of the Senate independent of the Syndicate. Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee contended that the byelaw was intended for ordinary business as a matter of convenience, that it could not govern a special case, and that the Senate was above all byelaws. It could initiate any action. He was loath to disappoint the members who were present that day. He therefore formally moved that the meeting proceed to the business of the day. There

*Holloway's Pills and Ointment.*—Vicissitudes of climate, exposure and hardships, tell heavily on soldiers and sailors, sowing the seeds of diseases which may ultimately break up the constitution. Naturally careless of their health a word in season may avert many evils, and may cause them to resort to timely measures without any difficulty or publicity. Holloway's effectual remedies are so suitable, and are so easily adapted for the varied complaints to which our soldiers and sailors are liable, that a supply should always be obtained before proceeding abroad. It may with confidence be stated that many a valuable life might have been saved, or confirmed cripple prevented from begging in the streets, if Holloway's remedies had been used in time.

was no want of a seconder, among so many who had been attracted by the subject of the notice. Mr. Justice Trevelyan now felt himself called upon to exercise the right of the Chair. He was not sure that the ordinary rule about public meetings applied in the present instance. The question was one of construction of the bylaw and he was not convinced by the argument of Mr. Bonnerjee. The Senate could not arrogate to itself the power, which the Vice-Chancellor alone possesses, of calling a meeting. He therefore could not allow the subject to be considered at that meeting. Mr. Bonnerjee reminded the chair that the meeting was called on a requisition by the Vice-Chancellor himself. Thereupon the meeting descended to a desultory conversation which was brought to a head by Dr. Hearnle moving an amendment for adjournment, which motion was seconded and lost. Mr. Macdonald next moved a further amendment that the matter be referred, under the bylaw, to the Syndicate. Several members spoke on this amendment, Raja Pearymohun Mookerjee being of opinion that the votes of the majority could not decide the question—the interpretation of the bylaw, that the Vice-Chancellor had called the meeting and he was the proper and responsible interpreter of the laws of the University, and that the Registrar's objection was too late. Mr. Bonnerjee, barrister-at-law, could not accept the opinion of the Raja Plesader. The Vice-Chancellor, if not a Chief Justice, could not command that obedience. An Engineer Vice, for instance, would be nowhere. Mr. Rowe, who had spoken once, would now have "one more word"—always an ominous preface, but Mr. Bonnerjee rose to order. Mr. Rowe attempted again and the Chairman formally ruled him out of order. In reply to Mr. Bonnerjee, the Chairman was not prepared to say that he had the power to say that that meeting should go on. He believed he had the power to decide as to the rules of procedure at the meeting itself. At the same time he was not sure that his power went farther. Bred up in the profession of the English law, he was not allowed to rely on his own judgment but must always have authority to go upon. Unfortunately, a brand new institution like the Calcutta University is necessarily a pauper in case-law. Its archives are deficient in Reports. He could find no precedent. Speaking from his unsophisticated understanding, he was free to say that it would be desirable for the Chairman if he had the power. The motion and the amendment were then put to the vote. The hands raised seemed equal. Mr. Bonnerjee suggested division; which done, the result shewed that Mr. Macdonald had carried the day. Mr. Rowe had not yet done with his one word, and now he made a last despairing effort. In the midst of cries of order, he delivered himself of a really notable bantling but stone dead, vociferating that at that moment there was no Vice-Chancellor. It was to no purpose, but the reminder if produced in time might have been a source of some embarrassment. Mr. Bonnerjee enquired of the Chairman what was the effect of the amendment carried. The Chairman replied that the Requisition has been referred to the Syndicate for consideration. Mr. Tawney remained victor in the field. After all, the Senate conformed to the bylaw pointed out by the Registrar. We hope the incident will open the eyes of these Fellows to the necessity of a radical reform of the University by legislation.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1889.

### SIR LEPEL GRIFFIN'S LAST DELIVERANCE ON THE NATIVE STATES.

SIR LEPEL GRIFFIN'S lecture at the Royal Colonial Institute, last month, was a most unfortunate one. He entirely misrepresented and exaggerated the conditions of things with our native Princes. The mischievousness of his views would have been incalculable were the source which the statements came from less tainted. But the lecturer, if an authority in these days at all, is not unprejudiced and sober authority. Always an embarrassment to his employers and supporters, his best friends must now, for their own credit, shake him off. It is pleasing to know that even the *Times* had some qualms of con-

science as to the accuracy and sincerity of the statements made by the disappointed Knight of Central India.

The *Times* says Sir Lepel "watched the proceedings of native courts too closely, and has been too much engaged in controlling them to be entirely unbiassed;" and further adds, "his judgment is in most cases extremely severe." Severity is no name for the assertion: it is unjust, and without a foundation of truth and, I think, very questionable, if such vulgar plain-speaking at the present moment was politic.

If not interesting to Indian readers, it was at least amusing in more than one sense. No one doubted Sir Lepel would vigorously throw himself body and soul into his subject. This every one in India knew was certain, and, as a matter of fact, Sir Lepel's address has some interest, is suggestive, and will probably be read and inwardly digested by those who know the speaker while in India to have had no feelings in common with the natives of the country other than those of Upper India. He left no doubt upon the minds of his hearers what the native Princes of India might expect were he in a position to deal with them. Fortunately for the native Princes of India, they may rest in peace so far as Sir Lepel's retributive bluster is likely to affect them, or his extraordinary opinions to weigh against them with the public at home outside the circle Sir Lepel invited to hear him. I cannot help expressing my surprise that Sir Lepel Griffin, while claiming for himself the position of an authority on public questions in India, would descend to use language which cannot be characterised other than vulgar. But that he should have been able to retain a respectable audience to listen to the wholesale abuse he poured on Maharajah Pertab Singh and all belonging to him, was simply marvellous, and indicative of the change that is coming over the taste of European society for that which is vile and vulgar.

After invidiously ridiculing the idea that the native States of India were a combination of States anxious to throw off the English yoke and regain their lost freedom, as has been represented from time to time by our annual globe-trotting gentry, his meaningless condemnation of the Mahomedan States is as untrue as it is unjust, unless he meant to remind the Indian Government of Bhopal where, a few years ago, a deal of seditious writing and correspondence was brought to light through Sir Lepel's agency. There are no two men living beside Lord Lytton, and Sir Lepel himself, who know better than they, that the Mahomedan States are second to none in loyalty, love, honor, and regard for Victoria, Queen-Empress of India, notwithstanding so few of the good things in the giving or Government fall to members of the Mahomedan community. No one seeks to deny that there are abuses and misgovernment in the native States, evils to be remedied, and a thorough cleansing of all iniquities sadly wanted. It is remarkable that Sir Lepel did not inform his hearers what measures he himself adopted to purge Gwalior, Bhopal, and Indore, during his incumbency as Agent to the Governor-General for years. I think I am not out of place here in submitting, that, if Sir Lepel had any desire to be just, he should have enlightened his audience as to the steps he himself had inaugurated and what he felt was still wanting to bring about something approaching a decent and tolerable government in Native states. But, instead, he hurls a wholesale indictment against all and sundry minus the Sikhs and Rajputs. Did the

Foreign Office at any time ever attempt to reprove Sir Lepel for introducing any improvement in the administration of the States under his rule? Rather, is it not the truth that the Viceroy condemned from time to time his imprudent and high-handed measures which constantly resulted in friction with the State officials, never producing other than improvident results?

I would not have your readers imply, that Sir Lepel Griffin's rule in India was a failure. What I do mean to say is, when he was running his Indian career he did not keep sufficiently close in touch with the Native Courts to which he was accredited, therefore, less value attaches to his statements, on the subject of the lecture now under review, than otherwise would. Opinions differ as to his conduct in Bhopal. But I am very much mistaken if Government were not more than usually satisfied with the manner he performed his duties at that Court under very difficult circumstances indeed.

From first to last, Sir Lepel is infatuated with Dalhousieism. He urges a repetition of the Dalhousie régime. From such a course, nothing short of disaster to the Empire can emanate. But I cannot believe that either Lord Lansdowne or any future Viceroy of India will listen to the ravings of men, whose authority cannot be accepted as trustworthy on this or any other subject. Had we been shown how to remove existing evils and bring about some salutary results, Sir Lepel Griffin would have earned the support and good wishes of every well-thinking man in India.

The lecturer's reference to Cashmere at the present moment is most ill-conceived. It is particularly inopportune. A mad chimerical project must materially embarrass the Government of India when the fact is borne in mind that Sir Lepel only recently ceased to be intimately connected with the administration of India. The position he held would certainly lend weight to the sentiments he expresses. The same sentiments from any ordinary three months' tourist would be comparatively harmless. But Sir Lepel is an old Indian, and was only yesterday one of the British rulers of this country. It is now matter of history that he left India and the Service unregretted, though perhaps himself regretting. Although, before departure, he had irretrievably damaged his reputation for sobriety of judgment with most men, yet there are unfortunately Englishmen, both in India and England, who still hold some respect for his opinion. It is from this standpoint I view his untimely ventilation of the Cashmere question, so wildly attempting to deceive and mislead the people of England. His chimerical colonization scheme of placing three millions of Englishmen in the Happy Valley, can only add to the feeling of uneasiness respecting the Government of India's ultimate intentions now exercising the minds of the native community of India, and may naturally be interpreted as practically expressing the authoritative desire to annex Cashmere. His bare asseveration that "the Maharajah has been deposed and Colonel P. Nisbet is now paramount in Cashmere," coming as it did from one who had long been a great British political in India, was highly impolitic. Referring to the colonization of Cashmere, Sir Lepel's main arguments are based upon what he has chosen to term the scandalous misgovernment of the country under its present ruler. But the picture drawn by Sir Lepel and laid bare before his audience, was neither accurate nor just.

Irrespective of anything Sir Lepel Griffin or any one else may say now or hereafter, I own our duty is simple, Be just with wisdom, and maintain strictly our treaty engagements with our Native Princes. Few will fail to recognise our responsibility as the Paramount Power to watch over the feudatory States, and the necessity to prudently check misgovernment and oppression. But surely to secure to the independent States this benefit, it is not necessary to absorb their territory, to plunder and rob their treasuries, and to set the respective members of the families adrift as paupers on starving pittance. The adoption of such extreme measures of reformation can scarcely be regarded as the work of a Christian Government of the Nineteenth Century. A few months back, when Maharajah Pertab Singh was set aside and Colonel P. Nisbet made ruler in his place, I then said the thin end of the wedge had been inserted. I did not then suspect that Lord Lansdowne would drive it home, as it is now being done. In a word, what the sword did and is still doing in Burma, the pen has been made to do in Cashmere.

Day by day we are voluntarily weakening our position in India, by estranging ourselves from the Native Chiefs whom we should conciliate. They, together with a peaceful and happy population, are our stronghold. Another £63,000,000, already spent on our Scientific Frontier, will not hold India against external invasion, if we are unable to suppress internal disturbances. We are ourselves making the enemy's way to invasion and conquest feasible and easy. By a persistent plundering of our Native Princes, sympathy will be excited for the invader of the masses of the people of India. Thus Sir Lepel Griffin is corroborated in his statement of honor that treasure exists in some parts of India. At the same time, a warning comes in time with a certain ring of truth in it. General Scoboleff has said that "any strategist or politician must admit that an expedition to India is not only possible, but does not even present any particular difficulty." The note of warning thus rung out by Scoboleff should claim the attention of those to whom the safety of our empire is committed. If sympathy from within for the invader without once takes permanent hold, the Indian Empire is doomed. We must thank Annexation for bringing about the downfall of the British Empire.

ZHO

#### LORD MACAULAY AND HIS NEW LETTERS

APART from his high position in English literature, Lord Macaulay has a peculiar charm of character and intellect. He was an Indian one of our greatest Anglo-Indians. He was the first and founder of English Education in Bengal, and the author of that famous speech on the necessities of a government in India, which has since become law for all India. Any one respecting him has naturally a considerable interest in Indian eyes.

Mr. W. Fraser, K.C., has contributed to the *Edinburgh Review*, an article on Lord Macaulay. He gives to the world some letters of the noble author hitherto unpublished. These do not, to be sure, furnish any fresh light on his life, but simply a supplementary picture presented by his diaries and correspondence published in his *Life* by his nephew. But any scrap from that pen will always have a value. Macaulay's letters in special are valuable as literature, being free from the vices of his more ambitious work. They are all carefully worked out, with an eye to ultimate publication. But the confusions and the very form of private correspondence dispose to nature and dispense with the stilt usually adopted to lend dignity to public appearances. Like most writers, Macaulay improved as he went along, and reached the climax of classical chastity and urbanity towards the close. As a general rule, his History and Oratory are better than his reviews, and his letters than his speeches and *Englishmen*. The letter

now offered are interesting in themselves. They carry their authenticity on their face, being in accord with the known facts of his career and thoroughly characteristic. Here are some extracts from a letter dated Calcutta, 1836—the first contains a good description of the British public servant in India, and the second gives an instance of the persecution from his family which dogged him through life:—

"The great majority of the members of the services here seem perfectly willing to pass their lives in India, and those who go home talk with very little pleasure of the prospect before them. This is not strange, for they generally come out at eighteen or nineteen. Their banishment is their emancipation. The separation from home is, no doubt, at first disagreeable to them; but the pain is compensated to a great extent by the pleasure of independence—of finding themselves men, and, if they are in the Civil Service, of finding themselves rich. A lad who, six months before, was under strict discipline, who could indulge in few pleasures for want of money, and who could not indulge in any excess without being soundly scolded by his father and his pedagogue, finds himself able to feast on snipes and drink as much champagne as he likes, to entertain guests, to buy horses, to keep a mistress or two, to maintain fifteen or twenty servants who bow to the ground every time that they meet him, and suffer him to strike and abuse them to his heart's content. He is surrounded by many money-lenders who are more desirous to supply him with funds than he himself to procure them. Accordingly the coming out to India is quite as often an agreeable as a disagreeable event to a young fellow. If he does not take his furlough—and not one civil servant in three takes his furlough—he remains in India till he is forty-five or fifty, and is then almost unfit for England. He has outlived his parents; he is estranged from his early friends. His children, who have been sent over to England at six or seven years old, are estranged from him. He is a man of consequence in the East. In Europe he knows that he will be considered as an old, yellow-faced bore, fit for nothing but to drink Cheltenham water and to ballot at the India House.

Our relative is an abandoned liar; he called on me at the Albany a few days before I left town, and began haranguing about his plans touching the water supply. I cut him short by telling him that his disreputable life, his frauds, his insolence and ingratitude to myself, and the manner in which he had abused my name by employing it to cheat innkeepers, and to obtain admittance to public men, had determined me to have no more to do with him. He stormed and ranted and blasphemed, after his ordinary fashion. I told him that my purpose was unalterable, but at parting, as he had said that he was in want of money, I put a cheque for 20*l.* into his hand; he took it, and went on declaiming, 'I do not want your money; the just God knows that I hate money, I despise money—money is the root of all evil.' He then thrust the root of all evil into his pocket and walked away."

Whatever may be the opinion formed of Macaulay's official services to India, he will never be forgotten and never we fear be forgiven, for the unfortunate literary revilement of the Indian people in general and the Bengalees in particular, to which he was seduced by his love of word-painting and character-portraiture. Here, in the recesses of his private correspondence, is a confession which overturns all his elaborate structure of the singular infamy of the natives of India. Lying at all events is no monopoly of the darker races. Nuncoomar was no exceptional monster which could be produced only on the Pagan banks of the Ganges. For, here we discover an accomplished British Christian vagabond. It is clear that a Macaulay could be "an abandoned liar," leading a "disreputable life" of "frauds, insolence and ingratitude."

Another letter is dated at a most interesting period of his life—on the eve of the publication of the first instalment of his *magnum opus*. He was then living at the Albany, "leading a college life in London with the comforts of domestic life near me." For, though he was single, he was not alone, having his sister Hannah and her children, whom all he loved with all the affectionateness of his nature, and regarded the latter as almost his own. After a long and tedious literary voyage, he had at last come before land. His *History* was ready. On the 17th November 1848, the last sheets went to America, and Messrs. Longman & Co. were making arrangements for the immediate issue of 3,000 copies as a first edition. Macaulay had after a long time got a holiday, which he was employing characteristically in reading the Greek historians to compare his work with them and amusing himself with that charming garrulous old snob Samuel Pepys. The publication of the *History* was fixed for the 1st day of December. There is no entry in his *Diary* published in Sir George Trevelyan's book between the 25th and the 29th November. The following letter brought to light in *Temple Bar* may be taken to supply the hiatus.

"Albany, London, Nov. 27, 1848. -I have been working intensely during some months on my *history*, rising at day-break, and sometimes sitting at my desk twelve hours at a stretch. This work is for the present over. On Friday next, Dec. 1, we publish. I hardly know what to anticipate. Everybody who has seen the book—that is to say, Lord Jeffrey, Ellis, Trevelyan, Hannah, and Longman—predict complete success, and say that it is as entertaining as a novel; but the truth is, that in such a case friends are not to be trusted, and book-sellers, after they have struck a bargain, are even less to be trusted than friends. The partialities of an author for what he has written is nothing

compared to the partialities of a publisher for what he has bought. However, a few weeks will show. You will probably see the book first in the Yankee edition. A New York house has given me two hundred pounds for early proof-sheets. Longman is to pay me five hundred a year for five years in consideration of the privilege of printing six thousand copies. This is a very pleasant addition to my income; and if the book succeeds I shall probably find literature not only a more pleasant but a more gainful pursuit than politics."

The *History* appeared as announced on the 1st December. And the anxious misgivings of prudence or modesty fled fast like mist before the blazing sun of popularity. On the 4th December, we find him correcting for a second edition. The first 3,000 copies were nearly all sold. It was an unprecedented success. No wonder that, at the end of three months, we find him writing in one of the just-published letters—

"Albany, London, March 3, 1849.—We are all well and prospering; the sale of my book has been enormous, twelve thousand copies in three months—none of Sir Walter's novels went faster; the demand still keeps at four hundred a week, and we are going to stereotype. I expect to make some thousands pleasantly enough by this success."

All that agrees with the entries in the *Life*.

#### DACCA.

July 17, 1889.

Dacca is preeminently a place of party feelings; there are heart-burnings and dissensions even among some of the responsible men of the town. Rivalry in so far as it helps to keep up a spirit of emulation is no evil, but oftentimes it defeats many a noble cause. Here is an instance.

The Dacca public were not a little exercised by the defamation case instituted by brothers Rup Lal and Raghu Nath against the *Dacca Prakash* and the *Garib* newspapers. But now all is over. The poor are always helpless, whether they are in the right or in the wrong. We were not therefore surprised in the least when Babu Barada Sankar Das of the *Garib* offered an apology to the Banker brothers. But Babu Guru Ganga Aich of the *Dacca Prakash* has been rather severely dealt with. I do not mean to say that he was not guilty at all. If it is necessary to catch the hare before attempting to make hare soup, it is as necessary for a journalist to make sure of his facts before he commits himself. But Babu Guru Ganga seems to have forgotten it. I think, after all, that the law could be lenient on this occasion. Babu Guru Ganga has been sentenced to a fine of Rs. 500 and to one month's imprisonment. This is certainly too much for him. The printer has been sentenced to only one day's imprisonment. Several witnesses were examined and many important issues were raised; but the impertinent editor must be punished and so he has been. I am sorry I cannot give your readers a full account of the proceedings of the case; that would be too lengthy for the limited space of your journal. But the inquisitive reader may find it for himself in some of the newspapers of the town. I have already said that the *Dacca Prakash* had very few friends to help him. His advocate was an old gentleman in whom the ardour of youth has been exhausted, nor is he a very able member of the local bar. But the counsel for the prosecution included among others Mr. Barrow, Babu Ananda Chandra Roy and Sarat Chandra Ghosh. It is evident that a large sum of money has been spent. It is a pity that our wealthy men should spend their money in this way. From them we expect a great deal and we do so reasonably. They can help an industrial enterprise, establish educational institutions, conduct political agitation and so on; but they are not ready enough for these.

The result of the Dacca Collegiate School has been exceptionally happy this year. Fifteen students have passed in the first division, of whom eight have secured scholarships. What is more, four general scholarships have been secured this year. This reflects great credit upon the teaching staff. The Dacca Jubilee School is the most flourishing of all the private institutions here, one of the boys has won a scholarship of Rs. 15 and another of Rs. 10. The number of successful candidates is 29. This good result, as I am told, is mainly due to the efficiency of Babu Bissessar Banerjee, M.A., the headmaster. The school is a conspicuous instance of Hindu self-help in the matter of education.

#### MONGHYR.

Jamalpore, July 14.

The Jynthee Bridge on the Chord Line, E. I. Railway, below Madhupur gave way all of a sudden about a fortnight ago, causing some of its piers to be washed away. In consequence the trains had to be diverted to the loop line, much to the inconvenience of the travelling public. Since this arrangement, the working of the Loop has doubly been increased and the station staff and others concerned are now seen to be laboring hard ceaselessly for days and nights right through. In spite of all these precautions, no less than three cases of accidents to mail, passenger, and goods have occurred at Barherwo, at Raneegunge and on the 13th instant between Peerpointee and Colgong respectively. In all these acci-

dents fortunately no lives were lost, though several passengers were hurt or injured more or less. Owing to the present train system of working via Loop, amongst other irregularities, the detention in the first place and the longer hours of travel by rail by slow or mixed trains, are chiefly felt at this time of the year. Particularly the 3rd class passengers are inconvenienced by scanty carriage accommodation, many of them have to be left behind at stations for want of room in the ordinary trains. The discontinuance of loop mail and the amalgamation of that with the chord, as also the slow passenger trains will no doubt seriously tell on the finances of the company, as regards coaching traffic, till the break has been repaired.

The commodities and eatables are now being sold at famine rates at this station. The climate of the place now may be said to be pretty fair.

#### THE OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE IN THE CRAWFORD CASE.

THE correspondence in the Crawford case, issued on Wednesday as a Blue-book, makes public not only the records of the proceedings against the incriminated official from first to last which have already appeared in the Indian papers, but also a number of hitherto unpublished reports and other documents which were before the Bombay Government, and no doubt largely influenced its opinion in regard to his culpability on the main charge of corrupt dealings and sale of offices. It appears from a despatch of the Bombay Government dated March 15 (p. 199 of the Blue-book) that one important charge on which the Government had a strong *prima facie* case against Mr. Crawford--that is, an alleged bribe from the Rajah of Akalkot--was not brought before the Commissioners. The circumstances were peculiar. The case was not ready when the Commission sat in October, and on Nov. 16, 1888, the Bombay Government inquired whether the Government of India objected to the case being submitted to the Commission. On Nov. 23 the Government of India telegraphed that multiplication of charges were in its opinion undesirable, but that if the Advocate-General considered it desirable to formulate the charge and the Commissioners consented to hear it, the Bombay Government was free to exercise its direction in proceeding with it. The despatch says:--"On Dec. 3 last a Commission, as drafted by counsel, was issued to the members of the Commission, then sitting in Poona, appointing them Commissioners under Act XXXVII. of 1850 to inquire into this additional case. The Hon. Mr. Justice Wilson, member and president of the Commission, declined, however, for the reasons assigned in his letter of Dec. 5, to sit upon the new Commission, and in these circumstances we decided not to attempt to proceed further with this charge." The reason given in Mr. Justice Wilson's letter was that it was open to grave question whether the order for an additional inquiry was not contrary to the letter of the law, and he thought it certainly contrary to the spirit of the law and the intentions of the Legislature. He hinted at "other reasons of a very grave character," but as he did not disclose them, it is not worth while to ask what they were. In the result what seems to have been one of the strongest cases against Mr. Crawford was thus burked by the refusal of the president of the Commission to entertain it. Among other papers published in this batch are two confidential memoranda which contain some curious information, and will probably excite a good deal of comment in Bombay. One is Inspector-General of Police, Mr. H. T. Ommanney's remarkable personal narrative of the manner in which the Crawford inquiries were carried out. These notes, he says, "cannot fail to be of interest to the Government, and may be found to yield some information that can be turned to practical account both now and in the future." The memorandum does certainly disclose matter of the highest interest, but to an unofficial mind it is difficult to conceive with what motives or through what indiscretion the Secretary of State has allowed it to be made public. Mr. Ommanney frankly discusses the difficulties which were placed in the way of his investigations (pp. 252, 253). They divulge a curious and far from assuring state of affairs in Indian society. Mr. Ommanney first gives the text of the guarantee of immunity he was instructed to offer the native officials for evidence. It ran as follows:--

"Mr. Ommanney is empowered to promise immunity from prosecution to any person giving evidence, and, in cases of payments for promotion or to obtain or avoid transfers, may guarantee immunity from official or departmental punishment or loss, subject to the stipulation that the evidence given is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth."

We now give extracts from Mr. Ommanney's memoranda, pars. 6, 7, 8, and 9:--

"6. It will be well to explain at this place that from the very first there has been no difficulty in discovering cases in which bribes have been paid to Mr. Crawford or his agents. It is no exaggeration to say that many cases were notorious, and that the agents were persons widely known as conducting the particular business. Natives of almost all classes knew these things. Europeans only for the

most part had no definite information, either because they were indifferent, or did not know how to make inquiries, or had scruples about doing so. It is only by a considerable effort that an Englishman can bring himself to throw out to a native that a British officer of the highest position has been guilty of dishonest or disgraceful conduct. Again, it is no new thing to assert that we regard natives as a class as untruthful, and only too ready to say what they think will please a questioner who occupies a position of authority over them. We all know these things, and in a spirit of fairness we are in this country shy of inviting attacks on any one. This feeling is in a large degree answerable for want of exact information on the part of Englishmen. But it is the fact that in native society the system of bribery pursued by Mr. Crawford and very many specific cases were notorious. It may be that Mr. Crawford's seductive manners blinded many and disinclined them to listen to stories that showed him to be actually dishonest. Still the inquiries have shown that there have occurred crises at different times when the truth would have been discovered if British officers had shown confidence in native gentlemen of position and respectability, and availed themselves of the information and assistance which they alone could afford.

7. The difficulty, then, was not to discover cases. There were floods of information. Notwithstanding that Mr. Crawford held a high place in native regard, was feared by some, and had earned the gratitude of many by conferring favours of various sorts, there were plenty of people ready to tell stories of his corruptions. It was when a story would implicate the teller himself in the act of giving that the fear of the law rose up before him and his mouth was closed. A public servant saw penalties superadded to those imposed by the law; he would not only be thrown into prison, but he would lose his appointment and the preference that he had paid for with money, in many cases honestly acquired. And the revenue suitor, probably a *watandár*, could not see what he was to gain by confessing that he had given a bribe.

Mr. Crawford's official position, his supposed influence in high quarters, his known ability, and his strong following of greedy and unscrupulous agents deterred many, especially Government servants, from appearing as open accusers.

8. There were in Mr. Crawford's case external difficulties of various kinds. It is now learnt with certainty that nearly all the native public servants of a certain standing in the Revenue and Police Departments of two divisions of the Presidency were more or less implicated in, or had connived at, the system of corruption that Mr. Crawford had been carrying on for very many years past. The plague had spread to other departments also, and attacked many who were not servants of Government. The Judicial service, chiefs of native States, landholders, bankers, pleaders, and people of inferior standing were infected. *Watandárs* all over the country had suffered. It was not confined to any one of the numerous castes which are to be found in the two divisions, but had attacked all without distinction. However opposed to one another in sentiments, even to the extent of dislike or hatred, neither *Lingayat* nor *Parbhu* could point at the Brahman, nor the Parsee at the Mussulman, nor the common Kumbi at any. Among this mass of abettors scattered over the whole country side it was to be expected that there should be many who would exert themselves actively to crush inquiry by preventing witnesses coming forward. In Poona itself such men were numerous and influential, and when the inquiry became public a few acted in concert. This party made a very effective opposition and damaged many cases. Men of position in Poona, who might have rendered me valuable assistance, found themselves under the necessity of holding aloof for fear that acts of their own, which were at least questionable, should not be brought to light.

9. Opposing influences of a more obscure and unexpected kind came into play. The conservative old-fashioned class in native society spread the idea among those of more liberal and just ideas that, whatever show Government might make, it was after all a Government of Englishmen, and they would never proceed to extremities against one of their own class; the inquiry would inevitably recoil on the heads of informers and witnesses. Witnesses have themselves expressed this opinion to me in very genuine fear. The same conservative class argued that a man who paid a bribe was a fool to confess: the thing was done; let him stick to it; he had done no harm to any one, and would lose what he himself had gained. There were also certain politicians who carried considerable influence. They pointed out that these exposures must depreciate native character and lead to the postponement of constitutional privileges. Some even argued that corruption in high places was a good thing, since it afforded the means of procuring benefits from Government which would not otherwise be conceded, and they were able to point to specific instances in support of their opinions. This undercurrent of intrigue carried away much evidence that might otherwise have come to the surface."

Further on Mr. Ommanney returns to this subject in par. 78:--

"78. Before concluding this narrative of the inquiry, I think it will be as well to say a few words in further explanation of the position that I have referred to in various places. It must, in the first



place, he clearly understood that the whole of the Parsee community, which includes all the people who know most about Mr. Crawford's financial arrangements, were in the opposition. From Sir Jamsetji Jijibhai down to Merwanji Pleader and the proprietors of the *Deccan Herald* every Parsee was a passive or active obstructionist. Mr. Nowroji, the mail contractor, alone afforded me every facility for the examination of his books. I had occasion to make inquiries of Mr. Edalji, a wealthy merchant of Kurrachee, who lives in Poona for his health, about a promissory note that had been sold to him by Mr. Spiers in connection with the Sawant case. Mr. Edalji let me promising to let me know the date of the transaction, a very important point, but I received a letter from him regretting he could not tell me the date more exactly than that it was within a certain six months. The note was one for 2,000 rs. and carried interest, and I say frankly I don't believe Mr. Edalji was unable to trace the date of the transaction. I tried to get a footing among the class through a Parsee police inspector who was by me at the time, and I attribute my failure to something more than the inspector's stupidity. I do not think it necessary to go into further detail on this subject; but it deserves mention, lest the Parsees, who have succeeded in preventing themselves being mixed up with Mr. Crawford, should get credit, which they most certainly do not deserve, for superior morality.

The active obstructionists among the Parsees, as far as I can discover, were Merwanji Pleader and the proprietors of the *Deccan Herald*. They were hand-and-glove in a great deal of the dirty work of Mr. Crawford's defence. From July 22 I kept up a watch on Mr. Crawford's visitors, and Merwanji was constantly there. The unfair attitude of the paper referred to, with its false and garbled reports and news, is sufficiently notorious.

Mr. Sitaram Hari Chiplunkar, the secretary of the Poona Sarvajanic Sabha and proprietor and editor of the *Dnyan Prakash*, was another active adherent of Mr. Crawford. The first open attempt to intimidate witnesses was made in the columns of the paper at the beginning of Hanmantrao's trial, and the efforts have been steadily sustained in this and other newspapers as well up to the present day. He would argue in private that whatever Mr. Crawford's methods may be, his official acts have encouraged the aspirations of the people and procured for them substantial benefits, and the present exposures must damage the reputation of the people of India.

Mr. Kupuswami Mudliar and the other gentlemen of his race, Mr. Gangaram Bhaui Mhaske, Mr. Kalavde, and Mr. Narayan Chintaman Soman, Assistant Commissioner, S.D., all assisted in disseminating fears and encouraging (?) witnesses. One member of Mr. Kalavde's household, and another connected with Mr. Chiplunkar, were regular frequenters of Mr. Crawford's house for all the months of the inquiry. Mr. Shridhar Vithal Dade busied himself in the affair in various ways. At first he appears to have been taken into Mr. Crawford's confidence, and he was entrusted by Hanmantrao with the letter addressed to Gangaram Bhaui Mhaske, in which Hanmantrao repudiated connection with Mr. Crawford in illegal practices. For some reason, best known to himself, he has retained the letter in his own possession. He then counselled Hanmantrao to abscond, as he himself had done when charged with bribery, and let the storm blow over. In consequence of his having given this advice, Mr. James Crawford turned him off Mr. Crawford's premises with some roughness. He subsequently, for reasons which are not yet clear to me, put forward Ganesh Narayan Sathe, who, it may be mentioned, is a pensioned servant of the Bombay Municipality, to complain against the mamlatdars. The man is a mischievous busy-body, and has done a great deal of harm. He is very vain of his own abilities, and was, I am informed, annoyed at my not having sought his assistance in the inquiries.

These remarks do not pretend to exhaust the subject of opposition. There has been a notorious and well-understood activity in other quarters which has created difficulties that wear a more serious aspect than did those which the local mischief-makers succeeded in raising."

Secondly, in a confidential memorandum by Mr. J. A. Baines, p. 285 *et seq.*, the following passage occurs (par. 1):—

"During the present inquiries anything done by Mr. Crawford during his Municipal Commissionership in Bombay has not yet been

touched. The circumstances connected with his exit from that position have long been condoned, and those entrusted with the investigation saw no reason for raking up old stories. At the same time, from what is currently talked about in that city, there seems little reason to doubt that Mr. Crawford during the above period not unfrequently distributed official favours on corrupt considerations, and had the reputation among the natives of the middle and upper classes of being a man who was willing to requite officially any obligation conferred upon him in his private capacity."

Similar statements were made about Mr. Crawford's proceedings as collector of Kolaba, Ratnagiri, as Commissioner, S.O., &c. The wonder is how Mr. Crawford was permitted to pursue his infamous career so long unchecked. Very little appears in this correspondence with reference to the corrupt mamlatdars. The telegram on the subject has, we believe, been already made public. In the despatch of the Bombay Government dated March 15, 1889, the only reference to this matter is as follows:—

"In conclusion we beg to add that we have directed full inquiry to be made into the cases of the officers who have been suspended from the exercise of magisterial functions, and have also called for report concerning the other officers holding magisterial powers who have admitted having made payments to Mr. Crawford or his alleged agents, or who are believed to have made such payments though denying the fact, and that we propose to institute hereafter such further inquiries as may be deemed necessary to enable us to review with full knowledge the position and relations of our subordinate administrative service. We shall then be able to report to your lordship fully on the subject of that *personnel* and the measures taken by us to secure its proper working."—*The Overland Mail*, June 28.

## Public Paper.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Home Department (Public),—  
dated Calcutta, the 4th March 1889.

Read---

Home Department Circular letter to Local Governments and Administrations, Nos. 19---860-869, dated the 6th May 1878.  
Despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State, No. 78 (Statistics and Commerce), dated the 8th November 1888, paragraph 4.

### RESOLUTION.

In paragraph 2 of Home Department circular read in the preamble, it was ruled that no official letters to Her Majesty's Government or to the Government of India, and no resolution or other official paper that would in ordinary course be reported to either of those authorities, should be made public by Local Governments until the interval had elapsed which was required for their transmission to the superior authority. It was added that if, in cases of rare exigency, this rule had to be transgressed, telegraphic intimation of the circumstances, with explanation, should be sent to the superior authority. Similarly communications from the Government of India to subordinate Governments were not to be made public until the interval above described had elapsed, save under exceptional circumstances, the occurrence of which would in each case be explained by telegram to the subordinate Government concerned.

2. The Secretary of State for India has now ruled that no document which forms part, or is likely to form part, of a correspondence between the India Office and any other Government Office in England, shall be published without communication with His Lordship. The Governor-General in Council accordingly directs that this rule shall be strictly observed in future.

3. It may be here explained that the rule contained in paragraph 2 of Home Department Circular letter of May 1878 was not intended to apply to departmental administration reports, but extends only to resolutions or official papers of the nature of the communications to the Secretary of State or to the Government of India, referred to in that paragraph, that is to say, to resolutions or official papers which call for orders from the authority addressed.

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Calcutta, 13th July, 1889.



## NOTIFICATION.

To be peremptorily sold by the Registrar of the High Court of Calcutta in its Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction in his sale room in the Court House on Saturday the third day of August next at the hour of 12 O'clock at noon pursuant to the decree and order of the said court made in suit No. 272 of 1886 [wherein Nogendra Nath Sadrhan is the plaintiff and Azeezunnessa Bibee is the defendant] and dated respectively the 5th August 1886 and 8th August 1888 the following property :—

No. 10 Anees Barber's Lane being a partly lower roomed and partly upper roomed brick built house and land appertaining thereto the area of which is about 4 cottahs and 12½ chittacks in Holding No. 57 in Block No. 4 in the southern division of the Registration District of Calcutta and which is bounded on the North by Hajee Noor Mahomed Nakheda's tenanted house on the East by Anees Barber's Lane on the South by Gudye Khansamah's Lane and on the West partly by the drain which has been filled up and made into a Lane and partly by Peer Bux's dwelling house.

The conditions of sale and the abstract of title may be seen at the office of the Registrar of this Court or at the office of Messrs. W. C. Bonnerjee and Son attorneys for the plaintiff at No. 3½ Esplanade West Calcutta on any day before the sale and will be produced at the sale.

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## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout

with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following :—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river :—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye :—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting :—[Extract].—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was

published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious; he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes." But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JULY 27, 1889.

} No. 384

## CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

### MURIEL.

BENEATH the sheltering oak she lay,  
And dreamed the love-long afternoon,  
That blent the burning height of day  
With the cool eve of royal June.

What are her dreams of?—Nay, who knows  
Whereon the perfect maiden dreams,  
Steeped in the perfume of the rose,  
Lulled by the murmur of the streams?

Her longing life before her lies,  
Her puzzled childhood dies behind;  
And many messages surprise  
Her soul from flower and cloud and wind.

What are your dreams of, opening bud,  
Whose happy blossom blooms so fair,  
When through the blue veins the red blood  
Flows on as freely as the air?

Sweet Muriel by the garden-oak,  
Unconscious of her nameless charm,  
Half-hears the fairy echoes woke  
By bangles dangled on her arm.

Without—the loving Sun doth kiss  
Mouth, cheek, and brow unchidden on:  
Within—the music seems to miss  
The lovely face he looks upon.

For, seated by the piano soft,  
Old tunes her sister's touch recalls,  
Whose harmonies some sprite aloft  
Repeats along the drowsy walls.

Dream! Muriel, dream! half-knowing yet  
Whose image fills thy candid eyes,  
Yet all unable to forget  
The first sweet secret's first surprise.

He waits and works long miles away,  
Who touched the pure heart's virgin springs:  
And something, from the dawn of day,  
For both a mystic burden sings.

The angel that upon her smiles  
In June's own leafy temple down,  
His few short hours of leisure wiles  
Away within the sultry town.

One thought—one angel—and one heart,  
Forgetful of the world of sense,  
Knit lives so seeming far apart  
In one bright bond of innocence.

Wait! Muriel, wait! an instinct true  
Straight through the void of man has flown,  
To pick from out the world, for you,  
A soul as loyal as your own.

And so she dreamed, and so she lay,  
And so the waiting message fell  
Along the changes of the day,  
Upon the face of Muriel.

\* \* \* \*

### L'ENVOI.

TO MY BIG DOG.

O Poetry! great is the mission  
Which colours thy passionate track:  
But how are thy fancies Elysian  
Dispelled by the voice of 'John-Jack!'

He lies on the floor at St. Leonard's,  
While my genius I try to display;  
But the more my ideas travel pen-ar'ds,  
The more he will snore them away.

He snorts, and he snorks, and he snoreth,  
Like the satisfied dog that he be:  
And my Muse so sonorously boreth,  
That she'll grant no more favours to me

His tail too,—by Jove he can whisk it,  
Which is rough upon bards that have none.  
He thumps for a bone or a biscuit,  
And all inspiration's undone.

I thought that my notion was splendid,  
The stanzas so fluently ran.  
But I don't know how Muriel ended,  
And cannot think why she began

He's at it again! so distracted  
On Poetry turn my back.  
Bored audiences never enacted  
Such eloquent snores as 'John Jack'

HERMAN MERIVALL

*Holloway's Pills and Ointment.*—Bilious affections, with all their concomitant annoyances induced by atmospheric changes, or too liberal diet, should be checked at once, or serious consequences may ensue. When any one finds his ideas less clear than usual, his eyesight dimmed, and his head dizzy, accompanied by a disinclination for all exertion, physical or mental, he may be quite sure that he is in immediate need of some alterative medicine. Let him at once send for a box of Holloway's Pills, a mild course of which will remove the symptoms, and speedily renew his usual healthful feeling. If the bowels be irritable, Holloway's Ointment should be diligently rubbed over the stomach and liver every night and morning.

*Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.*

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

BABA KHEM SINGH, C.I.E., succeeds Nawab Sir Nawazish Ali Khan in the Additional Membership of the Governor-General's Council.

THE new cure for tetanus is—solitary confinement. The patient is to be immured in a dark and silent room, with the ears closed with wax. For nourishment, nothing but liquid food—to avoid mastication. In other words, sternly to do absolutely nothing and let nothing be done. Perfect rest has been found by many physicians in Naples to be successful in this formidable disease.

THE young Mahajara of Benares is said to have formed a ministry with Raj Baldeo Baksh Bahadri, a retired Deputy Collector, as its head. And Raja Shrivastasad—where the———s he? The Benares pie without the nager of the great Jani, lineal representative of the famous Jagat Seti!

SIR JOHN EDGAR being absent from his post, the Under-Secretary R. W. Carlyle will, temporarily, also act the Chief Secretary to the Bengal Government. Mr. H. J. S. Cotton officiates as Financial Secretary during the absence on leave of the Hon'ble Colman Macaulay.

BABU JYOTI PRASAD GORGA, Zemindar of Masadal, has offered Rs. 32,000 for construction of the first floor of the Eden Hindu Hostel Building, Calcutta, provided that the block be named "The Masadal Block" and the bricks and *scorke* required be supplied free by Government. Sir Stuart Bayley has accepted the offer and publicly thanked the Babu. The Babu may now look forward to a Rajaship, if he has not already been promised the title.

MR. E. GAY goes on privilege leave from the 10th August to the 29th September. During that period, Mr. E. F. T. Atkinson, C.I.E., officiates as Comptroller and Auditor-General and Head Commissioner of Paper Currency; Mr. E. W. Kellner acting as Accountant-General, Bengal; and Mr. C. R. C. Kiernander acting as Deputy Comptroller-General.

IT has been ruled by the High Court that

"1. Whenever any estate or share of an estate situate outside Calcutta has been sold by the Sheriff of Calcutta, or the Registrar of the High Court, Original Civil Jurisdiction, in execution of a decree, or in pursuance of an order of the Court, such sale shall be notified by the Registrar to the Collector of the district in which such estate or share of an estate is situated after the sale shall have been confirmed by the Court or by operation of law.

2. Whenever any estate or share of an estate situate outside Calcutta has been sold by the Official Receiver, such sale shall be notified by such Official Receiver to the Collector of the district in which such estate or share of an estate is situated.

3. Whenever probate or letters-of-administration is granted by the Court, and it appears, either from the application, or is otherwise brought to the notice of the Court or the Registrar, that any revenue-paying estate or share of such estate situate outside Calcutta is included in the estate of the deceased in respect of which the probate or letters-of-administration is granted, the Registrar shall notify the grant to the Collector of the district in which such estate or part of an estate is situated."

THE Lieutenant-Governor has directed that, subject to the exceptions specified in the second schedule of the Provincial Small Cause Courts Act, 1887, and to the provisions of any enactment for the time being in force, all suits of a civil nature, of which the value does not exceed one thousand rupees, shall be cognizable by the Court of Small Causes at Sealdah.

THE phrases "area of holding" and "rent of holding" in the form of rent receipt prescribed under Sec. 56 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, heading 4, have been ordered to be altered into more comprehensive "name and area (if ascertainable) of tenure or holding" and "rent of tenure or holding."

IN the Secretariat Clerical Service of the Government of Bengal, vacancies up to 3 months have been excluded from the operation of Rule 10 of the Rules regulating the appointments, the heads of departments being left free to exercise patronage and fill up such temporary places.

THE examination for appointment to the Superior Accounts Branch of the Public Works Department, prescribed in paragraph 2 of Public Works Department Resolution No. 19 A. E., dated 25th January 1889, now applies to the Traffic Department of State Railways.

A HABERDASHER, in Vienna, was brought up before a magistrate and fined for offering for sale in his shop a number of handkerchiefs, which displayed the portrait of the late Crown Prince Rudolph and the date of his birth and death.

BISHOP MEDLYCOTT, the local head of the Romo-Syrian Church of Malabar, sued, in the Court of the District and Sessions Judge of Trichoor, for a declaration that the Church of Our Lady of Seven Dolours at Trichoor was subject to the spiritual and ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Pope, on the ground that in 1812 when it was constructed it was dedicated to and held in trust for purely Romo-Syrian purposes. In opposition, the Chaleo-Syrian community claimed the Church as their exclusive property, and contended that it never acknowledged the Pope but only the sway of the Patriarch of Babylon, and that the suit was barred. The Judge held that limitation applied, and dismissed the suit with costs.

MR. Edward Sims, Manager of the Banarapore Indigo Factory, was accused of having caused the death of a native Sohun Meah, a servant, by pushing the man off a high verandah on to a row of bricks and also striking him. The medical evidence showed that the man had a diseased heart, that the shoulder and one of the scalp-bones on the right side behind the ear were broken. Mr. Hall, on behalf of Government, prosecuted, and Mr. Kennedy defended the accused. It was contended that Mr. Sims had not touched the man, and that Mr. Sims had unnecessarily been dragged into the case by the Police whom he constantly reported. The Magistrate of Mozufferpore, Mr. D'Oily, has committed the case to the sessions, under sections 201, 304 and 325. Mr. Sims is out on bail.

A BOMBAY telegram says:—

"For some time past a number of low-caste butchers not allowed to have stalls in Municipal markets have been purchasing buffaloes which the authorities of the Municipal slaughter houses at Bandora refused to kill for human consumption, the purchases being effected outside Municipal limits. After sale, it seems to have been the custom of the purchasers to convey the animals to Coorla, where they were slaughtered and the flesh subsequently brought into Bombay by either road or rail, and sold at cheap rates. A leper was in charge of a bullock cart loaded with buffalo flesh of the description mentioned; he was sitting on the meat."

The leper and another butcher were arrested and prosecuted. The leper was fined Rs. 50 and the other Rs. 20 each. The leprous man suffers more for his disease. Does the law of Bombay make leprosy a municipal offence? In Calcutta, within the municipal area itself, cattle are butchered outside slaughter houses and sold in the markets. Such meat finds its way into the municipal market as well.

ONE Archibald Little has obtained the permission of the Chinese Government to navigate the Upper Yangtze, the right being reserved in the Chefoo Convention of 1877 for British subjects.

M. CHARDONNET is engaged on producing silk from cotton. The method is to treat it with a mixture of nitric and sulphuric acids—in gun-cotton—then dissolve it in a mixture of alcohol and ether and some perchloride of iron or protochloride of tin and tannic acid. The solution is then run through a small tube or fine holes into water prepared with nitric acid, with the result that the fine fluid filament is solidified and forms a thread resembling silk and equally strong and elastic. The colouring is easy enough. The inflammability of his silk now puzzles the professor.

PROFESSOR BROWN SEGUARD, of Paris, thinks he has discovered "the art of not growing old." He says he has been able to transfuse the vigour of youth into the aged and the debilitated. After experiments of kinds, he has come upon an expedient of inoculating man with the nerves of young animals. He has proved his method on himself which has made him ten years younger.

LORD WALSINGHAM has sent to the London Zoological Garden the Leaf Insect. It is an inhabitant of the Seychelles and so thoroughly resembles nature that it is not easy to distinguish the insect from the leaf.

THE last Parliamentary register gives a total of 5,982,353 electors for the United Kingdom—namely, in England and Wales 4,653,736, (comprising 2,704,035 in the counties, 1,934,414 in the boroughs, and 15,287 in the Universities), in Scotland 574,072 and in Ireland 754,545.

THE death of Father Damien of the loathsome disease has revived the question of leprosy. They have started an organization in England under the presidency of the Prince of Wales, under the name of the Father Damien Memorial Fund Committee, to perpetuate the memory of the deceased Father and to study and investigate the disease in different parts of the world. It has been resolved to expend 500l for a memorial; also to establish a fund, to pay for the treatment of cases of Indian leprosy in the United Kingdom; to endow two studentships renewable for three years, one student to make Europe the field of his investigation, the other to study the disease in China, the colonies, and elsewhere; to invite support in India, through the Viceroy; and to appoint a commission to proceed to India for the purpose of investigating the disease there.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

SIR JAMES FERGUSSON denied in the House of Commons that England was not free to take her own course in any war between France and Italy.

By a motion for adjournment, Dr. Cameron elicited the view of the Secretary of State on the question of the corrupt Mamlutdars. Lord Cross is not prepared to withdraw the immunity granted by the Bombay Government, but if the matter was left to him he would do justice. That satisfied the Doctor and he withdrew the motion.

Verdict has been recorded in favor of the defendant in Mr. O'Brien *versus* Lord Salisbury, in which the plaintiff claimed ten thousand pounds for damages for alleged libellous expressions in his Lordship's speech at Watford last March.

Mr. Parnell has received the freedom of the City of Edinburgh.

The Parnell Commission has closed as regards the taking of evidence and stands adjourned to the 24th October. Before the close, Mr. Parnell deposed that Egan had made away with all the books of the Land League and the documents had been destroyed. He would not allow the present financial resources of the League to be disclosed, as future political movements might depend on them. Moloney, once a clerk, however, produced four of the account books and testified to £94,000 being unaccounted for.

The Select Committee on the messages from the Queen for provision for Prince Albert Victor and Princess Louise of Wales finally agreed to increase the allowance of the Prince of Wales by £36,000 per annum, reserving to Her Majesty the right to ask for grants for her other grand-children. It is also reported that the Queen has waved that question. There will be a Radical opposition of course to the increase recommended.

The Queen's Bench has, after all, upheld the Bow Street Magistrate, Mr. Bridge, in his refusal to grant summons against the Duke of Cambridge.

The ex-King Milan has returned to Belgrade. He was cordially received by King Alexander and the Regents.

The insurrection in Crete is expanding. The insurgents have expelled the Turkish authorities at Vamos and Cidonia and burnt the archives of Government. The peasants have fled to Retimo for refuge.

THE Lower Danube at the Iron Gate will be freed of its rocks which obstruct navigation. Under orders of the Hungarian Government, the Minister of Public Works at Buda-Pesth has invited tenders for their effacement.

THIS week's mail brings the intelligence that no less than fifteen native Indians have been called to the bar.

COLONEL THOMAS ERSKINE ARTHUR HALL, commanding the troops in Mauritius, has been appointed to administer the government of the colony and its dependencies in certain events. What are these last? Are they immediate?

THE ignorance in respect of Persia displayed by the British Press in its comments on the visit of the Shah, is scarcely creditable to the nation which has such interest in the East. The papers regard Naseruddin as a Brummagem Darius or a nerveless Nadir, and his kingdom as a state bordering on savagery. In point of fact, he belongs to the advanced type of Oriental rulers of the day, and his country has greatly improved under his rule. The *Statesman* points out—

"In the capital there are excellent trainways, the streets and public buildings are lighted by electricity, there are also very fine boulevards and an opera-house, and so perfect is the police organisation that large amounts of treasure are despatched by caravans for long distances guarded by only a couple of soldiers. Our private advices state that the Shah has gone to England with an eye to business, and hence his visits to our chief manufacturing towns. His Majesty is particularly desirous, we are assured, of obtaining the services of some skilled agriculturist to assist in improving the agricultural processes in vogue in his dominions, which stand in need of reform."

THERE is sensation in Ceylon over a minerological discovery, which may yet cause a revolution in the trade in gems. A poor Mahomedan digger has tumbled upon luck in the shape of an invaluable block of stone. This is a monster cat's eye of an incredible size. It is a strange story, this man's digging experience. Like others, he obtained the usual license by payment of the ordained Rs. 10, and proceeded to work. At the outset, he met with disappointment only. He worked with zeal, but to no purpose. He dug and dug, from day to day, from morn to noon, from noon to dewy eve, all in vain. For all his care and constancy, he turned up nothing worth possession. Not the faintest ray of light from the rock he broke or the debris of earth and stones he washed, cheered his longing sight. Still he persevered, hoping against hope. At length, Lakshmi—the Goddess of Fortune—relented. The hour of reward came, with a cat's eye which sold for £1,000. That was compensation for all previous troubles and disappointments. For one in his circumstances, it was indeed wealth. It proved the veritable tide in his affairs which leads on to fortune. The first success encouraged him to fresh and redoubled exertion. Soon he was gratified by a find which produced double the sum. And then he made his superlative discovery which fairly staggered him and takes away the breath of the whole civilised world. It is a block of gem of about 7lbs! This throws into the shade every other triumph of digging. All the great giants of Gemnology are poor figures before this monster. The most famous jewel in the world—the historic gem which dazzles on the State turban of the Empress of India—is now shamed into insignificance. Verily, the hyperbole of the *Koh-i-noor* is reduced to prosaic fact. After this some luckier dog may one of these days come upon an actual Mountain of Light. And no bad thing would it be for our poor vain world, for then that would put an end to the barbarous fashion of wearing little bits of rock. All the wonders of Sanskrit and Arabic naturalists seem to be in fair way of being verified. If we mistake not, the *Ajayeel al Muklukit* mentions a whole Hill of Light.

The Ceylon diggings seem to be particularly rich. Cat's eyes worth £40 to £100 are continually being disposed of. A company has been formed for buying them on the spot. They offered £19,000 for the monster cat's-eye of 6lbs. 6 rupees weight. But the Mahomedan digger would not part with it for the sum, saying he could make £40,000 by cutting his block into 40 separate gems and selling each at £1,000.

CHANCERY is Chancery still, though Eldon is no more. There is just now a characteristic litigation in that English Equity which is divorced from Law—which has been carried to the House of Lords.

"The chief feature of this formidable case is the extraordinary number of the 'authorities' with which counsel on both sides have armed themselves. Mr. Rigby heads the list with ninety-six volumes, Sir Charles Russell boasts of sixty, Sir Horace Davey, who leads on the other side, has over forty cases to quote, and the juniors bring the total number of reports used in the case up to three hundred. At the close of the day each counsel finds himself walled in by the volume: he has carelessly placed around him, and energetic clerks are forced to dig as it were their employers out of the piles of books in which they bury themselves."

THE pot is again at the black kettle. Last Monday's *Englishman* has a leader specially railing at some poor Indian cultivators for their belief that the Banniahs are able to prevent rain by insulting the Gods.

But, *mylord Anglaise*, permit an *amicus curiæ* of these ignorant Indian clodhoppers to remind you,—*mutato nomine de te fabula narratur*? Horace as an old acquaintance may have lost credit, but Huxley is living, and is continually knocking at the door of your mind. Surely, you cannot have forgotten the Professor's spicy articles in the *Nineteenth Century*, in which he shows that you all are no better than—Your poor Indians. What a character he gives you and your people! What of the Gadarene pig bedevilment business? Do not the vast majority of your readers believe in it as Gospel truth? Not an English newspaper in India noticed the professor's articles, none certainly dares to meet his reproaches, so universal is the credence given to the fables he scoffs at. How exactly your own words describe the enlightened men of the West. "Poor credulous mortals, they would believe any thing that was told them in the name of religion. Through all the generations of their faith they have cultivated a faculty of mental effacement which makes it easy for them to believe in the most palpable absurdities."

There is little to choose between fables and fables. Our advanced Indian boys are often amused at the credulity of the leaders of Anglo-Indian public opinion.

The *Statesman*, in its leader of Wednesday, gravely refers to the Deluge as a historical fact that happened not more than 104 generations ago. One would have thought that Noah and his floating menagerie had been relegated to the list of fairy tales, and that to have mentioned the Deluge seriously would be an insult to its readers. But apparently the old Jewish myth is still as firmly believed in as any of our local superstitions are by the most ignorant rayyet. At any rate, we-Indians have no monopoly of the article.

OUR English journals are very far from perfection in any respect. Our vernacular journals are many degrees more deficient in all that constitutes the pride of the press. But there is below the deep a lower deep, and that has just been reached by a Bengal paper which unfortunately boasts of the largest circulation. This paper—the *Bangabasi*—had lately come under the deserved castigation of a leading Bengali magazine edited by Mrs. Janoki Nath Ghosal (Calcutta Secretary to the National Congress) under her maiden name Swarna Kumari. She is the daughter of the venerable head of the Original Brahmo Church Baboo Devendra Nath Tagore, son of the famous Dwarka Nath Tagore. She is the sister of Mr. S. N. Tagore, C. S., Bombay. She lately presided at a lecture at Sholapore, in the Bombay Presidency delivered by Mrs. Sorabjee. Her magazine is called the *Bharati*. This is how the male *Bangabasi* retorts upon the criticism in the *Lady's* periodical—we quote the paragraph with pain and loathing:—

"The lady Sarna,—not she of Sonagáchi but the other one of that ilk of Jorasanko—has been at our back. Why this has been so, we have not been able to rightly understand. The public also will not, perhaps, understand it, for the matter is an enigma. We are astounded. Our taste is vicious, our disposition and nature bad. Knowing all this, is it proper to quarrel with us, seeking an opportunity? Then, again, does she not know that we have latterly become a little religious? We will bear anything, but we will never raise our arms against a lady. Otherwise, in literary matters we could venture to say that, not to speak of women, it is not easy (for anybody) to bear the thrusts of our pen. Why does she unnecessarily disturb us?"

That is the way in which a Bengali journal dares to speak of a lady of great respectability and belonging to one of the first families in Bengal. It is impossible to translate into a foreign tongue all the foul innuendos of the original. For the benefit, however, of our European readers, we should say that "she of Sonagáchi" is the famous courtesan, Sarna Bye, judicially though stupidly characterised some years ago as the "Lola Monter of Calcutta." Such is the chivalry of a Bengali journal which is understood to enjoy a large circulation that it cannot speak of a highly respectable lady without coupling her name with that of a Bazar-woman. Writers of this description richly deserve to be horse-whipped in the gaze of the whole town. Unfortunately, in the present case, the meekness of the family insulted and the true Brahmanic forgiveness of its venerable head screen the offender from just chastisement. Our very shoes should not be permitted to be wrapped with such a print.

And this is the journal that is straining every nerve and devoting all its enterprise and every art and artifice to pile the agony on the

head of the Mohant of Tarkesswar! This the paper that has taken up to purify Bengali society! Alas, for poor Bengal!

AMONG so many of the lords of the forest—of quality and fashion now assembled at Paris attracted by the Exhibition, it is satisfactory to find that our Prince of Wales is the lion. His Royal Highness has worked up "our good neighbours" into astonishing good humour—on easy terms.

They are in raptures with a Prince who can not only sign his name but writes a neat hand. But their enthusiasm has no bounds when they learn that he is so wide-awake a sleeper as to be suspected almost of insomnia.

"When the Prince of Wales and the party who with him made the ascent of the Eiffel Tower a short time ago, signed the visitors' book in the office of an aerial newspaper, the Frenchmen were agreeably surprised at the extremely neat hand-writing, not only of the Princess, and of Prince Albert Victor and Prince George. But this accomplishment is trivial in comparison with one which has been discovered in the *Heir Apparent* by a writer in the *Gaulois*, namely, that not only can he sleep at any moment he desires, but 'go off' with his cigar burning, and kept it alight till he wakes again."

We hope the good Prince has no Ramasamy jugglery in store for the Parisians, for fear of their bursting in delight.

After all, the credit lies not so much with the Prince as with the people. The whole reminds us of "the kinder skies where gentler manners reign."

Gay sprightly land of mirth and social ease,  
Pleas'd with thyself, whom all the world can please,

\* \* \* \* \*

So blest a life these thoughtless realms display,  
Thus idly busy rolls their world away :  
Theirs are those arts that mind to mind endear,  
For honour forms the social temper here  
Honour, that praise which real merit gains,  
Or even imaginary worth obtains,  
Here passes current ; paid from hand to hand,  
It shifts, in splendid traffic round the land :  
From courts to camps, to cottages it strays,  
And all are taught an avarice of praise ;  
They please, are pleas'd, they give to get esteem,  
Till, seeming blest, they grow to what they seem.

THE medical gods, like the educational ones in general, are at best but a base species of divinity. But if they have not usually the pretensions of the true Civilian Olympians, some who are permitted to live in the sublime heights of the Himalayas, are apt to catch the infection of the lordly genus. At any rate, they are up to any ill usage against the Baboo beasts of burden under them. Here is as discreditable a story as any in the general Civil Administration.

In May 1869, the Government of India approved of a proposal of the Inspector General of Hospitals, Bengal, to hold biennially on the first May and first November, an examination of Sub-assistant now Assistant Surgeons, for promotion to the higher grade, on the completion of the 7th and 14th years of service. The rule about the examination is thus laid down in the circular Memo. No. 50 of 15th September 1868.

"The Deputy Inspector-General will then transmit the Sub-Assistant Surgeon's name to this office, when the Principal of the Medical College will be instructed to request the professors of the respective subjects of examination to prepare the necessary questions. These will then be forwarded under the seal of the Principal to the Deputy Inspector-General, who will transmit them (unopened) with his dossier to the President of the Examining Committee, which will be convened (as usual) under the order of the Officer Commanding. The papers will be opened by the President of the Committee, in whose presence the answers will be written by the candidate. The questions, together with the replies, will be returned to the Deputy Inspector-General (who will forward them to the Principal of the Medical College). Together with the result of the Committee's own *viva voce* examination of the candidate. It is expected that the Committee will satisfy itself in this way of the candidate's general intelligence and report accordingly."

In Calcutta, the examining Committee consist of the Professors of the Medical College, the President being the Principal.

Under these rules, Assistant-Surgeons Kali Krishna Bagchi, Aushoke Krishna Shaha and Pertab Chunder Ker appeared at the examination of the 1st May 1889, at the Calcutta Medical College. The examiners—the professors of the Medical College, headed by the Principal the final authority under the rules—passed them, and informed them accordingly. Their success at the examination brought the Assistant-



Surgeons but a brief joy. In June, every one of these passed examinees was individually "directed to hold himself in readiness for written re-examination any day he is called for." This call of the 17th June was all the more extraordinary as coming from the Principal of the Medical College—the head of the officers who examined and passed the Subs. It was followed up by a direction on the 19th "to appear for his promotion examination at the large College Theatre to-morrow at 12 O'clock"—"his promotion examination" being the ordeal he had already passed through successfully. The Assistant-Surgeons very properly refused to appear at the examination of the 20th, without being informed of the reasons of this second examination. In reply to this protest, they were summoned by the Principal of the Medical College on the 26th June, when he read to them the following memo. from the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Bengal, dated Darjeeling, the 22nd June.

"The written answers given by the above mentioned Assistant-Surgeons to the professional questions put to them at the last Septennial Examination held in May last do not appear to the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals to represent accurately their own knowledge of the subjects of examination. He has therefore drawn up a few questions which he wishes the Assistant Surgeons to answer in order to test this point.

The Assistant-Surgeons will understand that this is a distinct order from the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals that they are to re-assemble and answer the written questions which he has now asked Dr. Coates to put to them."

The matter had now grown more serious and alarming. The reason given for re-examination opened up a new vein of mysteries. The Assistant-Surgeons could not but read in the order an imputation on their character and on the honor of their professors and examiners. The Inspector-General had, evidently, exceeded his authority in framing a new set of questions and asking the Subs to answer them. Anyhow, the Assistants considered themselves bound, for preservation of their honor, to decline the re-examination by Dr. Hilson. This resistance only enraged the more the Olympian wielder of the destinies of the poor natives in the Department—and he fulminated his wrath in the following strain:—

"No. A.

From—The Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals for Bengal.

To—Brigade-Surgeon J. M. Coates,

Principal, Medical College, Calcutta.

Dated Darjeeling, the 27th June 1889.

Sir,—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your telegram of the 26th instant to which I replied on the 27th as follows:—

Your telegram of yesterday. Suspend at once from all duty and until further orders Assistant-Surgeons Kali Krishna Bagchi, Aushoke Krishna Shaha, and Pertab Chunder Ker, relieving them by supernumerary Assistant-Surgeons.

2. I beg to request you will now call upon Assistant-Surgeons Kali Krishna Bagchi, Aushoke Krishna Shaha and Pertab Chunder Ker to give any explanation they may have to offer for having wilfully disobeyed an order of the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, communicated to them through you, calling upon them to answer certain questions which he had sent to you in order to test their professional knowledge.

I have, &c,  
(Sd.) A. HILSON, M.D.  
Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Bengal."

Dr. Hilson is not only stern but appears to be just. He asks the Assistant-Surgeons for any explanation they have to offer to enable him to pass his final orders. We understand the Inspector-General refuses to accept the reasons for what he still considers disobedience of order, and has recommended their dismissal. The Bengal Government, as usual, endorses the order of the Inspector-General. We believe the matter has gone up for the final orders of the Indian Government. We hope justice will be done in the serene atmosphere of Simla.

As might have been expected, there has been an explosion over the Inspector-General Ommaney's Report which so unfortunately leaked out from the India Office through Parliament. The elders of the aggrieved Parsee community promptly bestirred themselves to prevent a needless exacerbation, and the Government has shown due appreciation of the situation.

Sir Dinshaw Manockji Petit, representing the Parsi community of Bombay, applied to Lord Reay for such balm as His Excellency the Governor could give to the wound inflicted on that community by the publication of Mr. Ommaney's confidential report on the Crawford scandal. The good Governor, in reply, "assures them that the feelings of the Government towards the Parsee community are absolutely unchanged and that nothing has occurred which could in the slightest degree warrant the Government not to repose in the Parsee community the confidence to which it is entitled by its past history. An officer addressing a confidential report to

the Government is in duty bound to express his own opinions freely, irrespective of the views entertained by the Government. The silence of the Government with reference to those opinions expressed in such documents cannot be construed as approval or adoption. It must be clearly understood that Government does not put on the passage of Mr. Ommaney's report from which the words quoted by you are taken, the construction given to it in your letter."

THE papers are full of leprosy. What is the cause of this disease, whether it is contagious, is there any cure for it, should the lepers be segregated, are some of the questions discussed. One reports that *garjan* oil has been found efficacious in the treatment of the disease and quotes cases. Dr. Hilson, Inspector-General of Hospitals, Bengal, points out, from personal observations in the Agra Leper Asylum, that *garjan* is no more corrective than sweet oil. It is the friction and not the oil that causes a temporary absorption of the leprosy deposit in the skin. He found the treatment efficacious to a considerable degree in both the anæsthetic and tubercular forms of the disease, but not a complete or permanent cure. In 1877-78, the Royal College of Physicians expressed the opinion that leprosy was non-contagious. The Bengal doctors also worked up the *garjan* oil. They administered it both externally and internally and arrived at the same conclusion, that the friction and nutrition improved the patient. The skin became less rusty and sensation was partially restored. Discontinuance of the oil, however, brought on discoloration and retirement of sensation. The oil had not exterminated the bacilli occupying the nerves. The friction and the nutrition had only modified the course of the disease. Mud friction is equally successful in improving the patient. The shampooing is the thing.

A new experiment is being tried in Calcutta and elsewhere. Jeyes' disinfectants are gradually finding favour and proving the claim to their efficacy advertised. The disinfectant, in the various shapes of fluid, soap and ointment, has been found successful in the treatment of leprosy. Whether it can permanently cure it, time alone will show. That it can relieve the patient considerably is already visible. The Government Superintendent Dr. Beaven N. Rake reports on the 8th February 1889 to the Surgeon-General on Leprosy (published in the Trinidad Royal Gazette of May 1, 1889)

"I have lately been trying Jeyes' fluid (Creolin) a good deal at the Asylum. In 5 per cent. solution I find it rapidly heals the eczema so often complicating leprosy. It also is an excellent stimulant for indolent leprosy ulcers. In case of gangrene it completely reduces the smell. After excision of leprosy tubercles I find pure Jeyes' fluid (Creolin) useful as a caustic to hinder recurrence. I am still making observations."

Again—

"I have now tried the Fluid in numerous cases at the Leper Asylum, and am very well satisfied with the results.

(1) I have used the pure solution for the purpose of destroying the exuberant leprosy granulations and leprosy nodules of the skin. After excision of such growth I have found the Fluid useful in reducing the granulations to the level of the skin, and so promoting cicatrization.

(2) I have used the dilute solution at a strength of about 2 to 5 per cent. as a lotion, dressing leprosy ulcers and, in cases of eczema, complicating leprosy. In many of these cases I have noticed a rapid improvement after the use of the Fluid. The granulations become more active, and the ulcers begin to cicatrize at the edges. In one of the leprosy obstinate eczema, which has resisted other applications, was rapidly dried up after a few applications of the dilute solution. The eczema recurred when the liquid was discontinued, but can now always be checked by a re-application. In fact the patient asks to recommence the treatment."

In Calcutta, the medical officer in charge of the Leper Asylum tried the medicine and reports thus under date the 14th June:—

"Jeyes' Perfect Purifier was tried on a few lepers with bad sores. It seemed to have a good effect, the sores put on a healthy appearance, factor was corrected, and after a time healthy granulations sprang up. With regard to Jeyes' Ointment, it was tried on a European leper, who had a sloughing sore near the right ankle; the sloughs rapidly separated, the offensive odour disappeared, healthy granulations began to form, copious healthy discharges took place."

In our immediate neighbourhood, the experiment has been very successful. Only this morning, we examined one under treatment. He has experienced much and extraordinary benefit. He had been in a horrible condition, but he has wonderfully improved under the Jeyes preparations alone. Nothing else, in European or native treatment, had done him the least good. A few swellings in the extremities still trouble him, but the innumerable characteristic knobs and marks that had covered other parts of the body have entirely disappeared. The burning sensation throughout the body is now confined to the lower extremities. There were no ulcers.

It cannot at all be pretended that in these cases, the improvement

is due to friction. This patient had tried the mud friction for six months, but it did him no good. These cases should be medically watched.

WE have for sometime been receiving a new diglot, started at Poona last year, called the *Sudharak or Reformer*. It is a small broadsheet of four pages, of five columns to the page, mostly in Marathi with scarcely half a page of English. We are no judge of Marathi, but from the conduct of the English columns, we presume it to be of the best. There is inequality of course, the correspondence in special being very inferior. But much of the "leading" English is admirable. There is, for instance, a chaste vigour in the style of the article of the 22nd instant on Mr. Ommaney's Note, which every cultivated reader will enjoy. It is the natural expression of the mature thought which the writers bring to the discussion of public questions. Our only complaint is that we are put off with too little of a good thing. A weekly dole of two columns has a tantalising effect. No doubt, two such columns are more agreeable and more nourishing than ten of indifferent stuff. Better far to live upon half-a-page of the *Sudharak* than to wander through a whole file of, say, the *Mirror*. But if we could coax our entertainers to grant a more liberal indulgence, it would be a gain indeed. The *Sudharak* may at least give as much as the earnest Parsee *Truth* or rather "Truth-teller" the glorious *Rast*, whose English fraction now ranks with the ablest and best-esteemed English newspapers in the Presidency. Our new contemporary of Poona should present only English typography on the opening page, with the sole exception of the Marathi name. Even for that matter, the latter might be reduced with advantage—in quantity not quality—not nomenclologically but typographically. We recommend no verbal departure but an external attenuation. The hideous "black letter" Devanagara on the top is a perpetual offence to the eye. It might be reduced to two-thirds or three-fourths all round, without affecting the identity, and the Romanised name enlarged. The translation may be dropped altogether or relegated to a parenthesis below the proper name, thus—(The Reformer), without the anomaly of "or."

Reverting to our contemporary's contents, we must seriously warn it against its last correspondent. That rodomontade on Cashmere affairs by a Sad Mind plunged in literary lunacy, ought never to have been admitted. Not only is the manner execrable, but the matter is crude beyond measure, and, what is worse, insanely seditious. Its saving virtue, indeed, lies in its insanity and puerility. Yet even this kind of drivel, specially when appearing in respectable organs, may cause mischief, by inoculating the young and the ill-instructed with absurd notions on great and delicate questions of policy. We own that the editor's own comments are differently conceived than the sighing of the weeping willow of a friend whom he has given such undeserved prominence. But what is the good of a jar of poison diluted with a teaspoonful of antidote? We are sure, for one mature reader who catches the purport of the editor's philosophical deprecation of his correspondent's wild wailing over a doll's inevitable fall, there will be a hundred Poona boys who catch the Correspondent's sad infection. It is easy to disregard such an anonymous communication as a trifle, but it is such unfortunate trifles, thoughtlessly introduced, which, neutralising the patient labours of sober men, give our Press a bad name and estrange the Government and European society from our people.

It is more pleasant to dwell on our contemporary's own special work. Mr. Ommaney's Note is a most delicate subject, particularly for a Poona journalist, but it has been treated adroitly, with frankness yet without offence. The writer has had the courage to support the Inspector-General in the main. That officer's ability is so abundantly evident in his Report that none but the most blind could ignore it. The *Sudharak*, however, does him the justice to vindicate the purity of his motive. The article rightly thinks the publication will do good. It notices also with just satisfaction Mr. Ommaney's appreciation of Mr. Bhim bhai and, above all, of Mr. Pendse. We heartily join with the writer in his trust that Government will recognise the latter's abilities and the high moral calibre shown throughout the matter by him. That the Inspector-General's remarks about the Parsee obstruction are a little too sweeping, is admitted. The Poona Sarbajanaik Sabha is defended at the expense of its great Secretary.

"The Inspector General of Police must have however known that the Sabha was in no way responsible for what Mr. Chiplunkar personally did, that it had done its best to dissuade him from keeping up intimate relations with Mr. Crawford in the peculiar position which he occupied, and that to mark its displeasure of his (Mr. Chiplunkar's) conduct, it had even gone the unfortunate length of refusing to allow

him to continue its Secretary, and it would therefore have been well for Mr. Ommaney, if he had not described Mr. Chiplunkar in that way. He could have certainly put in a good word for that body and it would not have been ill-deserved."

The *Rast Goftar*, as the leading Parsee organ, of course, approaches the subject from a different standpoint, and is naturally very sore. But it speaks with admirable moderation as well as with striking ability. Our contemporary's remarks are trenchant and, from its point, convincing.

MR. MARSDEN has washed his hands of the Hearsay prosecution of the *Pioneer*. He would not entertain the complaint at first. But when the High Court interfered, he was all meekness and ordered summonses against both the editor and the printer, without even calling on the prosecution to prove publication in Calcutta which alone could give the Magistrate jurisdiction. By consent of the prosecution, he had dispensed with the personal attendance of the printer. The case came on on Wednesday, when Mr. Henderson with Mr. Ledlie, instructed by Messrs. Remfry and Rose, appeared for Captain Hearsay, and Messrs. M. P. Gasper and Alston (Allahabad), instructed by Messrs. Sanderson and Co., appeared for Mr. Chesney, who pleaded not guilty. Mr. Henderson opened the case by reading the five charges he would wish to be framed. He would then read to the Magistrate the section of the Penal Code governing the case, but the Magistrate stopped him short by declaring his mind that it was eminently a case for the jury and he would not try it. Mr. Henderson evidently was not prepared for this abrupt ending of his labours and reminded the Magistrate, that unless a *prima facie* case were made out, it could not go to the jury. Mr. Gasper, while appreciating the Magistrate's opinion, asked the Court not to commit the case before the prosecution had made out a case or there was some reasonable chance or probability of a conviction. Mr. Marsden said he meant to say that he would not dispose of it if a *prima facie* case were made out. Mr. Henderson submitted he was prepared to prove a *prima facie* case, that he would prove Mr. Chesney was editor and Mr. Dare printer, and that if he could prove publication, he would be able to prove them guilty. It rested with them then to justify their conduct or to prove that what appeared in their paper was for the good of the public. He then referred to the assault on Mr. Chesney by Captain Hearsay, the Captain's prosecution and conviction which provoked the matter now complained of. He contended that Mr. Chesney had no cause to vent his bile on the Captain after he had been punished at his instance. Having sent the Captain to jail, it was most cowardly, unmanly and un-English of the *Pioneer* editor to attack him when he could not retaliate. With these introductory remarks, Mr. Henderson examined an assistant of Messrs. Newman and Co., who swore that he had sold two copies of the *Pioneer* to the complainant. The Captain now stepped into the box and informed the court that, though a resident of Mussooree and Dehra, he had been residing at Calcutta for the last two months and handed to the Court the copies of the *Pioneer* purchased from Newman & Co. Mr. Gasper had now his turn, and under his cross-examination led the Captain through his past career from his resignation under compulsion from the Army down to the last Congress in which he took part. The Captain was in a great measure prepared to meet the bullying counsel. He spoke to his seven previous convictions. He caused merriment and sensation by the narration of his deeds and misdeeds. He freely gave out his opinions of men and measures formed by the treatment he had received from officials. The Court was beginning to be weary of the trial of strength between the bar and the box, and Mr. Gasper had scarcely gone through half the cross-examination, when Mr. Marsden said he would not go into the facts of the case but must commit it at once. Mr. Gasper, as he always is, was so confident of his case that he had carefully arrived at the opinion that the nine jurymen who would convict his client must all come out of the most violent ward of the Bhowampore Asylum. He was willing to rest his case on the cross-examination of the complainant and would ask the Court to bear with him a little longer for another hour and a half. But the Court had sat out its usual hours, and adjourned the case to next day, Thursday. That day the Captain remembered that the Courts of the N.-W. P. including the High Court, which he had denounced wholesale the day before, had not always been opposed to him, for he had successfully prosecuted two or three cases. He was more outspoken this day. It was a great joke, he said, when he swallowed a promissory note he had executed in favor of a bank on which money was still due. He called Sir Henry Ramsay—who certainly did not bear the highest

character—the greatest blackguard that ever lived. The cross-examination over, there was a brief parley between the Magistrate and Counsel as to re-examination and the putting in of a register showing that Mr. Chesney was the editor and Mr. Dare the printer of the *Pioneer*. Mr. Gasper now addressed the Court. He contended that there was no case to go to a Jury. To say that Mr. Chesney was guilty was as true as that he the counsel should be committed for murder. The complainant had no reputation to lose. It is an impossibility to make out a thing which does not exist. He did not see how you can harm a thing which has no existence. The Magistrate would not be the judge Mr. Gasper asked him to be. Now Mr. Henderson withdrew the charge against Mr. Dare. Mr. Marsden then committed Mr. Chesney to the next Sessions beginning on the 21st August. Mr. Gasper now admitted that Mr. Chesney was the editor of the *Pioneer*, though not the writer of the articles complained of. He admitted responsibility but pleaded not guilty, and reserved his defence.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JULY 27, 1889.

### THE ABUSES OF PASSENGER-BOATING IN BENGAL.

DURING the protracted inquiry on the ill-fated *Sir John Lawrence*, among the many abuses discovered, was the singular absence of any decent method in filling these steamers with passengers. It appeared that, before the departure from port early in the morning, a perfect crowd of boats full of intending passengers attacks the vessel from all sides. There is endless noise and confusion in the attempt of each of these boats to penetrate through others to reach the side of the steamer. Many of course fail in the attempt. At last a broad cordon of such boats may be seen surrounding the vessel, the passengers coming in the more distant ones trying to make their way through the nearer ones up to the steamer's deck. There is a fearful risk to limb and life—to say nothing of convenience—in the prevailing hurly burly. Accidents are not unfrequent: our wonder is that they are not commoner. The scene is repeated on the conclusion of the return trip. It has just been described by a correspondent of a morning contemporary, and it is such as any civilized community ought to be ashamed of. We had hoped that with the exposure before Mr. Reily, there would be an end of these revolting practices. In sad truth, they flourish as before. And we are supposed to have a River Police! And what is the Government about? Is it waiting for another big disaster before rousing itself up to another brief period of spasmodic activity? We hope the Native Press, which so miserably failed in its duty on the occasion of the loss of our *Royal George*, will now do something to retrieve its honor by insisting on an immediate reform.

The *dingi* nuisance is not confined to the arrival and departure of the pilgrim vessels. It exists at all the landing-places throughout the port—indeed, throughout the country. It is a common feature of passenger traffic in Bengal. It occurs in the filling and emptying of every passenger steamer or steam-boat in mid-water. This obviously points to the remedy. Stop the taking in and the discharging of freight of human flesh in mid-stream isolated from the land, and you end the evil. Establish the vessel's direct communication with the shore, and there will be no room for mischief. Wherever vessels are moored abreast of a wharf or jetty and receive passengers from, or deliver them on land direct, or across a bridge, there is no complaint. At Goalundo, Naraingunge,

Dacca, and similar termini, there are jetties for the Railway steamers. So have the great steamer companies like Macneil & Co. If these jetties are not always fully utilised in the hurry of taking in or discharging passengers, specially at intermediate stations, that is a laxity which ought to be, and may easily be, suppressed. The intermediate agency of boats, is at least an anarchic convenience which ought to have no place in a civilized system.

But the *dingi* nuisance is a much wider evil. As an adjunct to the traffic of passenger vessels, the *dingi* or country wherry is a comparatively small evil, and, such as it is, it is capable of easy prevention. Not so the *dingi* as an independent conveyance in itself for passenger traffic. Although, at most country ports and river marts and towns and townships, the *dingi* or country passenger boat has been superseded by steam launches of small draught for the conveyance of men between the principal centres, yet the primitive craft still flourish and will continue to flourish. The *dingi* or country boat is the natural feeder of the steam navigation. And it supplies its deficiencies. Accordingly, the sum total of the traffic by this craft is infinitely vaster than the passenger traffic of the vessels propelled by steam power. Now such scenes as those witnessed by the *Indian Daily News's* correspondent at the arrival of the pilgrim steamers from Chandbally, are a well-known concomitant of the country boat passenger traffic. By well-known, we mean well-known to those who know the country and the masses of its population. The lordly who have their own sumptuous arrangements for travelling—the rich and self-absorbed in general may not stop to enquire earnestly, but few who are accustomed to pass and repass through the country and especially to embark or land at *ghats* or landing places in town and country, can not have failed to notice the way in which the watermen secure their fares. It is a monstrous process. Intending passengers are literally pounced upon by these river eagles. These passenger-fishers even go out a long way from the water and lie in wait for their prey at the corners of great thoroughfares and at street crossings. No sooner thy smell a rat, we mean a passenger, than he is doomed. They are there and then down upon him as legitimate game. First his luggage is secured, any bag or box or other article he may happen to carry with him is wrested out of his hands. Then he necessarily follows his tyrant. Often there is competition for the same wayfarer, and then the scene is far more lively. The poor man, by way of anticipation, is actually seized and pinioned and carried away prisoner into the boat. Or, there is a mad wrestling between the rival combatants literally over the victim, to the tattering of his garments and injury to his person. The poor man calls aloud for help in vain. The Police always, at the first symptoms of approaching difficulty, keep out of the way. And we patriots are too respectable to lift a finger in such an obscure cause.

We take this opportunity of appealing to the Lieutenant-Governor. Sir Stuart Bayley has a fine opportunity of doing a distinctly good work with the greatest ease. This is no subject of controversy. No vested interests are involved. With a little zeal, he could advance the happiness of the boat-going population of Bengal.

The following is the cream of the letter signed "An Eye-witness" in the *Indian Daily News* :—

"On arrival of the Chandbally steamers, and before they are made

fast to their respective buoys, the dinghee-wallahs, eager to secure as many trips as possible with passengers, put off their dinghees and hover round the vessels, by which the navigation is dangerously impeded, and one wonders how commanders of these vessels navigate through such a crowd of boats around them. No sooner do the boatmen get a chance of boarding the vessel, than they pounce in wild confusion upon the poor exhausted pilgrims (exhausted by long pilgrimage and privations enhanced by sea-sickness on the voyage), dragging them by their arms whether old or young, and actually throwing them into the dinghees as so many cattle or goods. Very often two boatmen, having each hold of an arm of a passenger, pull in contrary directions. I believe several accidents have occurred through this state of lawlessness. I have myself on several occasions seen passengers nearly slip into the river between two dinghees, but fortunately for them nothing can loosen the grip of a dinghee-wallah till he secures the passenger for his dinghee."

### INDIAN ARCHITECTURE.

Too much cannot be said on a subject of this kind, because of its strong bearing on the national life of India, as well as its reference to a form of architecture, which, if not so graceful as that bequeathed to us by the Greeks, is peculiarly impressive, majestic, and representative of the genius of this country.

It would be impossible to revive the old Egyptian and Assyrian forms of architecture, to which the Hindu bears a striking resemblance, because those peoples have vanished from the face of the earth. But with the Hindus it is otherwise; they as a nation exist, and the arts, sciences and social observances of their ancestors are, though in some cases in a modified, and in others a debased form, still maintained. There may be a difference of opinion as to how far the old Hindu architecture might be assimilated with what Western civilisation requires in the way of house-building; but those whose minds are free from prejudice must admit that it is desirable that the Hindus should be persuaded to revive all that is finest in old forms, thus giving an outward and visible sign of national feeling, at the same time blending with them what is best in regard to utility in European construction. It needs no great knowledge of architecture to shew how such results have been achieved in other countries, where genius has blended distinct attributes, while preserving national individuality as a whole, and at the same time meeting the requirements of social progress.

Every lover of Indian Art should strive to bring the people back to study the majestic buildings reared by their ancestors, and if this were done we should see, in place of the dull prosaic and at times hideous types of the Public Work Department, structures reflecting the genius of the Hindus and appealing to the sentiment of that part of the population, who have not forgotten that they are a distinct people.

For this reason, we are always glad to seize upon any little opportunity that may present itself for enforcing this lesson, that there must be a wedding of Hindu forms of architecture with Western principles of sanitation, if the former are not to disappear for ever.

Mr. B. R. Harrington recently published an art volume entitled "Portfolio Studies from Ancient Hindu Architecture," which were highly praised not only by nearly every section of the press, but by eminent artists, and especially by those who could appreciate the admirable ingenuity with which he has contrived to bring his Studies to answer modern requirements, while keeping the unique and regal forms of the Ancient Hindu genius. Mr. Harrington's cry is that of Artists in Egypt and other parts of the Earth. "Why use an exotic Architecture, tame, ugly and utterly unsuited to the climate and surroundings of the country, when you have the glorious models of the past for your guide?" The best of the Portfolio

photolithographs have been produced from Mr. Harrington's fine water-color paintings, which for depth of tone or supple feeling can scarcely be surpassed and are well worth study. The grandeur and dignity of Hindu Architecture are well represented in these designs, and why the people should foolishly follow what for India are the vain practices of Europe, when they have such models before them, can only be accounted for on the theory that they consider imitation the best form of flattery.

They are not alone in this respect: for the great ones among the Arabs have forsaken the noble Saracenic architecture, with its elaborate and graceful tracery, for palaces resembling barrack rooms, and the trumpery construction of Paris.

In his Studies, Mr. Harrington has been so successful with his plan for reviving the old forms of Indian architecture and assimilating to the necessities of modern civilisation, that it is to be hoped he will continue his work and produce new designs "which will justify the end" he and all true lovers of Art have in view. Whether he will ever attain that end or be as "one crying in the wilderness," it is not for us to say, but must rest with those who are leaders in their generation and influential among their people, to determine.

O.

### THE SAMANNOY AT SIMLA.

MONEY will do wonders in every civilised country—the more civilized the people the greater the influence of money over it. The enlightened West, of course, adores it. In the Far West beyond the Atlantic, they have given its representative coin a significant name. The Almighty Dollar hits the truth "to a £." Here, out in the East, the depreciated Rupee itself is powerful enough—specially among the civilised. The poor Indian may possibly fail to appreciate its full majesty, but the enlightened Briton never. Mr. Allan Hume knows this as well as any other man—nay, a great deal better perhaps. As a brither Scot and, above all, as son of old Joe Hume of the House of Commons, he knows thoroughly how far a coin will go and how much it will fetch. The National Congress, with its giant proportions and its empire-wide ramifications, is, in a great measure, the creation of money—originally his money, for the most part. He had been an observant student of Irish politics in recent times. He had seen what an effective agitation had been set up by a few determined heads with the funds raised among the Irish at home and abroad. And he utilised the hint to give his native fellow-subjects of this country a similar political organization, for the redress of their grievances and the attainment of their rights. In doing so, he naturally estranged his own fellow-countrymen in the East. Redress of native grievances almost necessarily involved the creation of a European grievance. Native rights could be attained only at the expense of European privileges. Still money is a miracle-worker, and even a fire-brand might retain a fair share of popularity by spending on "society." But Mr. Hume was too much absorbed in *haute politique* to have much taste left for social dissipation, and all his wealth was needed to support the serious and difficult mission in which he was embarked. Now he has established his organization and has got some other men also to pay its way, he has found leisure for the amenities of social life, and can again spend on them. It was time enough too to recover caste among his own people. And he is now paying the usual penalty, so well-known among us in Bengal as *samannoy*. He has announced as many as three balls for this Simla season.

Hitherto Mr. Hume was an eye-sore. His very name could not be mentioned to ears polite without an opprobrious epithet. His best friends could speak of him only apologetically. He had a craze; he was even mad. Others who had never had the *entrée* of Rothney Castle and its magnificent conservatory, its ferneries and its collection of orchids, scarcely cared to mince the matter. They bluntly denounced him as dishonest, denationalised, unEnglish,

not even, North-British. He was a rebel, of course. All that did not exhaust the force and plenitude of Anglo-Indian appreciation. The most unkindest cut of all was, that he was Baboo Hume, to be classed with such vermin as Robert Knight and Henry John Stedman Cotton.

Mr. Hume probably never felt much uneasiness at these outpourings of passion. He knew he was safe—in his money. He knew his men too well to despair of his position. There was no permanent ostracising for the leading Anglo-Indian grandee. The revival of his popularity was only a question of revival of his social expenditure. The grandee had only to revive his parties to appease Mrs. Grundy and her progeny of both sexes.

And the angels in pink and the angels in blue,  
In muslins and moirés so lovely and new,  
What is it they want, and so wish you to guess?  
But if you have money, the answer is Yes.  
So needful, they tell you, is money, heigh-ho!  
So needful it is to have money.

It is a waste of resources, perhaps. It is certainly peculiarly extravagant in a serious-minded Scotch Theosophist turned Hindoo Patriot in late life. We are afraid his good father, who was so careful of the nation's pence, poring night and morning over the purposely confused accounts presented to Parliament, had he lived to this day, would have disowned so denationalised and degenerate a scion of his family. But, after all, it is a question of strength or means. The hemorrhage that will prostrate one man, may only relieve another. There are many men who are decidedly the better, for themselves and for the world, for a copious venesection. What between his pension and his accumulations, from before the Mutinies—by the bye, in 1857, the East India Company's notes and paper were cheaper than green-backs ever were in America during the War of Secession—the expense is nothing to a man of Mr. Hume's calibre.

As for that, pass the bottle, and d—n the expense!  
I've seen it observed by a writer of sense,  
That the labouring classes could scarce live a day,  
If people like us did n't drink, *dance*, and pay.  
So useful it is to have money, heigh-ho!  
So useful it is to have money.

Probably, at this time of life, and with his other engagements, Mr. Hume cares little personally for dancing and flirting. But he cares for his Congress, and for Lord and Lady L. This is the first Simla season of a new social régime, and it is necessary for each to continue his caste tradition. Those who had fallen off from fashion must enter appearance. Mr. Hume is only following his own precedent on previous advents.

They may talk as they please about what they call self,  
And how one ought never to think of one's self,  
How pleasures of thought surpass *dancing* and drinking,—  
My pleasure of thought is the pleasure of thinking.  
How pleasant it is to have money, heigh-ho!  
How pleasant it is to have money.

#### TWO TOWNS OF EASTERN BENGAL. A CONTRAST.

A visit, either on business or for pleasure, to any or more of the several towns of Bengal, is not only highly enjoyable by itself but also profitable and instructive. Travelling has always been considered of the highest value, and though some of our own men have gone far and wide without having seen and known the land of their birth and the country of brilliant traditions in the past, yet Bengal yields to none in presenting those natural phenomena and excellent sights which find admirers in every land and clime in the thinking and the contemplative soul and delight the mind's eye and feed the imagination. Whether for knowledge or information, or for study of human nature, there are various opportunities and ample materials if you only know how to utilise them. A steady and constant worker, an earnest and persevering guide is alone wanting; and there seems hardly any necessity, considering the enormous expense, except for a desirable and lucrative employment on return, (which is even now a doubtful game), to cross the ocean and get outcasted and otherwise divorced from social intercourse with one's fellow-brethren. For external polish and "bastard" refinement, a visit to foreign countries is not worth the trouble, whatever the denationalised man "once" of our own "kith and kin" may say to the contrary. It has been remarked

often and often that all our towns look so like each other—they present no difference at all. Admitting this to a certain extent true, it will be found that points of dissimilarity and contrasts are very numerous withal. Take for instance Dacca, the old capital of the Mogals in Bengal and a city celebrated from remote antiquity, and the small beautiful town of Comillah, situate on the borders of the Tipperah Hills. Dacca is situated on low plains almost on a level with the sea and not far from the great rivers of Bengal; Comillah, on the other hand, is on a high elevated land not far from the Burma range of mountains which runs from the borders of Assam to Burma. The climate of the former is damp and depressing; that of the latter cool and delightful. Cotton and good rice are grown in the one, while to think of growing cotton in the other would be considered as playing the part of the man in the moon. Nature made these two towns after her own capricious and varying mood, and Art but followed Nature. Except the few buildings of recent years within living memory, almost all the houses in Dacca are ugly and ill proportioned, shutting out light and air, and very low. The roads are very narrow and small, with dirt, filth and refuse in addition. The arrangement of the town is also defective in other respects. In the beautiful little town of Comillah, there are few pucca houses indeed. But the ordinary thatched houses and bungalows with spacious compounds, nice gardens attached to each family dwelling, large trees lining its neat broad roads, and numerous tanks, present a sight quite different from what one sees in Dacca. It is rather sparsely populated, and that is exactly why it has retained its natural charms and is free from impurities of all sorts. There is an appearance of cleanliness about Comillah which one hardly finds in any other town of Bengal. In fact, Comillah seems to be a lovely little town where Nature reigns supreme and has free play, while in the other she is crippled by Art. Comillah however commands no excellent view from the riverside,—the river Gumi passing by her is a small rivulet and almost dries up during the hot season. Dacca has certain redeeming features of her own. Dacca is a very important place, and is the second town in Bengal. The people are more advanced, as the phrase is current now-a-days. She carries on excellent trade in articles manufactured and made by her own artisans. She has outlived her own ancient reputation as the country of fine muslins and nice works of embroidery and jewellery. On the other hand, Comillah is a rustic town where people are more honest and religious, not like a class of men at Dacca well-known for frivolous levity, idle gossip and sensuality of every kind. Comillah is also fortunately free from "the great sin of great cities" which is a rank disgrace to the other. In ruins and antiquities, Dacca is decidedly superior. Comillah can only boast of one or two instances in that direction.

ALPHA.

#### THE MAHOMEDAN LITERARY SOCIETY.

Few Englishmen outside the official circle connected with India are aware of the remarkable movement which has been going on during the past twenty-five years among the Bengal Mahomedans with the aim of bringing themselves more into contact and sympathy with Western culture, and of securing for their community a recognition of its just weight and influence from the Government. We have before now in these columns glanced at the causes which tended to push the Mahomedans into the background and give almost all the advantages of liberal education to the Hindus. The abolition of Persian as the Court language in 1836 and the Indian Penal Code struck at Mahomedan influence, and old biases and prejudices among themselves hindered them from seizing promptly upon the facilities for acquiring a modern European education of which the Hindus so sagaciously took advantage. Hence the influence of the Mahomedans as a potent factor in Indian society threatened except in the Native States to dwindle to a position which might, under a reaction, have developed some awkward and perhaps serious complications. Fortunately, some enlightened men among them, who had emancipated themselves from the idea that Mahomedanism was forever to restrict itself within the circle of its own tradition, determined to make an effort to arouse among their brethren a taste for Western science and letters, and an ambition to hold their own against the Hindus who were flooding the offices in the administration open to Natives and monopolising whatever political and social advantages could thus be acquired. A movement was started at Calcutta in 1863 by the present Nawab Abdool Lutef, who was supported by several eminent Mahomedans, in particular the late Moulvie Mahomed Wajeeh, head professor of the Arabic department in the Calcutta Medressah, for forming a Society to promote in their community the study of Western science, history and letters, and watch over their interests as a powerful body in relation to the Government. During the twenty-five years of its existence this association, of which the Nawab Abdool Lutef is secretary, has been actively engaged in stimulating and awakening the Mahomedan mind in India, and has done work which is familiar to all Anglo-Indians, and has again and again been handsomely recognised by the Indian



Government. The leaders of the movement have striven to bring home to their co-religionists the policy of falling into line with the modern ideas and the progressive impulses which were carrying forward the society around them, and threatened ere long to leave them stranded and helpless behind. The twenty-fifth anniversary of the "Mahomedan Literary Society of Calcutta," which was celebrated in the early part of this year, afforded an opportunity for recording and reviewing its operations, and the excellent *résumé* prepared by Nawab Abdool Lutef showed how much had been done during the quarter of a century to improve the Mahomedan position. No one, indeed, can turn over the brief recital of its history in the pages of this report, without noting with satisfaction what a remarkable change the Society has contributed to effect in the spirit and the views of the Mahomedans, not alone of Bengal, but of India. Despite many obstacles from within and without, the leaders of the movement have been instrumental in quickening the languid ambition and stimulating the culture of a community which represents some of the best vigour of the old Indian life, and is full of possibilities for the new. To Englishmen the movement ought to be more than interesting; to the Imperial Government its influence and progress are essentially important. The breaking down of the barriers which kept millions isolated from European ideas, and the awakening in them of a desire to take their share in the improvement of Indian society, in the formation of opinion, and in official life, are indeed consequences pregnant with good hope to our future government of India. Successive Viceroys have wisely shown their sympathy with the Society's aims, and accorded an intelligent encouragement to its operations. At times they have consulted it as the most authoritative exponent of Mahomedan opinion. Many of the most eminent Anglo-Indians have testified to the value of its work, and expressed favourable judgments of its intellectual and political bearings. The latter are, as may be imagined, of special importance; for on the material content and loyal disposition of the Mahomedans of India depends in no small degree the safety of our Peninsular Empire. Sir Frederick Roberts, in a letter he addressed to the Secretary in March last affirmed that the Society had his sympathies "because he recognised how good and powerful an influence it exercises in the cause of loyalty and order." The men who started this institution, which is now the most influential representative of Mahomedan opinion in India, have acted no less to the advantage of the Imperial rule under which India has progressed by leaps and bounds towards a higher intellectual life and a better material condition, than to the elevation and improvement of their own great community. They have started a grand experiment, which must have vast and far-reaching results upon the future of Mahomedans all the world over. At this moment, when efforts are being made at home to create the impression that Indian Mahomedans sympathise generally or to a large extent with the objects of the so-called National Congress, it is particularly pertinent to notice that this representative Society has more than once expressed in strong terms its dissent from the spirit and aims of that agitation. In the letter which Nawab Abdool Lutef addressed to the Congress in 1886, on behalf

of his committee, after testifying to the anxiety and readiness of the Government to promote the interests of all classes so far as might be consistent with the requirements of the various nationalities---a reservation of the highest significance, in relation to all schemes for altering or modifying the conditions of Indian rule---he wrote :---

"The members of the Mahomedan Literary Society regret that they do not feel justified in the interests of the Natives of India, and of the Mahomedans in particular, in participating in any demonstration of the kind contemplated by the Reception Committee (of the Congress). They are more confirmed in this opinion seeing that, as in the past, all classes have the constitutional right of addressing Government and receiving careful attention from them. This has been the case with such representations as the Mahomedan Literary Society have, from time to time during nearly quarter of a century, felt it expedient to address to the Government in the interests of their co-religionists. . . . The Mahomedan Literary Society, representing the Orthodox Mahomedan community in India, which forms the bulk of the Mahomedan population, are not disposed to accept hasty proposals, however well meant, which have a tendency to revolutionise time-honoured institutions and to bring about changes which are novel, and which they consider unsuited to the exigencies of the India of to day and the various conflicting interests in it."

This letter prevented the entire Mahomedan community of Bengal and Behar from taking any part in the Congress at Calcutta. In 1887 a telegram of like purport from Nawab Abdool Lutef was sent to the Congress at Madras, and was borne out by the general abstention of influential Mahomedans of Lower Bengal from taking part in the proceedings. At Allahabad there was a similarly significant demonstration. It requires a good deal of hardihood on the part of Congress advocates in Great Britain to assert in the teeth of the evidence thus afforded, by this leading association in India, of the feelings of the Mahomedans towards the revolutionary schemes of the Congress, that Mahomedan opinion is on its side. Much of the above is ancient history. It is none the less relevant at the present moment to the discussions which are going on of plans for introducing quite too prematurely some ghostly imitation of European representative institutions into the supreme body which legislates for all the varied nationalities and religions of a populous continent. This association is doing a wise and valuable service in endeavouring first and chiefly to raise the intellectual, and with that the moral standard of the Mahomedans of India. It shows its wisdom by striving to prepare its co-religionists to take a more efficient place under the existing system, and to enlarge the scope of their influence by scientific and literary culture. The leaders are shrewd enough to see that in the premature adoption of Congress "reforms," the Mahomedans would be relegated to a secondary position, if they were not overwhelmed by the numbers and the activity of the Hindoo population. From this point of view the work of the Mahomedan Literary Society may be said to have only commenced, and it has before it, we trust, a useful career of patriotic labour and impulse.---*Homeward Mail.*

### A SPECIAL MEETING

OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CALCUTTA,  
under Act II. (B. C.) of 1888,  
WILL BE HELD IN THE TOWN HALL,  
on Thursday, 1st August 1889, at 4 P. M.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. To confirm the recommendation of the Loans Committee of the 23rd July that the period of the 14 lakhs loan sanctioned at the Meeting of the 4th July be 30 years and the rate of interest 5 per cent or such lower rate as may appear desirable when the loan is floated.

2. To sanction an establishment of Rs. 1,480 per mensem for 12 months for the Suburban Drainage Survey as modified by the General Committee at its Meeting of the 18th June.

3. To appoint Baboo Khetter Nath Ghose to be Assistant Engineer in charge of the Survey under Section 41, on a salary of Rs. 500 per mensem.

At the close of the Special Meeting,  
THE 511<sup>TH</sup> ORDINARY MONTHLY MEETING  
OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CALCUTTA  
WILL BE HELD.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. To consider the Quarterly Report and Accounts for the quarter ending 30th June.

2. To confirm the recommendation of the Suburban Improvement Committee of 17th June that the project for improvement of the Jelliapara Road be sanctioned.

3. To confirm the recommendation of the Refuse Burning Committee at their Meetings of the 13th and 21st July to sanction the erection of an experimental cremator of four-cells at Entally by Messrs. Bird and Co., at a cost of Rs. 11,000, besides the cost of a raised platform estimated at Rs. 2,000, Messrs. Bird and Co. bearing half the loss if the experiment proves a failure.

4. To consider the recommendation of the General Committee of 11th May that an Assistant Inspector on Rs. 100 a month be appointed for out-door supervision of hackney carriages, and that the Road and Conservancy Overseers and the Police Inspectors be asked to report every case of a carriage found plying for hire in an unfit state.

5. To confirm the revised bye-laws as framed by the Bye-laws and Rules Sub-Committee, at Meetings held on the 7th and 21st June and 5th and 19th July.

6. To confirm the following Resolution of the General Committee of 18th June :--

(a) That the services of Mr. Kirkpatrick be entertained tentatively for six months on Rs. 300 a month to prepare and submit within a week full reports of the proceedings of all Committees.

7. To appoint a Committee for revising the Draft Annual Report for the year 1888-89.

8. To confirm the recommendation of the Suburban Improvement Committee of 3rd June that the establishment for house service debitable against the Budget grant of one lac be entertained.

9. Baboo Ashootosh Biswas to move that three more members be added to the Kotrung Brickfields Committee.

10. Baboo Prannath Pundit to move that the vital statistics and accompanying map periodically submitted by the Health Officer do include the amalgamated area.

11. Mr. J. Ghosal to move that six more members be added to the Refuse Burning Committee.

12. To adopt the proposed alteration of boundaries of certain wards under clause 3 of Section 15 Act II (B. C.) of 1888.

13. To confirm the proceedings of the General Committee at Meetings held on the 11th June, 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd July.

14. To confirm the proceedings of the Suburban Improvement Committee at Meetings held on the 2nd and 16th July.

15. To confirm the proceedings of the Complaint Committee at Meetings held on the 3rd and 10th July.

16. To confirm the proceedings of the Market Committee at Meetings held on the 1st May and 19th June.

17. To confirm the proceedings of the Salaries Committee at Meeting held on the 21st June.

18. To confirm the proceedings of the Central Road Committee at Meetings held on the 5th, 13th and 20th June.

19. To confirm the proceedings of the Bustee and Town Improvement Committee at Meeting held on the 10th May.

20. Vital statistics for the month of June.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

26th July 1889.



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OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From

the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract.]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious; he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight—"she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

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No. 385

## CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

### A YEAR OF SILENCE.

["In some of the United States, the local Congress does not meet every year."—BRYCE.]

OH for a year of silence ! Could we go  
Each to our quiet desk, or house, or field,  
And cease our babbling ; plough, and reap, and sow,  
And read old books, and ransack treasures sealed  
Of learning, writ in ages long ago !  
Then let some strong-souled Gordon take the field  
Of action ; while the masters, "they who know,"  
Would ravage Time its honeyed stores to yield !  
That were as dreamland ! Pulpit, senate, mart,  
Suddenly silent ; only Nature heard  
With her still music, or her prophet's word !  
The while the noisy blusterer would depart.  
Where men talk least, his year of grace to spend,  
To learn his ignorance and his manners mend !

A. G. B.

### THE OLD HOUSE.

IN through the porch and up the silent stair ;  
Little is changed, I know so well the ways ;—  
Here, the dead came to meet me ; it was there  
The dream was dreamed in forgotten days.

But who is this that hurries on before,  
A flitting shade the brooding shades among ?—  
She turned,—I saw her face,—O God ! it wore  
The face I used to wear when I was young !

I thought my spirit and my heart were tamed  
To deadness ; dead the pangs that agonise.  
The old grief springs to choke me,—I am shamed  
Before that little ghost with eager eyes.

O turn away, let her not see, not know !  
How should she bear it, how should understand ?  
O hasten down the stairway, haste and go,  
And leave her dreaming in the silent land.

AMY LEVY.

### SONNET.

EDMUND BURKE AND THE FRENCH REVOLUTION.

THE age was sordid ; Christian hope burned low ;  
Old thrones of Wisdom tottered insecure ;  
Old crowns of Kings, like mist that o'er a moor  
When tempest nears it wavers to and fro,  
Shook on weak heads portending overthrow  
By some deserved. The Gallic Siren's lure

Sang to their death-doom prince at once and boor  
Blind pupils of Helvetius and Rousseau.  
Daily to England's shores the infection spread  
Of Unbelief and Faith Republican  
In pagan league. Then forth there stepped one man :  
He stood betwixt the living and the dead :  
He raised his hand. The Spirits of darkness fled :—  
To them that Prophet's rod was flail and fan.

AUBREY DE VERE.

*The Spectator.*

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

A CHEMIST, by name Dufresne, in a letter enclosing a bank note for £40, offered the jurors in the Paris Exhibition of his class £80 each, if he received a gold medal. Dufresne was ordered out as an exhibitor. His downright business like operation was not to the taste of these pure judges of arts and inventions. We rather suspect this chemist cracked a practical joke to expose the favoritism of the jurors.

SHRIPAD BABAJI THAKUR, Sessions Judge, Shikarpur, died at Shikarpur, on the 22nd July, of paralysis. One of the first batch of Indians who passed the open competition in England—after the pioneer Bengali, Satyendra Nath Tagore—he was an honour to the Mahrathi community. But only intellectually. He had scarcely the stamina of the race of Sivaji. He was only 42.

THE *Akhbar-i-Am* and the *Koh-i-Noor*, both of Lahore, accuse each other of receiving Rs. 15,000 and Rs. 7,000 respectively from the Maharaja and his brother Prince Amar Singh of Cashmere. Both the newspapers have gone to Court for satisfaction. By this mode of cleaning their foul linen in the street, they will scarcely advance the cause of the Native States or the credit of the Native Press.

THE Maharaja of Ulwar has bade adieu to Simla, exhausted doubtless by his stay of about three months in the rarified atmosphere of Capua.

THE Parsee Matrimonial Act provides against specific impuissance in the husband and against "physical causes" in the wife. In Surat, one Heerjibhoy Pestonji has prayed for divorce from his wife on the ground of her "not being in womanhood."

A CHOWKIDAR on the E. I. Railway, Howrah, in charge of the goods shed, has been fined Rs. 7, by the Deputy Magistrate. A consignment of piece-goods was found cut open and goods to the value of about Rs. 44 extracted while he was enjoying himself in the arms of Morpheus. For this unseasonable gallantry, he was charged with gross neglect of duty.

The sleeping fox catches no poultry, according to high authority, and the sleeping fox of the Police might play into the hands of his confederate knight of industry. The constable in question had any share in the spoil, he would not feel the fine. If not, he would recoup himself on the public.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

We may be thought to dwell at too much length on this little incident. But our remark may be a useful hint in administration of criminal justice as well of the Police.

ONE Radha Churn Dass was committed to the Magistracy by Mr. Justice Norris for perjury, for having persistently asserted before his Lordship that he never attested a receipt and that the signature on a subpoena was not his. In the Police Court, Radha Churn, on the advice of Mr. Manuel, his defending Attorney, pleaded guilty. Mr. Manuel explained that his client had misunderstood the pardon offered by the Judge, on condition of admitting his signatures, in the High Court; he believed that such admission would only criminate him the more and he stuck to his denial. Mr. Manuel asked of Magistrate Marsden the same leniency that Judge Norris had shewn. The Chief Magistrate took time to consider. Overnight he discovered that there was increase of perjury in the land, and so he sentenced Radha Churn to three months' hard labour.

GUL Muhamad, a head constable, in the Dera Ismail Khan district, has been sentenced to seven years' imprisonment. After the manner of the Police in that district and in conformity with practice, he kept a man confined in a private dwelling, for over two weeks, and tortured him to extort a confession. To escape from the cruelty, the confined man strangled himself to death. The compulsory suicide opened the eyes of the authorities, the constable was tried, found guilty and convicted. The policeman knew that he had committed no offence. He had only followed the usual practice. It was no illegal confinement when the restraint was not in an organized *hawalat*. He unburdened himself accordingly to the Chief Court, for reversal of the wrongful order made on him by the District Magistrate. The Chief Court confirmed the sentence as an exemplary punishment.

BRIGADE SURGEON J. G. PILCHER, late of Howrah, now of Darjeeling, officiates as Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, for Deputy Surgeon-General W. R. Rice, M. D., on privilege leave.

SURGEON WILLIAM OWEN, M.D., and Surgeon Dhormadas Basu have attained chirurgical majority. Both are able officers, though, we confess, we have no special reason to congratulate them. The service examination having been abandoned since 1879, when three European examinees failed, promotion of the Covenanted officers to any vacancy now depends on mere length of service.

MR. G. A. G. SHAWE goes on three months' privilege leave and Mr. C. H. DeMello, Assistant-Engineer, first grade, Cossye Division, officiates as Under-Secretary to the Bengal Government in the P. W. D.

THE office of Superintendent of Works, Calcutta, is a thing of the past—from the 20th July, the Akra Division, the Calcutta Workshop Division and the Burrakur Iron Works being transferred to the charge of the Superintending Engineer of the Western Circle. The Akra Division itself has also been abolished from the commencement of this month, the manufactory being leased out, and negotiations are in progress for similar transfer of the Iron Works. Lieutenant-Colonel G. F. E. S. Neill, M.S.C., who negotiated the contract for Akra, has obtained two years' special leave preparatory to retirement.

MR. W. D. BRUCE retired from the service from the 30th March 1889. Has he explained his conduct in connection with the private fees Mr. Bushby received for advising on the repairs of the lost *Sir John Lawrence*?

WE are officially informed that—

It is reported from Jeddah that the Vali of the Hedjaz who used to force all Indian and Javanese pilgrims to buy a copy of the Koran at a fixed price, has been removed and that his successor has received special instructions from the Sublime Porte to reform the Hedjaz and to root out all the evils which prevail there, and which, while detrimental to the interests of the pilgrims, lower the prestige of the Sultan in the eyes of the Mahomedan world. He is reported to have taken steps to carry out these instructions.

KUMAR GOPENDRA KRISHNA is Gazetted to act as Magistrate and Collector of Furreedpore, Baboo Kedarnath Roy, from Alipore, being posted to Sealda.

A NATIVE Deputy Magistrate Jagat Bundhoo Bhattacharjee has passed an examination in the Sonthali language and gained the reward of Rs. 1,000.

BABU BRAJENDRANATH DE, of the Bengal Civil Service, has won a Degree of Honour in Sanskrit in the first Division and the authorized donation of Rs. 5,000. We hope there will be no rush on this Honour on the part of other Native Civil Servants, or else it may be abolished or, at any rate, the grant reduced to insignificance. The country should not forget how in the teeth of pledged faith, the marks for Sanskrit and Arabic in the Civil Service competition were significantly reduced immediately on Mr. Mano Mohan Ghose (now a senior barrister in our High Court) passing the Examination, in London, with special credit in Oriental classics.

THE *Gazette of India* of the 27th publishes the terms on which grants of land may be given to approved applicants undertaking to introduce emigrants from Chutia Nagpur and Behar, including the whole of the Patna Division and the Districts of Bhagalpur and Monghyr.

MR. J. WESTLAND, C. S. I., assumed charge from Mr. D. Fitzpatrick, C. S. I., as Chief Commissioner of Assam, on the 16th July.

THE tenders for the new 4 per cent Loan amounted to Rs. 7,22,43,500. The minimum rate of the accepted tenders is Rs. 99-14, tenderers at that rate receiving 77-78 per cent. of their applications. The loan is to be issued at an average of Rs. 99-14-11-49. In other words, for the two hundred lacs on which interest is to be paid, the Government receives Rs. 1,99,86,967-8.

GOVERNMENT property is free from import duty. Under an interpretation of that rule, contractors to Government are saved the duty on spirits imported by them for the use of the Government departments. The Madras Government now thinks differently. The contractors have been called upon to pay the usual duty. It is argued that at the time of importation, the spirits are not Government property. The Government of India has been applied to for the final order.

NOW that the freshets are on, the Port Officer has warned ship-owners, agents and masters not to allow vessels to leave the port during the next spring tides, from the 10th to the 15th August.

SIR HENRY HARRISON is pushing on the new Central Road. The declaration under the Act having been made, and the sanction for the 50 lacs loan obtained, the Deputy Baboo Kali Churn Ghose has now been especially deputed to assess compensation as he thinks proper. The Lord save the owners!

THE fee for the Sanskrit Collegiate School is Rs. 3, one hundred students, sons of *bond fide* pundits having the privilege of paying only at the rate of Re. 1. There are only 130 pupils in all. To popularise the institution and encourage Sanskrit learning, the Principal of the College had recommended the reduced fee of Re. 1 for another hundred respectable Hindu boys. Simultaneously with this recommendation, the Director of Public Instruction received an offer from Baboo Jodoo Lal Mullick on behalf of his relative the newly created Ranee Raj Kumari Dassi to establish an endowment fund for the payment of the fees of 50 Hindu students at the same school at Re. 1 a month. The offer is not unconditional. The Baboo and the Ranee reserve to themselves or the trustees of the fund to be created the selection of the students to be called "Baboo Pran Kissen Mullick's scholars." They must be respectable but not well-to-do, the selection being subject to the approval of the Principal of the College. The Lieutenant-Governor has thankfully accepted the offer and has invited similar benefactions for the encouragement of students in Sanskrit learning. The Government resolution lays stress on the regular payment of the Rs. 50 by the trustees to the Principal of the Sanskrit College. We believe the offer of the "Maisadal block" of the Eden Hindu Hostel, noticed in our last, is due to the political sagacity of the Principal. We doubt

not Mahamahopadhyaya M. C. Nayaratra will be able to discover another benefactor for the remaining Rs. 50 for the school, and thus entirely relieve the Government of the duty of considering his recommendation which has been for the present postponed pending the report on "the effect on the numbers, and popularity of the Sanskrit Collegiate School of the arrangement now sanctioned."

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Queen had been suffering much from lumbago and rheumatism when the last mail left. Yet she was present at the Garden Party at Marlborough House in honor of the Shah. She had the help of a stick and the Prince of Wales' arm.

It was rumoured that Her Majesty had been medically advised to take a trip to her Indian possessions. The rumour has been officially denied.

Shah Naseruddin has turned his back on England, and Emperor William has come in. Prince Albert Victor leaves London for India on the 19th October in the P. & O. Steamer *Arcadia*.

AT the Lord Mayor's banquet on the 31st July, the Premier scouted the idea of English abandonment of Egypt unless she was strong enough to hold her own both against domestic and foreign foes. That opens out a long vista, indeed! England, Lord Salisbury said, could not be an idle spectator of the events in Eastern Europe, to the loss of her influence with the nations. He was not very apprehensive of war—for the terrible issues of modern warfare were by themselves a check on war itself and a guarantee of peace. Previously, in the House of Lords, he had expressed satisfaction with the conduct of the rulers of Bulgaria. The aspect of affairs in the East generally was encouraging, and there was less tendency on the part of the European potentates, both great and small, to speculate on the possibility of troubles in Turkey.

At Birmingham, Lord Randolph Churchill expressed a pessimist view of the situation. He advocated the evacuation of Egypt to secure the friendship of France and Turkey, and restrict British responsibilities in view of the approaching war in Europe.

Modern war is no doubt a forbidding prospect to the nations, as the Premier averred, but then better far a bloody and decisive encounter and a recast of political geography than this warlike peace which gives no rest. Peace, Peace, where there is no trust!

THE Cretan difficulty is being solved. England is anxious that the island shall continue a Turkish possession. Her Majesty's ship *Albacore* has arrived there. Sarkinsky Pacha has been recalled and Riza Pacha appointed temporarily Governor-General of the island.

Mr. Labouchere's amendment opposing the grants recommended by the Royal Grants Committee of the House of Commons, was rejected by 398 votes against 116. The two Agencies report differently the fate of Mr. Morley's amendment—objecting to any increase in the burdens of the people without an assurance that no further grants will be made to the Royal Family. According to Reuter—"The House afterwards divided, with the result that the amendment was rejected by a majority of 221 votes, 355 having voted against, while only 134 voted in favor of the amendment. Sir William Harcourt and the leaders of the Opposition voted with the minority." The new Central News thus reports the debate—"In the debate which followed, Mr. Chamberlain took the opportunity to retaliate upon Mr. Storey and other Radicals who attacked him during the early stages of the subject in Parliament and denounced the Radicals as the Nihilists of English politics. The House divided—for the amendment 555; against 134." These telegrams were published on Wednesday. Till now, none of the two Agencies has contradicted its own report. That is only possible in India.

THE Civil List of Queen Victoria stands at 385,000*l*. Besides, she receives about 100,000*l*. the revenue of the Duchy of Lancaster and has the income of her own private property. George I enjoyed an allowance of 700,000*l*. Unlike former sovereigns George III, George I and Queen Anne, Queen Victoria has never run into debt and never asked for extra grants. Since the ascension of the present Queen, the exchequer has benefitted by 15,000,000*l*, the net surplus revenue

of the Crown lands. For the year ending March 31, 1889, the payment to the exchequer on this account was 430,000*l*.

THEY have passed a law in France against official corruption' nicknamed Wilsonism. They have prescribed five years' residence in jail for accepting money for procuring decorations, appointments, or other State favours.

THE Boulangists made the elections for the Council-General extraordinarily exciting. To prove his popularity among his countrymen, the General stood for about four hundred cantons. By the latest news, he has won twelve and the Conservatives twenty-six Republican seats.

DR. TANNER has been sentenced to one month's imprisonment for assaulting Inspector Stephens in May last and to three months' for defying the court. Home opinion however does not seem to regard the Doctor disgraced as a rowdy, as the finer sense of Mr. M. P. Gasper and his uncoguid clientele of the officials and their defenders out in the East, are disposed to regard the unfortunate Hearsey.

LORD Cross announced in the House of Lords that thirteen Commissions in the Royal Engineers and Royal Artillery would be offered to students at Cooper's Hill College.

THE Postmaster-General Raikes has informed the House of Commons that France and Italy have consented to a further reduction from the 1st of January in the transit charges of the Eastern mails and the acceleration of trains between Modane and Brindisi.

LORD NORTHBROOK has interested himself for the abolition of the unjust silver plate duty on Indian wares. He moved in the Upper House for production of the papers, and denounced the duty. Lord Cross, fully aware of the injury done to the Indian trade, assured the House that he would give Mr. Goschen no peace until he had repealed the duty and modified the laws for compulsory hall-marking. The repeal is now a question of months only. A retired Viceroy is worth more on Indian affairs at Home than a dozen amateur politicians.

The Earl of Fife experienced his first favours as a son-in-law elect of Royalty by being created a Duke—the Duke of Fife.

The marriage of the Duke with Princess Louise of Wales was solemnized on the 27th July at the Buckingham Palace chapel. The marriage presents number 600, valued at a sixth of a million sterling.

JAPAN is being coaxed to open her whole interior to British trade. A terrific earthquake has devastated the island of Kiouisiou in the district of Nagasaki. It was at first reported that six hundred persons were killed. The casualties are now put down at 30 killed and 80 injured and many houses destroyed. It is just possible though that these docile Pacific Islanders have in this, as in so many other things, taken a leaf out of the book of the Atlantic Islanders.

SEVEN hundred deaths from heat apoplexy in three days! Such is the news from Bokhara.

IN a previous issue we gave an account of the bloody riot which had taken place between the Shias and Sunnis of Lucknow, owing to their sectarian differences, and of the decision of their case by the city Magistrate. It appears that the Sessions Judge had upheld the judgment of the city Magistrate, and the convicted defendants had preferred an appeal to the Judicial Commissioner of Oudh. The result of this appeal is thus described by a contemporary:—

"The Judicial Commissioner of Oudh has dismissed the appeal of the Shias, whom the Sessions Judge of Lucknow held were mainly instrumental in fomenting the late riot in that city. Rightly as these men have been convicted, there is a strong opinion in local circles, in the second city of the united provinces, that the persons sent to jail were after all but tools in the hands of men of position whose names have not transpired, and the very large sum of money which has been subscribed by their co-religionists for the defence of the prisoners and for the support of their families while they work out their sentences, gives colour to the opinion."

We have not yet heard the result of the appeal in the Allahabad case of a similar character, the particulars of which also we gave in a recent issue.

We trust that Sir Auckland Colvin will give his special attention to these cases, and with his usual vigour, adopt measures, which may prevent the possibility of the recurrence of such unpleasant and demoralizing disputes.

WE congratulate our Young Egyptians. Their beloved beach is not to be annexed to the Punjab. Only the reason for noninterference is somewhat alarming. The main consideration which has guided the Government of India in its decision is that Sind is not a frontier province. That seems to suggest that Government is in for the Scientific Frontier and its twin calamity the Forward Policy.

THE Government of India has fixed longing eyes upon Dwarka and Porebunder in Kattywar—ports with good strategical situations. Negotiations have been opened for their transfer to British India in exchange of other lands. Modern Annexation is not the downright honest thing of old. It descends to many little shifts and ways.

THERE is weeping and wailing in the Jain community of Azimgunge and Baloochur in Moorsshedabad. Two young men belonging to two of the wealthiest families of that community took "French leave" of their guardians and started for England by the last mail steamer. They are Inderchand Dhoodooria and Inderchand Nahata, the son and the son-in-law of Rai Bahadur Boodh Singh Dhoodooria.

The first intimation their friends got of their departure, was in a telegram sent by them from Bombay at the time of the starting of the steamer on Tuesday last. It is suspected that they have carried away about Rs. 30,000 from their homes, unknown to their guardians. Their only companion and guide is Baboo Prosunno Kumar Sen of the Brahmo fraternity. They are both aged 20 or 21 years.

KEDARNATH MOOKERJEE of the office of Superintendent of Political Pensions, has made good the Rs. 8,000 found short in his account. We trust a thorough enquiry will be made and the matter sifted to the bottom. Like the father, the son in charge of the market collections, is free from the obligation of security for good conduct.

MR. A. P. HOWELL retires from the Service from the 13th instant, heart-broken, to seek relief in the dainty ditties of Catullus and the pungent epigrams of Martial. In his natural revulsion from an ungrateful country, he may even go the whole hog to Rome. In any case, we hope literature will gain by his forced divorce from active life.

MR. F. J. ROWE, a professor, officiates as Principal of the Presidency College. The Government must prepare itself for abuse from our friends of the native press for neglecting the superior claims of the lucky son-in-law. The Syndicate of the University has had its share already for preferring Mr. Rowe as Registrar. The favorite of Fortune has unquestionably acquired an official claim to promotion by incompetence.

THERE is to be another change in the Personal staff of the Presidency Commissioner. The evil genius of the office has come back renovated for fresh mischief. Poor Prankumar Das has been condemned to rusticate on a month's leave. On the expiry of the period, he goes to Burdwan, Baboo Annoda Proshad Ghose coming back to Calcutta and Baboo Abinash Chunder Mullick rejoining his old place at Baraset as sub-divisional officer.

WEEK before last, Baboo Durgagoti Banerjee was confirmed as Deputy Collector of Calcutta and Superintendent of Excise Revenue. This week the *Calcutta Gazette* announces his confirmation as Collector of Stamp Revenue, Calcutta. This shews how they manage the matter in the Bengal office. That was an oversight, of course, as the previous omission not to appoint him permanently, some months back, when Mr. Goodricke sent up his papers, was another. Some wise one in the Secretariat was evidently under the impression that no orders could be passed till Mr. Goodricke's application for pension had been sanctioned. But in his sympathy for him or his, he entirely forgot that the latter's was a forced retirement.

A greater anomaly and jobbery is still being practised on a native Judge of the Small Cause Court. Although Mr. McEwen's connection

with it has ceased for several years, yet he is permitted to draw a larger portion of the pay of the Small Cause Judge in addition to that of the post he occupies in Rangoon, and the Judge in Calcutta is starving on half pay. We try as much as possible to avoid the habit of native writers of making invidious comparisons. But we really cannot help believing that, if this latter had not been a native, he would long since have received his due. There would have been such a hue and cry in the Anglo-Indian press, if a European had been the sufferer! Of course, no native officer in any department would have been allowed to draw several hundred Rupees per mensem in excess of his pay for four years.

HERE is an instance, which has not appeared in any of our contemporaries, of how University examinations in Bengal are managed. In the last B. A. Examination, one Mahesh Chandra Das who took the Arts course with Sanskrit for his optional subject, appeared from the Metropolitan Institution. He failed. On the "cross-list," however, he is put down as having taken mathematics for his optional subject and passed in it. Well, having failed in the aggregate alone, Mahesh may, after all, be proud of passing in the subject of which he has been perfectly innocent since he crossed the Rubicon of the "Little go." It may be only an oversight of the office which has never enjoyed an enviable reputation, and which has evidently not improved since the Clerk was dignified with the grandiose designation of Assistant Registrar and patronised with an absurdly fat pay (not to speak of perquisites) larger than the emolument of his superior officer. Other inaccuracies, equally adverse to public confidence in the University examinations, have been pointed out in other papers as well as by individual sufferers. The examiners—a sorry lot of late years—have their share of lapses too. Altogether, between the authors of Questions and the appraisers of the Answers and the office, they contrive to make a pretty mess of the whole business. We trust the committee appointed at the last Syndicate will do their work in a thorough spirit.

A KAYET marriage in the Allahabad District has ended in a most melancholy incident, the grievous consequences of which are far from being exhausted yet. Eight miles from the capital of the North-Western Provinces, is the village of Fettehpore, where Lala Anantaram, Sub-Judge of Cawnpore, has his home. There were great festivities, much feasting and rejoicing at the place early in July, on the occasion of the wedding of the Sub-Judge's son. Besides the people of the locality and immediate neighbourhood, the connections of the family from more distant parts, as well as the Lala's friends from Cawnpore and Allahabad assembled. The Kayasthas of Behar and Upper India have little affinity, in their social and domestic manners, with the Kayasthas of Bengal Proper. They rather approximate to the European standard. Given to the use of stimulating food and drink, they are more gregarious, and their enjoyment of society is hearty and demonstrative. Their tribal meetings, at which refreshments and liquor are offered and freely partaken of, are not the lifeless things of their brethren of down country. At their feasts, of course great quantities of meat and drink are consumed. They usually make a night of any of their evening entertainments. They certainly enter into their enjoyments with spirit. Their festivities are really festive. We are therefore all the more sorry to hear of the unfortunate ending of the auspicious gathering of so many of our fellow-countrymen, including many respectable men, in the village of Fettehpore.

There was a sound of revelry by night,  
And Upper Hindustan had gathered then  
Her beauty and her *Lalury*, and bright  
The lamps shone o'er fair women and brave men;  
A thousand hearts beat happily; and when  
Music arose with its voluptuous swell,  
Soft eyes look'd love to eyes which spake again,  
And all went merry as the marriage-bell;

But hush! hark! a deep sound strikes like a rising knell!  
At Fettehpore, the sound did not strike quite as a rising knell, nor was it anything so deep as that which disturbed and in fact dispersed *instantly* the Duchess's ball at Brussels, because there was no cannonading in the neighbourhood since Havelock and Neil worked up their way to Cawnpore in 1857. But it was sufficiently ominous to disturb the whole company. While joy was unconfined, a disagreeable whisper spread from mouth to mouth and ear to ear, to the effect that the *Prima Donna* of the ballet, we mean the leading



*Ansuese* of the Bayadery corps—the proudest among the many professional women, good, bad and indifferent, either from the adjoining country or invited from distant cities to perform on the occasion—had lost all her jewellery worth some three thousand Rupees. It was at first treated with incredulity by those who were plunged in the festive proceedings and were minded to make the most of them. But soon all doubt was dispelled. The news was too true. There had been a serious robbery there and then in the camp of joy. There was an uproar as the company broke up suddenly without ceremony. The host and his friends proceeded to inquire into the awkward incident. The Police of the local station of Nawabgunge arrived. All were at the end of their wits. These were possibly not very well prepared for detective ingenuity by the prevailing merry-making. At any rate, they made a mess of the whole thing. They were not wanting in promptitude or energy, but these seem to have been misapplied. We do not hear that the loser has gained anything by them. The missing jewellery has not, we believe, been found. Meanwhile, there is a serious charge against the host (Lala Anantaram), the Police, the dancing girl and others of torture. Not the least melancholy part of the matter is, that the guests themselves were not protected from oppression and indignity by this judicial host. Indeed, two of the guests were the victims of the brutality employed against them to extract a confession.

THE vanishing Rupee is not the only grievance of our European fellow-subjects in India. All Nature seems in league against them. A new enemy has appeared to add to their torments. In fact, a new race of Pindaries, more formidable than any recorded in history, has made them the butts of unavoidable depredation.

A Family in Park Street were the victim of constant thefts, in broad day. The lady of the house was specially wild in consequence of the loss of fancy articles from the drawing-room. Servants were watched, but to no purpose. At last, the Detective was invited. He was as much at sea as the inmates. As if in defiance of the Police, a theft occurred during his presence in the house. While he was at lunch with the family, the master missed his silver mounted meerschaum from the teapoy on which he had left it. The lady nearly fainted from this crowning attack of the mysterious enemy. Surely, the philosophical old native valet had early hit the truth, who said that that enemy was no other than the common enemy of mankind. The Devil was in it, without question, and he was on them, with a vengeance. What had the poor Police officer to oppose to so irresistible a conclusion? Nothing—absolutely nothing, except perhaps his miserable *a priori* doubts. But what is the value of idle speculation before facts? The discomfited Police logician himself confesses:—

"I never felt so small in all my life. I went about the room examining the doors and trying to discover a means of entrance to or exit from the room, other than by the stairs. It was no use. There was no other outlet or inlet except through the windows, and in that case a ladder would be necessary. And no one would have the temerity to use a ladder in broad daylight. The only other alternative was by the stair-case, and I felt confident no person could have ascended or descended the stairs while we were at lunch without being seen. I went towards one of the open windows which looked out on the garden and compound. The gentleman of the house followed my example, and in a bantering tone enquired if I was examining the ground for foot-prints. 'No,' said I, smiling, 'there is little chance of discovering foot-prints on a soorkee road.'"

The poor Detective searched the whole grounds with his practised eye, but in vain. So far as he could judge no thief had come into the garden nor entered the house. He was about to give it up in ignominious despair. For it was a European family and he dared not to escape by the stereotyped Police formula under difficulties—to deny the robbery or to suspect the master or mistress of a trick on the other. But Providence protects the honour of the worthy, as our Bengali saying goes. When the famous Detective was about to beat a retreat with a white lie of a promise to call again, light came from an unexpected quarter. He says:—

"While we were standing talking a crow came hopping along the walk until it got right under the window. Here it stood still, turned its head on one side, and after regarding us for some time with a quizzical expression, commenced to caw! caw! caw! It then hopped to a spot where the gravel appeared loose and began to peck and remove some of the broken soorkee with its beak. It would stop occasionally, cast a side glance towards the window and caw! caw! caw! My companion at once suggested, half jestingly, that there might be something in the crow's movements, which, if followed up, would lead to the discovery of his lost and much prized meerschaum, so we both went down to the compound and examined the spot to which the crow had directed our attention. We found nothing of course. By this time the crow had been joined by two or three of its companions who were evidently in

the secret; for they seemed to enjoy the fun immensely. They hopped about the compound and began to peck wherever they found the gravel loose. We followed their movements for some time. But finding they were evidently intent upon drawing us as far away from a large tree that grew so close to the house you could almost touch the branches from the drawing-room window, we gave up the chase. On returning to the house I happened to look up the tree and discovered a crow's nest in one of the branches. I remarked to my companion 'That,' pointing to the nest, 'accounts for the conduct of the crows. They have evidently young ones up there and were no doubt trying to distract our attention from the tree.' 'Very good,' said my companion, 'let us see, for the fun of the thing.' A servant was called and told to mount to the nest. He did so, and found it filled, not with young crows, but with the missing ornaments from the lady's drawing-room, including the silver-mounted meerschaum lost during the time we were at tiffin!"

Such is the sensational narrative published with *acut* in the leading columns of the *Planters' Gazette*. As regards its claims to attention, they are below those of the miracles in Nature and art circulated by the American press which have at least the merit of originality and genius. The Indian account is a pure imposition on the editor and a presumption on the illiteracy of the Anglo-Indian public. Our contemporary's Own Crow is a poor imitation of the immortal Jack-Daw of Rheims. The whole, in plain terms, is a condensed prose rendering of the famous verse.

HAVING lately had occasion to notice with befitting sharpness the activity of a barrister member of the Town Corporation in espousing, at the municipal board and afterwards in the press, a grievance contractual (to speak in legal phrase)—the claim, that is, of a farmer under the municipality—we are glad to have so soon an opportunity of offering our good fellow-citizen the *amende honorable*, though in another connection.

"FATHER JOHN," irreverently styled "Johnny" (he is, at any rate, the Father of our local Joannies) has at length walked into glory unquestionable. He has made himself famous, as befits a barrister, in a right legal way—if not professionally, at least juridically. It is something to be a hero at any rate. Friend Johnny is Jack the Giant-Killer of the hour. He has floored the great Excise Department in the interest of Free Trade. He has approved himself as the man and Magistrate after the heart of the publicans and sinners. He has secured the right to a colossal statue of well-filled bottles raised on a pyramid of hogs-heads for pedestal. Meanwhile, his own supplies of liquor ought to be absolutely free. What vendor—on the sly so ungrateful as to withhold the *muscar* due to the Champion of Liberty without License!

THE Calcutta Honorary Bench is not a very strong "cast." Our Justices are a miscellaneous lot, including nephews and cousins and cousins-German and British and Indian and not a few flunkeys and tift-hunters snobs and noodle. They not unfrequently deal out the proverbial "Justices' Justice." But there are a few good men and true—lawyers not only in name and lay men better than many lawyers—who contrive to save the general credit of the whole body. Of this finer leaven is Mr. J. G. Apar. It is, however, given to few barrister members of the unpaid Magistracy in any country, by a single decision, to earn such a triumph as Mr. Apar has just achieved. A Full Bench of the High Court could not have done more than what this Honorary Magistrate has accomplished. By one blow Mr. Apar has struck down an administrative abuse sanctified by the unbroken consuetude of more than a generation and upheld by the absolute consensus of a hundred magistrates, paid and unpaid, professional as well as lay. The well-aimed shot has felled more than one enemy. In demolishing the unauthorised aggressions of the Abkari, Mr. Apar has virtually condemned the free and easy methods of British Rule in India, in its executive as well as legislative side. He has likewise, of course, practically exposed the laxity of the judiciary and the whole legal profession.

The case will be carried up to the High Court. A Bow-street dictum cannot be final—will not be allowed to be the law. But Mr. Apar's judgment is strong enough to meet any ordeal. The defence may have failed to do itself justice—the Magistrate will scarcely be blamed. Be that as it may, there must be Reform as the result, and probably fresh legislation. Mr. Apar's credit as the vindicator of the Liberty of the subject will remain.

THE Chief Magistrate, on the prosecution of Government, sentenced one Leopold Shein to imprisonment for retailing liquor on a wholesale

license. The detection was in the usual way by marked coins. Chiefly to secure these coins, the Police and the Excise officers forced into his house, made him a prisoner and seized his goods. Shein brought a counter charge against the Police Inspector Merriman and the Excise Superintendent Siddons and Excise Sub-Inspector Heard for criminal trespass, using criminal force, &c. Mr. Marsden having expressed a certain opinion in connection with this charge, he was asked not to try this case. It was thus made over to the Honorary Magistrate Mr. J. G. Apcar—Clerk of the Crown. After a rather lengthy hearing, Mr. Apcar has found the defendants guilty and convicted them all for criminal trespass under Sec. 44; Siddons and Merriman for wrongful arrest under Sec. 342; and all of them again for use of criminal force under Sec. 352, of the Indian Penal Code. These do not however exhaust the category of their offences. The defendants have been further convicted under Sec. 69 of the Excise Act. We are sure the learned Magistrate might have heaped other Sections of the all-absorbing Penal Code on the heads of the accused. But he has spared them that criminal load. Nor has he followed the precedent of that ornament of the Bengal Civil Service, the late Billy Buckle (as he was familiarly named) of awarding sentence under each of the sections enumerated. He has contented himself with ordering punishment for using criminal force only. To make it "deterrent and to mark his sense of the scandalous and improper proceedings that have taken place," he has, however, sentenced Siddons to pay a fine of Rs. 200, Merriman Rs. 100 and Heard Rs. 25.

Mr. Apcar finds there is no law to justify trespass into a liquor-vendor's house and for his arrest for retail sale under a wholesale license.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1889.

### THE AUTOCRAT OF THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

"Ah! my son, thou knowest not with what little wisdom the world is governed," said an aged statesman. It is not for the profane vulgar to speak irreverently of a Minister of State, else we should call the Swedish Chancellor a fool who affected to despise his own caste. He was a sad misanthrope. He must have been excommunicated and deprived of benefit of clergy. He certainly deserved to be punished for *Scandalum magnatum*. At best, he could speak only of his miserable land. At any rate, there is nothing but wisdom in Simla. Those there who govern the world below spend their time in deep thought. They never engage in theatricals nor keep favorite officers and officers' wives up there who are good at acting and singing, nor do they indulge in balls, parties, picnics, races, games or levity of any sort. It is all hard work, hard thinking and the highest wisdom is the result.

Bengal somehow did not get on well with the Inspector-General of Hospitals, who came from other Provinces. One of them, it is well-known, "chucked up" Bengal altogether, and when another was sent, he too was found to sit unhappily on the guddi. Then Sir Ashley Eden, who knew how to govern if any man ever did, insisted on having a man appointed who knew Bengal. But this was not allowed to continue. The wisdom of Simla set aside Bengal wishes and appointed another foreigner, and a precious Interloper he proved himself. It is not saying too much that he neither suited those below him nor those above him, and he ceased to be consulted altogether. Dowbs must be taken care of, however, and again an outsider is sent us by the wiseacres in cloudland. He knows not Bengal nor Bengalis and

naturally thinks that good men, good work, and good arrangements can only come from the far North-West.

As regards examinations, his duty is to send on the examination papers of the Bengali Assistant Surgeons, with the decisions on them by the officers appointed by Government, unopened to the powers above. But he opens and reads them and finds several answers have the same expressions, and some bits of them exact words of the text books. He does not know that Bengali students read and read and reread text-books till the *ipsissima verba* of the authors come naturally out of their pen points. Two of them using the same expressions is no proof that they have copied from each other or from the books there and then, in the examination hall. The idea is preposterous and betrays the simplicity of the sceptic. Indeed, the precautions used in the examination, one of which is that the presiding officer sits at the same table with the examinees, precludes all possibility of any such mutual or external help. Surely, the great Inspector-General does not suspect the officer on guard of collusion.

But the great man must be satisfied anyhow. To test the Assistant-Surgeons, the new Inspector-General institutes a new examination of his own and takes upon himself to set the questions, neither of which is within his province. Verily, the Inspector-General is a law unto himself.

He is both astonished and annoyed that the Bengalis wont walk into this trap. What Bengali would do so? Suppose they did and this judge, who had already decided that they were criminals, again decided in the same way, they could not say a word. But with such a judge they could expect nothing else, and so they are not to be decoyed into convicting themselves. In his wrath at being disappointed, the Inspector-General coolly recommends that these Assistant-Surgeons be dismissed from the service, for disobeying an order he had no authority to give.

It is on record that all the Professors of our colleges and teachers in our Hospitals will, in future, be replaced by men from other Provinces, even perhaps from other Presidencies. Foreign favorites are to fill the best appointments down here and to teach men they know not, among whom they have not grown up, and because these are not exactly like the students they were elsewhere accustomed to take to, suspecting and disliking them and then worrying them out of their hard-earned situations. Doubtless, the Inspector-General was omnipotent in the mofussil, but he is not so here. He forgets that this is the capital of the Empire—in the heart of Bengal, and that he has to deal with a sensitive people well up in their rights as in their duties. We fear that many troubles are in store for the Bengalis ere more than Beotian wisdom comes to us from the medical powers that be.

### A VICTIM OF ANNEXATION IN BURMA.

THE approaching leave taking of Sir C. H. T. Crossthaite, K. C. S. I., Chief Commissioner of Burma, on medical recommendation, reminds me of a promise he made, when last in Calcutta, to a certain Burman, one of ex-King Theebaw's late ministers, to allow him to return to his native country at the end of this year. Ex-Salay Myoze, the late Hlay-thin Atwin Woon of Mandalay, has now been detained in Calcutta for over three years, and no offence of any kind established against him. He was in Theebaw's time a man of great

influence, which, if he had not seen his way advantageously to be loyal to the English Crown, could have given very considerable additional trouble in the pacification of the province, had he not taken up our cause unreluctantly on the fall of the Burmese administration. He was then, and is now considered by Colonel Sir Edward Sladen to be a capable and trustworthy man.

Soon after the occupation of Mandalay by our troops and the speedy deportation of Theebaw and his consort, proclamations were sent out to all outstations recalling all officers in command of men opposing our troops. In such a crisis, it was not easy to get men to lay down their arms and return peacefully to Mandalay, but nearly all under the immediate command of the Hlay-thin, obeyed him and he returned to Mandalay. Soon after his arrival in Mandalay, his services were utilized by General Sir Henry Prendergast whom he accompanied to Sagain, Ava and other strongholds below Mandalay, and completed the dismantling of the Forts, on one occasion recovering with the assistance of troops supplied him by General Sir Harry Prendergast a large sum of specie, collected by Theebaw's revenue officers, and about to be made away with. Returning to Mandalay, he brought about the death of the rebel Prince Kyoo Nyo, a son of the late War Prince and heir-apparent who gave, up to his death, endless trouble, and at the hands of some of whose followers subsequently I was myself made a cripple for life. I can express no sorrow for Kyoo Nyo, neither can I take any objection to the mode the Hlay-thin Atwin Woon followed to make him shuffle off this mortal coil, which was as follows.

Colonel Sir Edward Sladen had for some time been pressing the ministers of the Hhlootdaw, to do something for their own credit, and his, as few beside himself supported the Hlootdaw then, and he had only succeeded in making himself unpopular particularly with the Rangoon Press. The Hlay-thin Atwin Woon determined, I have no doubt, to show his loyalty, got together a number of men with muskets and at once sent them over the river to Sagain, where he had heard Kyoo Nyo was encamped. They joined the Prince handing over arms and ammunition as a guarantee of good faith. They made a party of themselves in the Prince's camp, and one night purposely created a disturbance, shot the Prince dead, and returned to Mandalay. Immediately after the rebel party broke up at Sagain. Now, on the principle that everything is fair in love and war, I contend the death of Prince Kyoo Nyo was perfectly legitimate, and can be adduced as an act of service to the British Government, what the Hlay-thin did was in accordance with the usages of war.

Unfortunately, the Hlay-thin had an enemy in a jealous unscrupulous Assistant Superintendent of Police, who swore to the Hlay-thin giving false information. But Sir Edward Sladen knew his man and stood by him. Meantime, in February 1886, Lord Dufferin arrived at Mandalay. The Hlay-thin Atwin Woon together with the other ministers of the ex-King were received in open Durbar, and at his Excellency's departure again assembled in the Durbar Hall the ministers had their final lesson read to them. The Police officer was relegated to Lower Burma for inefficiency. The Hlay-thin Atwin Woon craved of Sir Charles Bernard permission to come over to Calcutta to see the Viceroy. Permission was granted, he came, and, without a why or forewhere being assigned, he was then told he must not return to

Burma without the permission of the Foreign office. The loyalty of the Hlay-thin has never been questioned by those who had the best means of testing it. He possesses the most flattering testimonies of the highest officers of his loyalty to the British Crown who accompanied the expedition in 1885, and yet he is prevented from returning to Burma notwithstanding the members of his family are permitted to come and go as they think fit.

Here is an example of patience and endurance rarely met with amongst Burmans, certainly never met with amongst his oppressors. Few in Calcutta know the circumstances under which the Hlay-thin Atwin Woon is detained. He is not a prisoner, is not under police surveillance, he may go to any part of the world he chooses, but must not without the consent of the Foreign office return to Burma. For over three years, without any offence having been charged against him, and without a single pice having been paid towards his expenses, he has in the most arbitrary manner been compelled to remain in Calcutta, and is at this moment driven to the greatest possible straits in keeping up a respectable appearance—in truth he has from time to time mortgaged his own and his wife's jewellery. Compare with the Woon's case that of the Limbin Prince residing in Dhurmtollah, who, after having for years eaten the salt of our Government as a Myook in Lower Burma, on the fall of Theebaw, fled to Upper Burma, raised the standard of rebellion against our authority! He was captured red-handed in open revolt, relegated to Rangoon, luxuriously lodged and cared for, and subsequently deported to Calcutta in custody, lodged in comfortable quarters under police surveillance on a fat allowance, he drives on the strand, and lives in a style he could never have hoped to have done but for the happy thought of waging war against the Queen. I am constrained to ask the Government of India—Wherein lies the equity of so violently opposing elements as in the two cases under notice? The Imperial Government at home would not dare detain a subject, as the Government of India has done ex-Salay Myoze late Hlay-thin Atwin Woon, without formulating a charge of some kind. To compel him to live in exile at his own expense is not only arbitrary but cruel to a degree. In 1888 the Hlay-thin petitioned the Government of India for an allowance, but they declined to grant his prayer. His expenses monthly have been Rs. 500, paid by himself. I hope Lord Lansdowne will cause enquiry to be made into the case of the Woon, and ere Sir Charles Crosthwaite quits Burma, if but for a few months, recoup the Woon for the immense outlay he has been put to in residing in Calcutta, and permit him without further hindrance to return to his native country.

ZITO.

#### THE VICTORIA INSTITUTE.

THE Victoria Institute or Philosophical Society of Great Britain, is one of the most thriving learned institutions of the day in the metropolis of the British Empire. For this position, credit is due to the Council, the soul whereof (we wish we could say *which*) is the Secretary. The Victoria is lucky in the possession of a "crack" executive. Its Honorary Secretary, Captain Petrie, is a model of such an officer. His untiring zeal and intelligent energy have brought his Society to the front, making it popular with society in general as well as esteemed of the learned. By the latest account, there are at home and abroad 1,300 members on the list, including many of the greatest names in science.

Our readers will doubtless remember the annual meetings

as noticed of late years in our paper. They have been noticed generally throughout the world, thanks to the pains taken by the Secretary in promptly sending out in all directions the minutes. These are well worth attention. Altogether, the Society is in good hands. The *personnel* marks its status, and the proceedings are worthy of the *personnel*. The President of the Royal Society—the acknowledged chief of all the learned societies in Great Britain—does not disdain to accept the post of command of the new institution. In fact, the present President of the Royal is also President of the Victoria. The last anniversary held, on the 1st July, was more than usually interesting. The interest commenced at the outset with the announcement of a message from the Emperor of Brazil. His Majesty is not only a crowned head, but has really a head to boast of. He is indeed a sort of Western Akbar delighting in philosophical inquiries and chiefly in discussing the highest theological problems of the hour. The Society may well be proud of the sympathy of so enlightened and accomplished a monarch. The regular business began with the reading by the Honorary Secretary of the annual report, on the motion of Sir Henry Barkly, G.C.B., F.R.S., seconded by Admiral Sir Leopold McClintock, F.R.S., the arctic explorer, it was adopted. Then the Address of the Rev. Professor Sayce, the Assyriologist, on the latest results of active inquiry in his special department of archæology, was read. The Professor not being able to attend in consequence of the death of his father, his paper was read by proxy in the person of the Rev. Dr. Wright, a friend and a fellow-worker in the domain of Biblical antiquities, who has published a work on the Hittites—a subject, by the way, with which Dr. G. W. Lietner, late of the Panjab, sought, a few years back, to familiarise the Indian public. The address is a first-hand contribution to human knowledge. Mr. Sayce went towards the end of last year to the spot in the East to see the latest excavations and the things disclosed and decipher the inscriptions. The result of his observations and readings are embodied in his valuable address.

We shall not follow the author in his recital of the conquests of Amenophis III, as unfolded in the stones lately exhumed. To the Christian world, the most agreeable announcement in the Address that the difficulty in Biblical history caused by the identification from the hieroglyphics of Ramesis II. with Pharaoh of the Jewish oppression, was an imaginary bugbear. Mr. Sayce boldly scouts the critics who deny the historical character of the Pentateuch. He says:—

"The Tel el-Amarna tablets have already overthrown the primary foundation on which much of this criticism has been built."

We do not suppose the Professor will insist on the literal actuality of the Hebrew cosmography. If he does, he will do so as a Christian and a clergyman, not as an archæologist, for the simple reason that the question is beyond the province of his speciality. It may not be absolutely beyond human ken or rational speculation, but it is certainly beyond Assyriology and Egyptology and all human history whatsoever. And beyond these, Mr. Sayce's opinion does not count for much in particular. Nor do we think the Professor holds to the orthodox view of the authorship of the Pentateuch. The Books are certainly not the work of the Prophet to whom they are attributed in Christendom. Englishmen in general are taught from their infancy to believe in Moses's authorship, because they are printed in the authorized version as the Books of Moses. We are surprised to see that in the magnificent edition of the Bible, profusely and learnedly annotated and illustrated, lately issued by an enterprising American firm which has obtained a medal for it, the Five Books are so attributed. Moses could not have written them, unless he wrote as Valmiki is traditioned among the uncritical Hindus to have composed his Raman history by vision prophetic, before the birth of his hero. But whoever wrote the Pentateuch, we had never any doubt

*Holloway's Ointment and Pills.*—As winter advances and the weather becomes more and more inclement and trying the earliest evidences of ill-health must be immediately checked and removed, or a slight illness may result in a serious malady. Relaxed and sore throat, quinsy, influenza, chronic cough, bronchitis, and most other pulmonary affections will be relieved by rubbing this cooling Ointment into the skin as nearly as practicable to the seat of mischief. This treatment, simple yet effective, is admirably adapted for the removal of these diseases during infancy and youth. Old asthmatic invalids will derive marvellous relief from the use of Holloway's remedies, which have wonderfully relieved many such sufferers, and re-established health after every other means had signally failed.

that, in the more historical parts, it contains much authentic material. Such is the case with the Hindu scriptures, grotesque even to absurdity as are many of the stories in them. The scepticism which would summarily dismiss the ancient Hebrew narratives enshrined in the Bible as unworthy of credence, is a remnant of the irrational rationalism of the Eighteenth Century. The speculations of the Volneys and others are not without their counterparts in the extreme section of the comparative philologists and mythologists, which sees in primeval history merely a collection of solar allegories and similar curiosities. Modern research, however, is steadily vindicating the authenticity of the ancient annalists, whether Hebrew or Hindu.

The most important part of the Address remains to be noticed. It is that in which the Professor fixes the place of Assyria in the ancient history of Western Asia and North-Eastern Africa. He makes the Babylonians as a sort of French of their time, their capital the capital of Civilization.

"From them we learn that in the fifteenth century before our era,—a century before the Exodus,—active literary intercourse was going on throughout the civilised world of Western Asia, between Babylon and Egypt and the smaller states of Palestine, of Syria, of Mesopotamia, and even of Eastern Kappadokia. And this intercourse was carried on by means of the Babylonian language, and the complicated Babylonian script. This implies that, all over the civilised East, there were libraries and schools where the Babylonian language and literature were taught and learned. Babylonian appeared to have been as much the language of diplomacy and cultivated society as French has become in modern times, with the difference that, whereas it does not take long to learn to read French, the cuneiform syllabary required years of hard labour and attention before it could be acquired. We can now understand the meaning of the name of the Canaanitish city which stood near Hebron, and which seems to have been one of the most important of the towns of Southern Palestine. Kirjath-Sepher, or 'Book-town,' must have been the seat of a famous library, consisting mainly, if not altogether, as the Tel el-Amarna tablets inform us, of clay tablets inscribed with cuneiform characters. As the city also bore the name of Debir, or 'Sanctuary,' we may conclude that the tablets were stored in its chief temple, like the libraries of Assyria and Babylonia. It may be that they are still lying under the soil, awaiting the day when the spade of the excavator shall restore them to the light. The literary influence of Babylonia in the age before the Israelitish conquest of Palestine explains the occurrence of the names of Babylonian deities among the inhabitants of the West. Moses died on the summit of Mount Nebo, which received its name from the Babylonian god of literature, to whom the great temple of Borsippa was dedicated; and Sinai itself, the mountain 'of Sin,' testifies to a worship of the Babylonian Moon-god, Sin, amid the solitudes of the desert. Moloch or Malik, was a Babylonian divinity like Rimmon, the Air-god, after whom more than one locality in Palestine was named, and Anat, the wife of Anu, the Sky-god, gave her name to the Palestinian Anah, as well as to Anathoth, the city of 'the Anat-goddesses.'"

Perhaps the most interesting announcement made in the paper was that of the discovery of probably the oldest libraries in the world. The Egyptian King Ozymandias, who has earned so to say a second cycle of immortality in the beautiful sonnet of Keats, had hitherto been reputed as the first collector of books on a large scale. Here now we have a library, proved on the best evidence, three thousand five hundred years old.

## LEPROSY.

*Report of Her Majesty QUEEN KAPIOLANI's visit to Molokai, by H. R. H. PRINCESS LILIUOKALANI, July, 1884.*

TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING:

SIR,—I have the honor to submit the particulars of Her Majesty's visit to the Leper Asylum on Molokai whom, in obedience to Your Majesty's wishes, I accompanied thither. The steamer *Waimanalo* having been placed at the disposal of Her Majesty by Hon. J. A. Cummins, the party embarked early on Saturday, the 19th of July, 1884, leaving Honolulu at 3 a. m. that morning.

The weather proving favorable on Monday morning, we left that port for Kaulapapa, reaching our destination in the afternoon. At 4 p. m. the party consisting of Her Majesty the Queen, Hon. J. Cummins and lady, who were in attendance upon Her Majesty; Dr. Edward Arning, M. D., and Mr. C. B. Wilson, Comptroller to my household, landed and were received by Ambrose Hutchison, the Assistant Superintendent, Rev. Father Damien, and Rev. Father Albert, who escorted the party to a house where a large number of the patients were assembled.

The Hon. J. A. Cummins addressed the people and stated the object of the Queen's mission among them.

Her Majesty then arose and with the usual salutation of "Aloha Oukou," briefly addressed them as follows:

"With love I greet you all. My heart-felt sympathy and that of His Majesty the King, your Father, is with you in your affliction. The King has sent His Sister the Heir Apparent, to accompany me in this mission, to show his love to you. I also bring to you the love of the people of Honolulu, the ladies and gentlemen, natives

and foreigners, and those of the other islands who have assisted me in raising the necessary funds and contributions for your relief.

"I have been made familiar with your letters to me, and petitions to the Legislature, and whatever remarks you may have to make we will be pleased to hear them while we are with you.

"The principal object of this mission to your Asylum is to know your condition, and to render such assistance as may be necessary for your comfort."

The people were much moved with the Queen's remarks. The assembly standing during the address. At the conclusion of Her Majesty's remarks, Kailikapu made the following address, "Your Majesty, Your Royal Highness, and gentlemen, I must, first, on behalf of my fellow sufferers, express to you our warm and heart-felt feeling and thanks for this exhibition of your tender love and affection towards us, your afflicted people. I have been an old inmate of this Asylum and this is the second time I have been removed from Honolulu to this place, where I suppose I must remain like my afflicted fellows to linger out a miserable existence without a hope of cure; away from the comforts of home and the society of family and friends. Since my last removal to this place, by a close observation of the workings of the disease here, I have become thoroughly convinced of the non-contagious nature of the workings of the disease here. Instances are numerous here where men afflicted with the disease have been accompanied by healthy wives, who have lived with them, and nursed them for years until death, without the wife becoming affected by the disease, or in the other case the husband. Children, too, have been born of diseased parents and reared among the lepers, without contracting the disease; several such cases are among us now. Such being the case I cannot see how the disease can be called contagious or why we are segregated in an isolated place, where our most urgent wants are but poorly supplied. Poor food, insufficient as regards quantity, and want of proper care and nursing, are prominent among the ills of which we have to complain, and if the Government cannot supply these as they are supplied to us when at home, they should return us whence we came.

"Our rations consist of 21 lbs. of paiai, 7 lbs. of beef, and 1 lb. of sugar per week. Of this 7 lbs. of beef, 5 are often made up of bone. This is sufficient for one person only for three days, and the remaining part of the week he has to go without food. Those living at Kalaupapa have to travel five miles to get their rations, and there being no means of conveyance supplied, such as are too feeble to travel that distance, and have neither horses of their own to travel on, or friends to assist them, are often deprived of food. Many poor, disabled people too are unable, in their feeble and mutilated condition, to prepare their own food after they have got it. When the rainy season sets in the streams would be swollen, and these feeble ones would sometimes be so exhausted that they were unable to cross the stream on their way home, and therefore had to wait until the storm and freshet subsided before they were able to cross. From this cause many have taken cold, and died in consequence.

"An order for six dollars' worth of clothing is allowed per year to each patient, which they get filled at the store of the Board of Health. This is altogether insufficient. One woolen shirt and a blanket is all it will buy. On account of being thus poorly supplied with clothing, some die of cold, especially in the winter months. One great need also is wholesome water to drink and use for preparing food. Now we have to go three miles for water and pick it ourselves, and very often we are compelled to use the brackish water from a well near the beach.

"I will also speak of another matter—that is of the healthy children amongst us. Why are such children (many of whom are well grown, and without any sign of the disease about them) allowed to remain here and become patients through contagion? Why are they not taken elsewhere and properly cared for?"

The second speaker, Mr. Kahanapule, said: "Greeting to you our Queen, and to your Royal Highness and gentlemen: By the request of the patients now residing at Kalaupapa and Kalawao, I was selected from among their number to draft a petition in their behalf to be presented to the Legislature, now in session, in which was made a statement of our needs and a prayer for relief—a duty I was glad to perform. The confidence they have placed in me to act in their behalf, I now avail myself of on this occasion to make known to you what I believe to be our sorest needs; I speak in the interest of these people you now see around you, and more especially of those in crippled condition, unable to be present to meet you upon this occasion, and of those who would have joined with us in showing our appreciation of the great love you have shown to us in the willingness with which you have crossed the dangerous ocean to meet us, and hear our appeals and relieve our necessities. Our needs are many. Foremost among them is the necessity of clothing, some one with authority to settle our difficulties, and satisfactorily dispose of them. At present we have to submit without appeal to the arbitrary ruling of the Agent of the Board of Health, and are often incarcerated for alleged offences in a summary manner, and without a hearing of the case.

"It is the desire of many of us that a resident judge should be appointed, who will always be present to hear and determine in a

proper manner many of the little grievances between the members of our colony, and also be empowered to punish justly any offence against the peace and good order of our community. Our general superintendent visits us only once during each quarter of the year, and remains altogether too short a time to make such investigations as are necessary to the end of justice. Especially frequent are desertions in married life, and the annoyance suffered on this account is great. Many, to-day, amongst us are living in adultery because they feel secure in their removal from the reach of the law. With the general Government I have no actual fault to find, as every endeavor is being made to provide for our numerous wants; but I do blame the Board of Health for its laxness in carrying out a proper system of supplying those wants which have been liberally provided for by the Government. Our paiai, for instance, is landed at Waikolu Gulch, about five miles distant from Kalaupapa, and the patients of that part are necessitated to pack it themselves all that distance. This is a grievous task to many, while to those who are weak it is an impossibility. The place of landing, too, is so situated, and the road to it impassable, that in stormy weather travel there becomes actually dangerous, and at times pack-horses, together with their burdens, have been washed away and drowned, and men too have barely escaped with their lives. In such an event, those to whom the food belongs are necessitated to go without their supply until a new lot has been received. After the paiai is obtained many of the more crippled are unable to prepare it themselves, and can have no water to mix it with unless they are willing to use the brackish water near the beach, which is entirely unfit for any such purpose.

Those who prefer it may, in lieu of paiai, have 9 lbs. of rice and 7 lbs. of hard bread per week. They are compelled to make the change when the poi supply is short, or when they are unable to go that long distance for paiai. But such food is not satisfying, even when we have eaten our fill with other kinds of food we were not satisfied. Poi is our natural food, and nothing could take its place. Kokuas who help the patients have to be fed out of their rations, and when this is the case the weekly supply of food is not more than sufficient for three days, and the unfortunate one goes part of the time hungry. Many of the patients have kokuas to prepare their food for them, otherwise they would, and sometimes even do, die of starvation. What the previous speaker has said in regard to the insufficiency of warm clothing and the number of consequent deaths is perfectly true. If the Government intends to keep us here, let the Board of Health be instructed to exercise a better care over our wants. Each of us has an allowance of \$6 a year."

Mr. Ambrose Hutchison, who is Under-Superintendent of the entire Settlement, said: "Being myself an employee of the Board of Health, I feel it my duty to uphold the actions of the Board where they are defensible, but at the same time I feel it my duty to my fellow sufferers here that I should speak plainly of matters as they are. I concur in the statements made by the previous speakers with reference to the food supply, and the mode of delivery. Their statements are not exaggerated. For those who are so crippled as to be unable to attend to their own wants a hospital is provided; but their prejudices against the institution prevent many of them from availing themselves of the comfort there afforded. Their dread of the place may be easily explained, when we take into consideration the fact that it was formerly a practice to send along with each patient, by the same conveyance, the coffin he was soon to occupy. Add to these things the fact that no proper care or nursing is provided, and the horror of the place so generally entertained by the patients is easily explained. The great want here is the institution of more approved nursing facilities. The hospital patients should be also supplied with better accommodation generally, and be provided with a more appropriate place in which to take their meals. If to such provisions were added that of a resident physician and an efficient staff of nurses, the main source of objection would be removed, and then they might enter the hospital willingly instead of avoiding the place as they do now. Could some Sisters of Mercy be induced to come up and remain among us, as is now the case at Kakaako, it would certainly be a great blessing. The nursing is now performed by kokuas who receive no pay, and whose heart is not in their work, and amounts to nothing so long as they attend to the wants of their own people. They go and come as they please, and patients suffer much from their neglect. One thing I would like especially to call your Majesty's attention to, and that is among us are a number of children born of diseased parents, who themselves are entirely free from all symptoms of the disease."

Taking in his arms a little girl about ten years old from the crowd, the speaker said: "Here is one of them, and there are here between fifty and sixty just such cases as this, and at various ages. These should be kept aloof from the diseased, and properly cared for in a separate asylum, and not be allowed to remain where the chances are of so many of them becoming patients by contagion. I would urge upon the Queen and the Heir Apparent to have this matter attended to, and to allow the weight of their elevated positions and the great influence they possess to bear upon the Board



of Health, in order to bring about the realization of so worthy an object. In conclusion, I can only express my hope that this royal visit may be pregnant of future good, and may prove the harbinger of an improved moral and social condition among us."

Two other speakers followed in substantially the same strain as the two first speakers; one of them, a young man of the age of thirty years, spoke at length upon the proposition for the appointment of a resident judge, and told a piteous tale of the infidelity of his own wife, and his want of means of redress. He had no other complaints to make against the Board of Health. What was done for them was perfectly satisfactory, and they were all well provided for. A murmur of disapproval was at once raised, and interfered with the continuation of his remarks.

After making such visits as time would allow among the tenements of Kalaupapa, Her Majesty and company proceeded on horseback to the main settlement, arriving at about 7-30 o'clock P.M. There quarters were provided for the Royal Party by Mr. Van Geisen in a new house lately built for the special accommodation of visiting physicians. At supper the Rev. Father Damien was a guest.

After breakfasting on the morning of the 22nd, the party consisting of Her Majesty, attended by Hon. J. A. Cummins, Dr. Arning, Mr. C. B. Wilson, Mr. J. H. Van Geisen, and the undersuperintendent Mr. Ambrose Hutchison began to inspect the houses of the patients.

In the first place visited there were nine patients, one of which was a very bad case. He had been twelve years at the settlement and nine in the Hospital; his age being about 60 years. Three were about the age of 30 years, and the remainder boys between 15 and 7 years of age.

To questions put by Her Majesty, they complained that their bedding, (only mats,) was too hard, their covering insufficient to keep them warm at night, and their food was neither properly prepared nor always sufficient in quantity. They complained also of neglect at the hands of the kokuas, to whom were detailed the work of administering their medicine and dressing their sores.

They also expressed their desire for the attendance of a resident physician who could prescribe for them in the many cases of intercurrent diseases, such as bowel complaints and other troubles which were frequent among them. When questioned as to the conduct of the visiting physician, they said that his visits were so short, and his work so hurried that no practical advantage was to be derived from them.

In the second ward were ten patients ranging in age from 25 years to 70. Most of these cases seemed to be of the anæsthetic form of the disease, there being but comparatively little distortion of features. In the majority of these cases fingers and toes were either entirely wanting or in process of amputation, rendering the victims almost entirely dependent upon the help of others. Some had bound up their own ulcerated extremities themselves after a primitive fashion. To the question asked whether or not such ulceration could be healed, by appropriate treatment, Doctor Arning answered in the affirmative, qualifying the treatment, however, by saying that in some cases the healed surfaces might again take on ulcerative action, that being the natural tendency of the disease.

These patients uttered the same complaint as those previously visited; but complained especially of the neglect of the kokuas and the difficulty they often experienced of getting a sufficiency of water regularly supplied them notwithstanding the fact that there was an abundance of water on the premises.

The third ward contained eleven patients, five of whom were 60 and 70 years old, three about 35 years of age, and the remainder between 17 years and 20. One aged 25 years had totally lost his sight, and all his fingers and toes. This result of the disease required him to be fed by another patient of the ward. Among those was the old man Nakahuna, well known to all old residents of Honolulu as a vendor of Hawaiian curios there a few years since. He has had the disease about four years, and has been an inmate of the Hospital at Kalawao for three years.

Worthy of remark is the case of a woman named Kealahua, whom we met in this ward. She came to the settlement about 14 years since with her leper husband, who died there about seven years ago of the disease. She herself is robust and to all appearance without any symptoms of the disease about her, and is engaged by the Board to do the entire washing for the patients at the Hospital, at a salary of \$10 per month. She has been the mother of four children, one of whom died of acute disease without having developed leprosy, another of leprosy, the remaining two now living lepers.

The fourth ward contained ten patients, all of whom were women. Of these eight were between 19 and 30 years of age, and two about 65 years. Among them was a young girl of about 10 years who had accompanied her leper grand-mother there. This, after a careful examination by Doctor Arning, was pronounced to be free of leprosy symptoms, and her removal recommended. The great complaint here seemed to be of the insufficiency of warm clothing and comfortable bedding.

The fifth ward contains two rooms, in one of which were six young men between 16 and 20 years, all of whom were inveterate cases. In the other room were two native boys and two Chinamen. One of the boys was threatened with blindness from the disease. Insufficiency of warm clothing was also their complaint.

The sixth ward was occupied by one patient only, who was in the last stage of the disease. He was horribly deformed in features and his eyes totally blind. He seemed to be undergoing intense suffering and was muttering, throwing himself about in the wildest manner. Doctor Arning was called in and gave him a draught which seemed to give speedy relief; and at the end of half an hour he was sleeping quietly. Such cases as this prove the value a resident physician might often be.

In the seventh ward were four very bad cases. One in particular was noticed, where, though the face showed little disfigurement, the whole trunk was a mass of inflamed or suppurated tubercles which emitted an offensive smell unbearable to stand. In noticing this patient the Doctor observed that with proper medical treatment, such cases as these might be greatly alleviated and a great deal of unnecessary suffering be prevented.

In the eighth ward were three boys, between the ages of 14 and 17 years, all bad cases. They seemed diffident and had no complaints and nothing otherwise to say.

[To be continued.]

## NOTIFICATION.

To be peremptorily sold pursuant to an order and decree of the Calcutta High Court Original Civil Jurisdiction made in the suit No. 130 of 1886 (wherein Sharat Chunder Mitter was plaintiff and Lal Behary Dey was defendant) and dated respectively the 18th of April 1888 and the 27th of May 1886 by the Registrar of the said Court in his sale room at the said Court House on Wednesday the 4th of September next at 12 O'clock noon the following property:—

Lot No. 1.—No. 24 (formerly No. 19) Shambazar Street Calcutta being a brick-built house and the land appertaining thereto the area of which is about 16 cottahs and which property is bounded on the North by Shambazar Street on the East partly by the house of Wooma Churn Chatterjee and partly by the house of Ramonoo Chatterjee on the South by a house and tank belonging to the estate of Kristo Mohun Biswas deceased and on the West by the house of Gopeenath Moitra.

The abstract of title and conditions of sale may be seen at the office of the Registrar High Court Original Jurisdiction or at the office of Mr. N. C. Bose Attorney for the plaintiff at No. 3 Hastings Street on any day before the sale and will be produced at the sale.

N. C. BOSE  
Plaintiff's Attorney  
High Court  
Original Side.  
The 31st July 1889. } R. BELCHAMBERS,  
Registrar.

## THE EMPRESS OF INDIA COTTON MILLS COMPANY LIMITED.

Proceedings of the Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Half-yearly General Meeting of Shareholders of the Empress of India Cotton Mills Company, Limited, held at the Registered Office of the Company, No. 55, Canning Street, Calcutta, at 3 P. M., on Wednesday, the 31st July 1889.

### PRESENT:

R. D. Mehta, Esq., *in the Chair*.  
D. B. Mehta, Esq., *by his Attorney* R. D. Mehta, Esq.  
Hajee Noor Mahomed Jakeriah, Esq.  
P. E. Guddar, Esq.  
Hajee Abdool Abdool Wahed, Esq.  
Jetha Jaichand, Esq.  
Baboo Devcurm Ranchore, *by his Proxy* R. D. Mehta, Esq.  
Baboo Gourisunker Tewary.  
" Mohun Loll, and  
" Taraprokash Gangooly.

The Advertisement convening the Meeting having been read, and the Directors' Report and Accounts circulated among the Shareholders being taken as read, the following Resolutions were proposed:—

### Resolution I.

Proposed by R. D. Mehta, Esq.  
Seconded by Jetha Jaichand, Esq.

That the Directors' Report be adopted, and that the Accounts for the half-year ending 30th June 1889, as audited and circulated to the Shareholders, be also adopted, and passed as correct, and satisfactory.

Carried unanimously.

### Resolution II.

Proposed by Hajee Noor Mahomed Jakeriah, Esq.  
Seconded by Baboo Gourisunker Tewary.  
That a Dividend at the rate of Rs. 20 per share, free of Income Tax, for the half-year ending 30th June 1889, be now declared payable on and after 1st August 1889, and that the balance of the profits be dealt with as recommended by the Directors in the first paragraph of their Report.

Carried unanimously.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair and to the Managing Agents, the Meeting separated.

R. D. MEHTA,  
Chairman.

Dividend Warrants are now ready for issue.

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## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little *brochure* written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridood Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From

the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract.]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. .... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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Strong, accurate, pretty, open-faced Nickel silver *short winding* Keyless Railway Regulators, of small size, *jewelled, enamelled* dial, bold figures and hands, showing *two* times with tempered machinery and dust tight cases for only Rs. 7-8 per V. P. P. with spare glass, spring, box and guarantee. Warranted to stand rough usage. Can be easily repaired. Have no appearance of cheapness about them. Others sell at double our rates. Mr. A. R. Mehta from Bandora says:—"The 7-8 watch I purchased from you two years back, gives correct time as yet." Acting Superintendent, Government Farm, Khandesh, says:—"A watch maker has valued your Rs. 7-8 watch for Rs. 15." Mr. J. Sutcliffe, R. W. Fusli Regt., Lucknow, says:—"Some valued it at Rs. 15 and were completely surprised when I told them it only costs Rs. 7-8." Pretty Canadian Gold Chains, Locketts, Pencils, complete shirt Studs and Rings set with chemical diamonds, rubies, &c., at Rs. 2 each. Mr. J. A. Yelmore, Satur, says:—"The *best goldsmith* of this place values the chain for Rs. 7 and the locket for Rs. 10." Mr. G. Smith, Salt Inspector, Sanikutta, says:—"A German valued the diamond ring at Rs. 50 and the ruby at Rs. 30." WESTERN INDIA TRADING CO., BOMBAY.

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They may be used with safety and with happy results in sick-room, kitchen, and every other part of a house.

*Preparing for the Press*

THE

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BY  
ZITO.**

With which is combined a complete and practical Guide to Upper and Lower Burma.

The Author accompanied the last Expedition under General Sir Harry Prendergast, in November 1885, and remained in Upper Burma after the conquest until June 1887.

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A limited space only will be reserved in the GUIDE for advertisement, for which early application is invited.

In consequence of the difficulty and delay in getting together reliable matter for the guide portion of the work and the preparation of numerous illustrations which must be executed in England, some delay necessarily will arise in the execution of the work. But intending subscribers should not delay in registering their names at the above address.

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DR.

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Gold Medalist in Medicine & Hygiene,  
Stood 1st in the FINAL EXAMINATION  
CALCUTTA MEDICAL COLLEGE IN 1880.

Late Surgeon Superintendent of Quarantine  
Station, Mauritius, and Surgeon in charge,  
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AND

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 1889.

No. 386

## CONTEMPORARY SONNETS

*In Memoriam.*

FATHER DAMIEN

"Gloria et honore coranasti eum, Domine!"

Dead, say they? of thine own sweet accord,  
Who thro' long years a dying life didst lead,  
And only now, we know, dost live indeed,  
Thy task accomplished! Now canst thou afford,  
To rest and go with joy to thy reward,  
Oh, lepers' friend, who didst—'twas all thy care—  
Nurse their vile bodies and their souls make fair;  
Them loving for dear love sake of thy Lord.  
Hero and martyr of that glorious band,  
Of saints immortal, where few greater are,  
For greater love than thine, sufferance more grand,  
Few mortals proved: to that bright calendar,  
Another blest name hast thou added, and,  
Faith's heaven adorn'd with yet another star.

ROBERT STEGGALL.

LOUIS BLANC.

THREE SONNETS TO HIS MEMORY

I.

THE stainless soul that smiled through glorious eyes,  
The bright grave brow whereon dark fortune's blast  
Might blow, but might not bend it, nor o'ercast,  
Gave for one fierce fleet hour of shine, the skies  
Thrilled with warm dreams of worthier days to rise  
And end the whole world's winter; here at last,  
If death be death, have passed into the past,  
If death be life, live, though their semblance dies  
Hope and high faith inviolate of distrust  
Shone strong as life inviolate of the grave  
Through each bright word and lineament serene  
Most loving righteousness and love most just  
Crowned, as day crowns the dawn-enkindled wave,  
With visible aureole thine unfaltering mien

II.

Strong time and fire-swift change, with lightnings clad  
And shod with thunders of reverberate years,  
Have filled with light and sound of hopes and fears  
The space of many a season, since I had  
Grace of good hap to make my spirit glad,  
Once communing with thine: and memory hears  
The bright voice yet that then rejoiced mine ears,  
Sees yet the light of eyes that spake, and bade  
Fear not, but hope, though then time's heart were weak  
And heaven by hell shade-stricken, and the range  
Of high-born hope made questionable and strange  
As twilight trembling till the sunlight speak.

Thou sawest the sunrise and the storm in one  
Break: seest thou now the storm-compelling sun?

III.

Surely thou seest, O spirit of light and fire,  
Surely thou canst not choose, O soul, but see  
The days whose dayspring was beheld of thee  
Ere eyes less pure might have their hope's desire,  
Beholding life in heaven again respire  
Where men saw naught that was or was to be,  
Save only death imperial. Thou and he  
Who has the heart of all men's hearts for lyre,  
Ye twain, being great of spirit as time is great,  
And sure of sight as truth's own heavenward eye,  
Beheld the forms of forces passing by  
And certitude of equal-balanced fate,  
Whose breath forefelt makes darkness palpitate,  
And knew that light should live and darkness die.

A. C. SWINBURN.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

MUSSOORIE will ape Simla even down to a Fine Arts Exhibition. It was opened Tuesday week by Sir George Greaves.

THE Parsees have not given up the Ommanney grievance. They are not well pleased with Lord Reay's reply to Sir Dinshaw Manockjee Petit's letter, and propose to hold a public meeting at Bombay and to adopt a formal protest for presentation to the Secretary of State, the Viceroy, and the Governor of Bombay. They are also discussing the advisability of suing the Inspector-General for defamation.

MAHARAJA RAVANESWAR Prosad Singh Bahadur of Gidhour and Raja Ram Narain Singh of Khyra have offered to the Government Rs. 2,000 each, for sanitary improvement of the town of Deoghur-Baidyanath. These sums were originally intended for the Shivagunga tank and the scheme for the drainage of the town. The Maharaja of Durbhunga having, however, taken upon himself to supply the cost of these, the present donations will be applied for the improvement of the Jalsar tank and for a ghat on the Shivagunga tank.

MR. A. R. COLQUHOUN has, from the Burma Commission, sunk into his own P. W. D. insignificance.

THE *Pioneer* goes out of its way and finds fault with the nomination of Mr. Brownrigg—a Junior Civilian—to act for Mr. Wall, the Commissioner of Excise in the N.-W. P.

THE Maharaja of Cooch Behar has contented himself this year with summering at Darjeeling.

WITH the quasi annexation of Cashmere, Sir Mortimer Durand has earned his furlough of one year. When he avails himself of it, the Under Secretary W. J. Cunningham will act the full Foreign Secretary.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

It is said that at the next vacancy in the Administrator-Generalship in Bengal, the office will be broken into as many jurisdictions as there are local Governments. A greater relief will be to break up the nest of consecrated eagles and lesser birds of prey who rule it and the allied offices in Calcutta.

BARRACKPORE will have a temporary respite of 80 days from Lieutenant-Colonel W. Hopkinson. During this period Mr. R. C. Sterndale—the Government would not style him Major in the *Gazette*—will, in addition to his own duties at Dum-Dum, act as the Cantonment Magistrate and Judge of the Small Cause Court at Barrackpore.

THE Bombay municipality has ordered a weekly return of houses that collapse in the city under the monsoon. In future, they will allow no more jerry buildings.

MR. Henry Lemesurier, late Agent of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, has succeeded the late Mr. R. W. Crawford, as Chairman of the East Indian Railway.

THE Indian Midland Railway is now complete in all its primary branches. The last section was thrown open to traffic on the 1st instant.

WHAT between the applications from the fair and the frivolous and the exactions and stipulations of the really eligible, the projectors have given up the idea of the Paris International Beauty Show.

THE Governor-General in Council has made the Standard yard for British India the legal standard measure of length in the Civil and Military station of Bangalore.

MR. C. Cuthbertson having obtained leave for three months, Mr. F. J. Monahan, from the Sonthal Pergunnahs, will act the Under-Secretary to the Bengal Government in the Financial and Municipal Departments.

DURING the absence of Mr. F. H. McLaughlin, Mr. C. B. Garret, District and Sessions Judge, 24-Pergunnahs, will also have charge of the Hooghly Sessions Division.

MR. G. C. Kilby goes on 21 days' leave, Mr. O. Beeby, Barrister-at-law, officiates as Deputy-Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs.

SHARKS are more numerous now in the Mediterranean than before the opening of the Suez Canal. The Adriatic is full of them. Several of them have been captured in the Gulf of Fiume and bathers are warned to "beware of Sharks."

IN the 23 days on which the Indian Museum was open to the general public, there were 27,927 male and 9,153 female native visitors and 531 European men and 165 women, or adding up 3,708 natives and 696 Europeans, a total of 37,776 visitors, giving an average daily attendance of 1,642.

THE Lieutenant-Governor has ordered the re-excavation and sluicing of the Churnal khali in the 24-Pergunnahs district, at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,64,988, to be recovered from the parties interested, under Act II (B. C.) of 1882.

THERE will be revision of the settlement in the villages of Pakhoria, Bunglow, and Katikund in Government khas mehal Damin-i-Koh, in the district of the Sonthal Pergunnahs.

FROM 1st April 1890, the copying fees will be reduced from 4 to 3 annas per folio. The undisposed of 4 anna stamp paper for copies will then be sold at 3 annas.

THE second General Meeting of the Midsummer Session of the Microscopical Society will be held at the Asiatic Society's Rooms, No. 57, Park Street, on Monday evening, the 12th instant, at 9 o'clock. Mr. E. J. Jones will exhibit and explain Allan Dick and Swift's new

form of Petrological Microscope, and Dr. W. Koch's and M. Wolz's "Mikroskopirleampe." Mr. Secretary Simmons will read a paper, "How to draw and measure Microscopic objects; and to ascertain the magnifying power of a Microscope." The President will read a paper on the *Panaeus stridulans*, a musical *Chingri*, from the Bay of Bengal.

By the courtesy of the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, we have received copy of a letter from the Government of India to the Chamber, dated Simla, 25th July last, enclosing copy of the latest India House despatch on the complaint of the mercantile community of India in respect of silver ware exported from this country to England. The following is the text of the latter document:—

"INDIA OFFICE.  
London, 27th, June 1889.

Statistics and Commerce.

No. 46.

To His Excellency the Most Honorable the Governor-General of India in Council.

My Lord Marquis,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, dated the 23rd April and 14th May, Nos. 127 and 140 (Finance and Commerce), enclosing communications from the Calcutta Trades Association and from the Bengal and Bombay Chambers of Commerce in reference to the English plate duties and the system of compulsory hall-marking. In reply I have to state that I entirely agree with the sentiments which you have forcibly expressed on this important matter, and I have caused further representations to be addressed to the Treasury on the subject.

I have &c.  
Sd. CROSS.

THE highest structure in the world is the Eiffel Tower which is 984 feet. Next to it is the Obe lisk, Washington, U. S. A., 522 feet. The Cathedral of Rouen, France, comes after it, being 492 feet. The Great Pyramid of Ghizeh in Egypt, is only 478 feet; while St. Stephen's of Vienna, 452 feet; St. Peter's Cathedral of Rome, 432 feet; and St. Paul's Cathedral of London, 420 feet.

ACCORDING to the native medical Officer in charge of the Junaghad dispensary in Kattywar, who writes to the effect to a Bombay paper, cocaine five minims in a 40 per cent solution injected at the seat of mischief, is an instantaneous cure for scorpion sting.

A *Review of Therapeutics* published on the Continent gives some instances to show that the greater mortality of late years from hydrophobia is due more to the dread of the disease than the disease itself, and that fully four-fifths of the deaths is traceable to "nervous hydrophobia" or "lyssophobia." On the other hand, the disease can be put out by persistent efforts. We quote from the *Lancet*:—

"A striking instance of this is preserved in the records of the Montpellier Academy. Two sisters were bitten by a dog that was rabid, or supposed to be so. One of them went away immediately afterwards to Holland, and remained there for ten years without developing any of the symptoms of the disease. At the end of that time she returned and made inquiries about her sister, of whom she had heard nothing during the whole time she was away. She then heard that she had died shortly after they had parted from one another. This brought back to her remembrance the circumstance of the bite, which she seems to have forgotten; and, believing that it must have been the cause of death, she was seized with such great alarm about herself that she was attacked with a malady which was very much like hydrophobia, and died in a terrible fit. As, according to Trousseau, the effects of the virus of rabies only endure for a single year, this death at the end of ten years must have been due to spurious or nervous hydrophobia. Again, a gentleman's dog bit a number of sheep while out for a walk with his master, and the same day, while swimming in a river, the animal got drowned. Shortly afterwards the gentleman was informed that several of the sheep had died, and he then remembered that the dog had been licking his hand the same morning it had bitten the sheep. He fancied, too, that he could detect some scars on his hand. He was seized with fright, and did not dare to touch water or to shave himself. He fully believed he had got hydrophobia, and took to his bed and was quite delirious for some days. A medical man did his best to calm his fears, but without success; however, after being repeatedly assured that if he had been the subject of hydrophobia he would have died at once, he took courage and recovered. Not only may the real disease be simulated by the nervous imitation of it, but, in some instances at least, it would almost seem that the true disease, even after it has begun to show itself unmistakably, may by the persistent effort of the will be shaken off. It is reported that Dr. Bartelemy, a well-known French physician, was one day bitten by a dog, and, though the wound was immediately cauterised, felt, some ten days afterwards, the commencement of throat spasm and difficulty in swallowing, which suggested to him that he had been seized with hydrophobia. He made up his mind to carry on his avocations as usual, and to go to the theatre and into society just as if nothing had occurred. He did so, and six days later the last signs of the terrible symptoms entirely disappeared. Another instance is given of a scientific man who, after

being bitten by a rabid cat, experienced pains in the arm and spasm in the throat. He, too, made up his mind to face the matter like a man and to brave it out. He consequently went out hunting, and although the pain in the arm was excruciating, he walked about during the whole afternoon. In the evening he was better, and by the end of the week he had quite recovered. The article referred to points out that men of undoubted courage have doubtless succumbed to the disease, but that, nevertheless, to put a bold front on and face the matter out greatly increases the chances of safety."

Verily, the brave Europeans are preposterous cowards under these minor circumstances of life!

MR. E. J. S. WHITE, nephew of the late President David White, has suggested to the Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Association

"1. That it is desirable that all members of the Association should be distinguished from the European and Native Christian communities and from non-Members, by a modification of costume, in the direction of economy, adaptation to the Indian climate, and suitability to Indian surroundings.

2. That it is desirable that all members of the Association should mark their Indian nationality by the adoption of Indian surnames.

3. That it is desirable that all members of the Association should employ Eurasians in preference to Natives as domestic servants."

It is raining cats and dogs at Mussoorie. At 11 A.M., on Saturday week, it began and down to the middle of Tuesday it was still going on vigorously.

"THE organisation and employment in war of native cavalry" is the subject for the next year's prize essay of the United Service Institution in India.

THE leprous maina has travelled down to Travancore. That Government has called for reports from the Division Peishcars on the number of lepers and measures to check the progress of the disease.

It is in the air that publication of confidential State papers will be made a cognisable offence in India—as it is in England.

THE safe in the Telegraph office, Mhow, containing cash, stamps and message drafts valued at three lacs, was found broken open and the contents removed. Two native employees are under arrest on suspicion.

THE Madras Chief Magistrate has fined a native Rs. 5 for spitting on the floor of the Court premises, with the alternative of 10 days' rigorous imprisonment.

A MADRASI wife has sued her husband for restitution of conjugal rights.

IN January, the Bank of Bengal discovered that there was in circulation a copper coin not of Her Majesty's mint. At Allahabad city, the Police have just arrested three men in the upper-story of a house at work for the imitation coin. The three coiners wonder that they have been committed, for their coin was never debased but always of the full weight of the current piece.

A MAID-SERVANT, long in the service of a Pleader in Jessore, has laid criminal information against a local muktear for defamation. She complains that the Muktear has spread a report that she was of the caste of Suvarnanabik whereas she belongs to the Gandhabanik whose touch was not pollution to the superior Hindus. It is said she was threatened with loss of service unless she established her caste in a court of law.

A NATIVE has been fined two hundred rupees at Poona for an unauthorized lottery.

DEPUTY Collector Muthusamy Iyer has just been suspended by the Collector of North Arcot, for improper pecuniary transactions with the Mohunt of Tirupaty. There are Muthusamy Iyers and Muthusamy Iyers.

SETHAPATHY NAIDOO in 1882 was a Tahsildar at Conjeeveram. He was criminally charged by some Brahmans of Vadakapett. He was tried by the Judge of Chingleput and acquitted, while some of his prosecutors were punished. In a couple of years, however, he was

found guilty of extracting some important documents in their transit to the Magistrate's Court, and sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment. There was an appeal. The sentence was reduced to one year by Mr. Justice Iunes and Mr. Justice Moothooswamy Jyer. Mr. Justice Kernan held a different view of the prisoner's guilt and disagreed with that of his colleagues of the Madras High Court. "Some time after this," says the *Madras Mail*, "the *Streeloka Runjee* made certain reflections against the ex-Tahsildar and went so far as to insinuate that Mr. Justice Kernan had had a secret sympathy for the Tahsildar and hence his favorable opinion towards the Tahsildar." The Tahsildar has sued, in the Small Cause Court, Uppa Moodelly, the printer, and Sodagopa Chattri, the proprietor, of the vernacular paper for damages. The Plaintiff has already examined Mr. Justice Kernan, and other high officials await their turn.

WE have already informed our readers of the prosecution against the *Kohinoor* by the *Akhbar-i-Aam*, both vernacular papers of Lahore. From the deposition of the complainant, Pandit Gopi Nath, editor of the latter, it appears that

"the defamatory statement published in the *Kohinoor* is to the effect that complainant visited Pondicherry in connection with Dhulip Singh's manifesto, and interviewed two Punjabis there, who are suspected to be Dhulip Singh's agents in India."

AFTER quoting our paragraph of last week on the injustice done to a native Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court in leaving him to starve on half pay while Mr. McEwen, now for many years Recorder of Rangoon, is allowed still to draw several hundred rupees a month on account of his former office on the bench of the Calcutta Court, the *Indian Daily News* writes:—

"If the facts are as stated, there is certainly just ground for complaint, not on account of the native officiating judge only, but in the interest of the Calcutta community in general. On no ground is the payment of 'several hundred rupees per mensem' from the revenue of the Calcutta Small Cause Court, to an official whose work is wholly performed in and for and should be paid by Burmah, defensible. Surely there must have been some strange oversight. We should hope that it only needs to have attention called to such an 'anomaly and jobbery' for a stop to be put to it at once. If the salary of the Recorder of Rangoon is not sufficient for Mr. McEwen, and it is thought desirable, as we believe it is in the opinion of Rangoon, to keep him there, let his proper salary be raised. But the money earned by the Calcutta Small Cause Court should go to pay its own working staff; or if not required for that purpose, should be employed in some way for the benefit of the local community, as by being added to the not-too-well-stocked treasury of the Bengal Government, or helping to reduce the Small Cause Court charges."

THE Judges of the High Court are anticipating the Long Vacation. Mr. Justice Trevelyan has left for home on one month's leave, to rejoin the Court after the Poojahs. Mr. Justice Prinsep, without leave, is enjoying himself at Darjeeling since the middle of last week. Mr. Justice Norris is unwell and unable to attend Court. The Chief Justice himself, although attending Court, is not sufficiently recovered to properly attend to his duties, and has booked himself for home, leaving on the 5th September. Mr. Justice Hill accompanies his Chief and master and on return rejoins his own place in the N.-W. P. as Government Prosecutor.

THE Thakur had a serious encounter with the Purohits of Gogasar, a village in Bikanir territory. The Thakur was wounded, his three men killed, and a large number more or less wounded on both sides. Thirteen Purohits are under arrest.

THERE has been a prodigious quantity of bad Bengali bile and in different printer's ink spilled over the squabbles of a couple of new schools in the most cantankerous of the Districts of Bengal Proper. The founders are respectable men, those of one being the well-known Brahman landlords, the Roys of Lakoota, sons of the lamented Raj Chandra Baboo. Their quarrel kept up with spirit on both sides rather pleasantly occupied native society on the spot, which found in it a welcome relief from its everlasting litigation. The Calcutta papers freely opened their columns to the parties to denounce each other. They used the privilege without stint, the more so as both had applied to the University for recognition of their new collegiate status and passionately wished it denied to the other. Both have gained their honourable object and have been disappointed in only their meaner aspiration. A truce to evil thought and idle bickerings!

Both the Barisal rival institutions, the Brajamohun Institution and the Rajchandra School, have been affiliated to the Calcutta University in Arts up to the First Arts Standard.

AN Indo-Portuguese clerk has been charged near Bombay, with embezzling Rs. 1,200. Defalcations amounting to Rs. 8,000 have been discovered in connection with the Tansa water-works.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

IT is said that the Russian Government has sanctioned another six millions of roubles for General Annenkoff to complete his Asiatic Railway project.

SIR James Fergusson has assured the House of Commons that the insurrection in Crete is no revolt against authority but is the visible bloody outburst of the contests between the different political factions. The Sultan, however, is alarmed at the proportions the factional fights have assumed. There is complete anarchy and conflicts between the insurgents and Turkish troops are constant. The Russian ambassador at Constantinople has addressed himself to the Porte expressing anxiety for Russian subjects in the island and hope that it will be able to cope with the situation there. The Greek Government has addressed a note to the Powers for intervention in Cretan affairs and restoration of order, coupling the request with active naval preparations to protect her own subjects in that quarter. No reply has been received to that note. The several Powers are not disposed for any concerted action, but it is believed they will not allow the Cretan question to assume a more serious aspect. A Vienna telegram says that the Porte proclaims a state of siege in Crete.

THE Servian troops have been called out for inspection. Many connect this move with the movement of the Bulgarian troops on the frontier. According to the *Times*, the Porte too has called out 80,000 Turkish reserves to meet any contingencies in the Balkan states.

IN reply to a question in the Lower House, Mr. Smith said that Government could not instruct the Egyptian Government like any British Department, nor were they disposed to recommend the occupation of old Dongola and Berber. The English policy in Egypt remains unchanged, and, according to promise, the Egyptian frontier will be defended.

GENERAL Grenfell has obtained the thanks of the Upper House for his action in the Soudan. He reduced the Dervishes to straits. They collected 3,000 strong near Toski, and, after prayers, gave battle, but were utterly routed. The General managed to draw out the entire Dervish army. The fight was long and severe for seven hours. Colonel Wodehouse with his infantry drove the Dervishes from hill to hill. The Dervishes made stubborn resistance and desperate charges with their cavalry. Colonel Kitchener's cavalry crushed the flanking movements attempted by the Dervishes. Wad-el-Njuni and twelve Emirs were killed and fifty standards taken. One thousand Dervish prisoners and wounded are now at Toski and other refugees are coming in. The Egyptian loss was seventeen killed and one hundred and thirty wounded, including one British killed and three wounded. Wad-el-Sand, the only Mir, escaped with two hundred men and sixty water camels to the hills above Bellana, and was making for Matuki. The Egyptian troops have occupied Sarras. General Grenfell returns to Cairo to-day.

THERE have been grand doings in England in honour of the German Emperor. The Marquis of Salisbury has been given quarters at Osborne during the Emperor's stay in England. The Imperial yacht *Hohenzollern* passed Dover on the 1st under salvoes from the shore batteries. It arrived off Spithead the next evening and was welcomed with a royal salute from the British fleet extending over five miles. The Prince of Wales escorted the Emperor on shore and at Osborne the Queen herself waited to receive the Imperial guest and her grandson. The same day, Emperor William was Gazetted Honorary Admiral of the British fleet. The Emperor, accompanied by Prince Heinrich and the Prince of Wales, privately went on board and inspected some

of the leading types of ships in the British fleet off Spithead. In return of the compliment of Honorary Admiralty, the German Emperor has appointed Queen Victoria Honorary Colonel of the First Regiment of German Dragoon Guards (which will henceforth be known by her name) and the Duke of Cambridge Colonel of a German Infantry Regiment. The Naval Review at Spithead, for which they had been preparing for some time, on the 5th was a brilliant success in fine weather. The Queen herself passed in the Royal yacht *Albert* along the line of ships amidst loud and enthusiastic cheering. The fleet has since dispersed for the manoeuvres. On the 7th there was a review at Aldershot of 30,000 troops. The Emperor was very much pleased. After the March past His Majesty highly congratulated the Duke of Cambridge and Sir Evelyn Wood on the condition of the force and the manner of the manoeuvres. The weather was equally propitious on this occasion and added to the splendour of the scene. At the luncheon after the review, the Emperor expressed his agreeable surprise at the progress of the British Army since the review at the Jubilee of the Queen, and paid a high tribute to the Volunteers whom it was impossible to distinguish from regulars. His Majesty also expressed a hope for the long continuance of the ancient fellowship existing between the armies of England and Germany.

At the dinner on board the royal yacht *Victoria and Albert* on Tuesday night, the Prince of Wales, in proposing the toast of the Emperor, rested his reliance on the army of Germany and the navy of England for the peace of the world. In reply, the Emperor considered the British fleet to be the finest in the world, and modestly claimed that the German army was equal to the German wants. He believed the efficiency of the German Army and the British Navy was a most important factor in the maintenance of the peace of Europe.

On Friday, Emperor William bade farewell to the Queen and England.

IN view of the stations for the proposed Pacific Telegraph Cable, the British Government has annexed the Union and Phoenix groups of island lying near the Equator in the Pacific Ocean.

THE India Council Bill was read a second time in the House of Commons on the 2nd. In a motion which was not carried, Sir George Campbell asked for a full enquiry into the formation and working of the Council. He was supported by Dr. Hunter and Mr. Bradlaugh. Sir Roper Lethbridge advocated Indian representation on the Council, which, he thought, should not be weakened to increase the despotic power of the Secretary of State for India. In the absence of Sir John Gorst, the Hon'ble Mr. Stanhope replied. The present occasion was not one for discussion of wider questions and that the Indian representation in the Council was an independent question which required the fullest reflection.

The Royal Grants Bill has passed the Lower House.

THE British have at last shown imagination worthy of their world-wide empire in their engineering projects. Sir Edward Watkin has evidently taken a leaf out of the book of Ferdinand Lesseps. The sensation of the week is a proposal for a joint-stock company. A scheme of a direct railway line from London to India *via* Kurrachee has been submitted to Lord Cross. In the absence of the Channel Tunnel, it is proposed to start the Railway from Calais or Boulogne, proceeding direct to Gibraltar over the existing lines as far as possible. From Gibraltar to Tangiers, the railway train is to be carried by a vast broad-beamed boat. From Tangiers the line will run eastward along the north Coast of Africa, through Egypt on to the Persian Gulf to Kurrachee, where it will join the Indian lines.

ATAS for poor France, there is no silver lining in her horizon! While the efforts of her patriots are strained to save the Republic from the intrigues at home, the rampant enemy without has stolen another march on her. Her Krupp is in danger of suppression by the great Machiavelli of the age. The famous gun foundry of Cail under the direction of Colonel de Bange, which is scarcely inferior, if not superior to the German Establishment of Herr Krupp, gave invaluable support to the defence of Paris during the War, and after its conclusion supplied the requisite ordnance for the strengthening of the national artillery, is about to go into liquidation. The Company has declared no dividends for two years. The patience of the shareholders is exhausted and they are winding up the concern. This seems characteristic of French restlessness, but it does not speak much for French patriotism. They showed more steadiness under a worse trial in the Suez Canal. Is



their spite against the German despoilers of their country less ardent than their desire to avenge themselves on their British victors at Waterloo? It is not that. The poor French are helpless in the matter. They have been neatly "sold" by Machiavelli. The milliards paid to Germany by France as the price of peace—peace! peace! alas! where there can be no peace—the ever-wakeful, argus-eyed watcher over German interests, Prince Bismarck, has sedulously though quietly been investing in various ways against the rainy day—the inevitable war. One of his investments was to introduce himself into the Cal Company *benami*, by purchase of shares in the stock market in the names of his creatures. Having secured enough interest and, of course, power in the concern, he has been able to force it into liquidation and to shut up shop. Who will blame him? It is a poor piece of business, to be sure, which does not commend itself to the notions of honourable conflict taught by Kshattriya Chivalry in India. But commercial Europe doubtless considers it all right. Poor France herself is trying against the foe many a petty trick, for want of courage for a bold game yet.

It is a strange world. Well might Antony, in the agony of grief for a friend cut off by a conspiracy of envy, ambition, treason and ingratitude, exclaim—

O judgment, thou art fled to brutish beasts,  
And men have lost their reason!

We certainly "live in an inverted order." The Christian is not unfrequently a Pagan in practice—the mild Hindoo may be a rampant rowdy—the weak Buddhist a bloody barbarian. The grand old Roman is scarcely recognised in the superstitious sneak who represents him—the Greek is an ignorant "coward slave" whom the descendants of the Goths are vainly trying to lift up from the mire. The justice of Civilization denounces patriot guerillas as brigands. The religion of Civilization is—to deride at all religion—faith in atheism. The charity of Christendom hounds the elect of God—the countrymen of Jesus—into the generous arms of much-abused Islam. Truth is the distinctive virtue of only savages. The Police are more often a pest than a protecting agency. And honour reigns where you least expect it—among the chivalry of industry, Pindara chiefs and so forth.

THE price of perfidy is being paid to the *pice*. It is not enough for the good of Cashmere that Maharaja Pratap Singh has been put on pension. Raja Ram Singh has been displaced and Raja Amar Singh installed as President of the Council. Who next? And what?

THERE is a melancholy humour in the announcement that the birthday of the shelled Maharajah of Cashmere was celebrated with the usual pomp on the 10th July. The usurpers were in unusually good humour. By order of the Council, a number of prisoners were released in honour of the occasion. The people will be reminded of the trick of killing the sacred cow and seeking absolution by a present of a pair of shippers made from the leather to a Brahman.

ANOTHER melancholy illustration of the order of inversion predicted by the Prophets of the Puranas. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* lately delivered a characteristic piece of criticism on the efforts lately made to raise a little subscription in favour of Mr. Judge, the poor old tea-planter who had earned the gratitude of the Anglo-Indian community by his championship of its cause under the famous *nom de guerre* of "Britannicus" in the Ilbert Bill Controversy, to enable him to recruit his health, if possible, at a hill station. Our brother feelingly exclaimed, Why did not the man die? The renowned Bengali editor thought it a mistake to help him in his hour of sickness. The man who more than any other helped to defeat us in that memorable struggle, did not deserve to live. The event seems to justify the native publicist. Poor "Britannicus" has succumbed under the relentless Sudra's curse. The Gods and Brahmans could not save him. Britannicus gave up the ghost at Darjeeling on the 29th of last month. It is to be hoped that it will not by way of revenge descend on the head of our brother. We can only pray for him, but of course that is of no use in these days. He is better able to defend himself. It will not be an unequal match. Indeed, the living A. B. has the advantage of the dead B.

Poor Mr. Judge died at the Eden Sanatorium at the age of 73. A large number of Europeans, chiefly planters, attended the burial.

QUOTING our indignant protest against the *Bangabasi's* unprovoked brutal attack on the noblest and most accomplished Hindu lady in the land, the *Tribune* remarks:—

"Truly says *Reis and Rayyet* 'our very shoes should not be permitted to be wrapped with such a print.' It is not the true Brahmanic forgiveness of the venerable head of the family which alone has screened the offender from chastisement, but the meanness and insignificance of the author of the vile effusion. It is not for a man of the Maharshi's position, or for a woman of the insulted lady's position, to take notice of such effusions from the Calcutta gutters. The *Bangabasi* is a disgrace to the Bengali name. We do not object to its denouncing the Congress (as well might a dog bark at a lion), defending idol-worship, infant-marriage and other *sanatan* institutions, but its constant vile attacks and viler insinuations against the noblest men and institutions are highly objectionable. It is a shame to Bengal that this paper is said to have the largest circulation of all Bengal papers. All Bengalis should boycott the paper, if they have any sense of self-respect. To what depths has not Hinduism fallen to have for its champion a journal of this character, for *Bangabasi* pretends to be the prop and pillar of Hinduism in Bengal. Hinduism was the religion of men, of men who spoke and acted and behaved as men, who honoured women; and its present champion delights in nothing so much as in wallowing in the mud of disgraceful abuse and insinuations."

Meanwhile, here in Calcutta, the shoe seems to have gone home. Dancing deliriously in pain, the object of the castigation, like the condemned man in the Gulistan, is exploding in ill humour and elaborate abuse in his native gibberish against the castigator, proving incontestably the appropriateness of the treatment prescribed.

AGAIN—

"*Reis and Rayyet* truly remarks:—'This is the paper that has taken to purify Bengali Society! Alas, for poor Bengal!' But Bengal has another Defender of the Faith and purifier in our young friend of *Hops*. He talks of the lady as a blue-stocking, and of the *Bangabasi's* vile coupling of the lady's name with that of a bazar-woman a *jeu d'esprit* (a piece of witicism)! A man who looks upon such vile allusions as pieces of witicism can have a moral sense only of the level of that of the *Bangabasi*. And our friend is another defender of the *sanatan* faith, for he tells us he is 'a guardian of the Zenana,' and we know he is a guardian of 'caste' also, for did he not purify his inner man by swallowing the five tasteful products of the holy cow on his return from America? What wonder that he should faint at the prospect of Brahmo ladies visiting Hindu homes? He sees in the proposal a dire calamity than that which has befallen Hindu homes from the visits of Christian ladies!"

We may here remark, *en passant*, that the dead set which is now being made against the Mohant, is a disgrace to Bengal. It is on the face of it a villainous conspiracy of some astute speculators to which a few respectable men who ought to know better have fallen dupes.

IT is a relief from the baseness and bickerings, the calumnies and quarrels of man, to turn to our contemporary's next editorial note. "A thoroughly reliable correspondent sends" the *Tribune* "the following most pathetic and interesting account of a dog's intelligence and faith":

"I had a little fox terrier, a little larger than a hare, very much like a fox, being of the same color, size and make. A woman gave her to my wife, when she was only about two weeks old. My wife fed her with her own hands, and by and bye she grew into a very pretty thing. The dog was wonderfully intelligent. When my eldest boy fell dangerously ill, she hardly left his bed-side, and gave up all her frolics and play and seemed to feel with us our sorrow and anxiety. When I fell dangerously ill the poor dog took it badly to heart, never stirred from my bedside, would not go to where my wife and others had their food, but would take her food when I took mine by my bed-side. In the summer we slept out in the compound, and the dog kept up all night, placing herself on the side of my wife's *palung*, as if she understood that a woman requires watch and protection more than a man. She was the cleanest and tidiest thing in the world—would never for all the world satisfy the calls of nature in the presence of people. When some two years back, we left Lahore for some time, we had, to save the cost of carrying the dog, resolved to leave her with a friend. We knew we had left her behind; but what was our surprise when, as soon as the train had left the Lahore station, she presented herself to us in the carriage with a half-joyful and half-fearful and apologetic air. We saw that she must have smuggled herself into one of the carriages conveying our luggage and then smuggled somehow without our knowledge into our railway compartment. I will conclude now by giving the story of her pathetic death. We last year again left Lahore, and we forcibly left her here with a gentleman. I had my misgivings: I feared she would pine away to death; but I was very hard up for money then, and her journey to and fro would cost no less than Rs. 30; and so we left her behind with a misgiving and an anxious heart; for she was as dear to us as a child. About a fortnight after our departure, we received a note from our friend with whom we had left her that she had died on the 10th day after our departure, and that she had pined away and starved herself to death, refusing all food. There is not a fact exaggerated here. My wife burst into tears when she heard the news. She had been like a child to her for seven years. My eyes also grew misty. Are not dogs truer and more faithful than men?"

It is time enough that we seriously mend our notions and language and our treatment of God's creatures. It is arrant injustice to call

such beings as that dog brutes—brutes that perish. It is we who are brutes, not they. If the conduct of that poor dog does not indicate a rational soul—a soul of the noblest—the word has no meaning. If there is a reward for truth, constancy and fidelity, that dog who pined away unto death for his master, will assuredly go to Heaven. Nor is that a solitary instance. Dogs are habitually more noble than men. Cats too are good. We have woefully misunderstood them. We have a noble and refined lady in a cat and Tom, her late husband, was really a gentleman.

THE same paper noticing the negotiations now going on for the free entry of British merchants and British goods into the interior of Japan, remarks—"Then Japan's independence is doomed."

All Asia is doomed. The editor will remember our native proverb to the effect that it is all the same whether Rama kills or his rival, Ravana. Death is death and no mistake, whatever the weapon used. Alien rule is alien rule, for all its veneer. Kingdoms and empires of the East await dismemberment and partition between the nations of Europe, unless God in his Providence sends a great calamity to that continent to keep it occupied at home, or raises heroes and men of genius in this to preserve it from falling a prey to the foreigner.

THE Health Officer of Rangoon—Mr. T. F. Pedley, M. D., on a short visit to Calcutta, was shewn our narrow lanes and bustees by our Health Officer. He was struck, as who will not he? with their unhealthiness. He has recorded, in a letter to the *Englishman*, his experiences of a morning walk through these places.

"I was shown through some miles of streets, so narrow that two gharries could not pass each other, and from which branched off in every direction a marvellous network of narrow passages and alleyways, between large brick houses and low mud and wattled huts, with down-take drain-pipes, open house drains, gullies, gratings, and latrines in every direction. Many of the streets and most of the narrowest thoroughfares, in some of which two stout men could scarcely pass, were encroached upon by door steps, house drains, hanging verandahs, and jutting roofs. I was shown some bustees with their foul tanks and fouler surroundings, others in which tanks had been recently filled with manure and garbage, a stall of milch cows, the liquid filth from which stall flowed into wells from which the beasts, and probably their milk, are watered, crowded brick dwellings of good proportions, but dirty and dilapidated, the lower floors reeking with sewage, some of them said to belong to members of the Corporation. Some of the bustees looked as if they had with their occupants been picked up by a giant hand from some dirty country village and carefully deposited in what at some time might have been the compound of the adjacent big brick house. All this, and much more impossible to describe, in the very heart of a great city, still rapidly growing in wealth and population.

The atmosphere of the locality even at that hour, 7 to 8 A.M., seemed saturated with sickly odours and gases which enervated one and created an insatiable longing for pure air. How thankful we were to get out of it all, and meet the slight breeze stirring across the Maidan; it was as refreshing as cool spring water to a thirsty traveller.

My friend seemed quite knocked up, while I have paid for my curiosity with four days' diarrhoea and *malaise*."

That is true every word of it. But *cui bono*? That is very much the state of things in most parts of the world. If Mr. Simpson or his *fidus Achates* Dr. Pedley were tomorrow installed as the new broom or great scavenger in London, he would doubtless be able to give as harrowing an account of the barbarism and filth of the capital of British Civilization, just as counsel for a fee are able to make a monster of a man of the strictest probity. It is only a trick of the profession.

The remedy he proposes is to "give breathing space and fresh air among these teeming myriads: clear at least one-fourth of them and then dwellings out of the city." He thus describes "the method by which in the rising city of Rangoon the evils above mentioned have been and will be avoided, and which will give it (though far now from what it should be) a pre-eminence among the healthy and well arranged cities of the East."

"Fortunately the planning and laying out of the town lands fell into the hands of men of practical common sense views. The land was divided into oblong blocks of about seven acres (I have not the exact figures), between which alternated streets of 100 feet and others of 50 feet in width. These run north from the river bank, and are crossed by streets 100 feet wide, running east and west. The Government in a weak moment allowed the original plan to be modified by the introduction of 30 feet streets running north through the blocks, but that is the width of the narrowest street. Further, parallel with the streets and between the backs of the houses running the length of the blocks are strips of land retained by the Government and called drainage spaces; all latrines about on them, and in them conservancy operations are carried on, the new sewers laid, and all house connections made in them. In future, dustbins and receptacles for garbage will be placed in these spaces, so that the streets may be kept clean and neat. Encroachments upon streets or drainage spaces are zealously guarded against; a few balconies three or four feet wide have been allowed,

but only in 100 feet streets. It was decided by the Municipal Committee some five years ago that in future no new street should be less than 50 feet wide, and the land over which the town is extending to the eastward has been marked off in accordance with this resolution. Under such a system works of drainage, sewerage, water supply, and lighting are more easy and cost less, passenger and vehicular traffic is unattended by inconvenience, and the public health has a better chance. Many of your readers will remember the town of Rangoon as a place of evil smells. I have seen both, and am glad we have nothing which can 'come up' to what exists in Calcutta, but then Calcutta has had a hundred years' start."

He of course bears testimony to the good work done by Dr. Simpson. His conclusion is that "a legion of Health Officers and Sanitary Inspectors can do little unless some of the ground is cleared."

AS we are going to press we receive intimation by telegraph that the inquiry into Captain Hearsey's charge against Dr. Hall has been postponed till after the conclusion of his case against the *Pioneer*.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY returned from his Behar trip on Thursday.

MR. J. Lambert, C. I. E., replaces Lieutenant-Colonel G. F. E. S. Neill, M. C. E., resigned, on the Calcutta Municipal Board. The new law has done away with the autocracy of Sir Henry Harrison as Chairman of the Corporation and Commissioner of Police, the two offices being separated. It is now the turn of his whilom Deputy in the Police. The nearest approach to the old plurality prohibited by law has now been practically attained somewhat—the Commissioner of Police and Municipal Commissioner rolled into one. It is a formidable official monster that has been manufactured. It will be irresistible on the board. Its "ditto" to the Chair will certainly be invaluable to it. The magician had better pay court to its own Frankenstein betimes.

A SLIGHT mistake crept into the para in our last about the two young men of the Jain community proceeded "home." Underchand Nahata is not the son-in-law but the nephew, of Rai Bahadur Boodh Singh of Moorshedabad.

THE Crusade against the Doorga Pooja, the National Holiday of Bengal, is gathering strength. The Comptroller-General has joined the camp of the malcontents—by the backdoor. Of course, he will be received with open arms, and Gay will be made gay among the few minor speculators in Calcutta who affect to be merchants though living from hand to mouth, and their sons and daughters. Miserable reward to balance the curses, loud and deep, of a whole people! He has ordered that the Paper Currency office shall not be closed while the Bank of Bengal remains open during the long vacation.

The ukase of this Brunmagem Czar of the Financial Department is ready, but it has not gone forth. It will be announced at the nick of time, to prevent explanation or entreaty or appeal. The whole conspiracy is worthy of the cause and the base men engaged in it. Cannot Lord Lansdowne give a lesson to these petty tyrants of the poor and dumb myriads? Lord Dufferin would have quickly turned *gay* to *grave*. The Viceroy would do well to look up the history of the question.

OUR readers are certainly familiar with the antecedents of Mr. G. M. Currie of the Bengal Civil Service. That he should have cut fantastic capers and played such pranks to the delectation of all admiring on-lookers, during the late Administration, was not, perhaps, matter for much surprise, considering that the Lord of Belvedere was not only a brother Civilian but that that brother was his uncle in the bargain. The tenderness with which Civilian uncles and cousins-german and brothers-in-law always shield from serious consequences their scape-grace nephews and cousins and wife's brothers, is notorious. But then it was hoped, although it was hoping against hope, that with Sir Steuart Bayley at Belvedere, even Mr. G. M. Currie would play the part of the Prodigal returned. It seems, however, that this young man on the wrong side of forty is past reclamation. Very recently, some of his pranks at Howrah were the subject of comment in all newspapers. Not content with his past achievements, on Monday last, while sitting as Municipal Chairman hearing assessment appeals, he won a new feather to his cap by administering a sound kick to a respectable old Brahman of the priestly class, a representative of one of the oldest families of Bajé-Seehpore, in the presence of more than fifty persons. His covenanted dignity having been disturbed with the noise made, it is said, by his own *chuprdis* in attendance at the verandah of the municipal office, Mr. Currie jumped with brutal nimbleness from his seat, came out, and with some choice and very gentlemanly Indian vernacular expressive of

his relationship with the Bengalis—although the veriest dregs among them would decline the honor even if the legal fraternity he affected were allowed to be reversed—used his shod foot against the unhappy and innocent victim, though, perhaps, his hands applied at the ears for a pull, strong or tender, was the treatment sanctioned by the custom of the country. Seriously speaking, is there none to check this little autocrat, this unworthy representative of a Service that is never weary of proclaiming its virtues? Captain Hearsey has stopped the slanging of suitors and practitioners by presiding officers in the country courts of Upper India. The evil seems to have passed to down-country until it emerges on the other bank of the river right in front of the Lieutenant-Governor's Palace. When Civilian out-sala the very cabbies of Bengal, it is time enough to seek a remedy. Our people had better ask Captain Hearsey to settle for some time in this part, when he has settled his account with the *Pioneer*.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 1889.

### CAPTAIN HEARSEY.

CAPTAIN or no Captain, Andrew Hearsey is the hero of the hour. If he is for the moment much misrepresented, he shares that fate with many and greater men. To have brought the great *Pioneer* to book—to have brought down the literary Gazi of Government—the Defender of the Faith official and of the almighty Bureaucracy to court, far away from his throne and his capital in the West to Calcutta, to be tried as a criminal, is itself no small feat. For a poor friendless man, shunned by his own kith and kin, it is a grand achievement. It should not be supposed that we have any bias in his favour. We are not conscious of any, beyond a sentimental sympathy for a weak man struggling with superior forces. Indeed, as regards the more heroic of the Captain's proceedings, the bias is all the other way. Like several others of the native press, we did not support him in his trespass into the *Pioneer* office and assault there on the Chief Editor. To begin with, there was undoubtedly a fellow-feeling for a brother, and he a leading brother into the bargain, of the craft. Not a wholly unselfish sympathy, perhaps. We could not possibly relish the prospect of journalists having to meet the *argumentum baculum*—a species of logic in which we had not taken high honours. We have, we confess, a deliberate objection, except in dire extremity, to citizens taking the law into their own hands, as making for anarchy. But what chiefly swayed us was a settled contempt for, and an instinctive horror of, rowdiness. The mild Hindu is no myth, and the mild Hindu in us voted against the formidable retired warrior. We wrote, as we are accustomed to think, like Oriental gentlemen, without any unmanly apéry of Europeans and their demonstrative methods of disputation or amusement.

European opinion, we knew, must be different—opposite. The British, in particular, do not believe in the nonsense of not taking the law into their own hands. Their first philosopher characterises revenge as a sort of wild justice, and they love justice to themselves too dearly to stick at the wildness. With all their enlightenment and love of order, their native instinct comes out under personal provocation. When themselves injured, neither the Lord Chief Justice nor even the Lord Jesus restrains them. They become strangely oblivious of their superior self and their higher responsibilities, careless of consequences, human and divine. Then the codes and the scriptures alike walk

out of their heads, and the Celt and the Pict comes out at their extremities.

Thus the European view of Hearsey's adventurous raid into the Holy of Holies of the *Pioneer* office, was necessarily very different from the native feeling. He had done after his people. We strongly suspect Mr. Chesney himself in the deepest recesses of his heart to cherish a respect for his enemy. In point of fact, we believe him British to the backbone, and in identical situation he would certainly act alike. This is no mere speculation. It has been placed beyond doubt by actual occurrences. When Mr. Chesney's own temper was tried by abuse of a neighbour journalist, he proved no better or worse than his late assailant, so far at least as intention went. If he could not carry out his purpose, that was no fault of his. The spirit was ready, but the body failed. He caught a Tartar. Going to gather wool, he came away shorn. In return for vituperation in the newspaper, he went out armed with a whip to flog the writer. He was compelled to beat a hasty retreat, leaving his arms and accoutrements and parts of his uniform behind. That is one of the chances of war. His courage is beyond question. The great Editor disdained to use his practised pen against a war of the pen.

He would not be an Englishman if he did not. The old General his father would disown an unworthy brat. We do not know if he has a wife and children. From his masherlike appearance in the dock, and, above all, his conduct of the *Pioneer*, we should say he is wanting in those necessary adjuncts to good temper and happiness and to correct and genial views of men and things. If he has them, they would be unhappy under the circumstance. If he was not yet married, and did not know how to appreciate his chastiser, he had better not try to be. No true-hearted English lady would receive his advances.

But what Englishman, or for that matter European, will not do as Hearsey did or Chesney attempted towards his vilifier. At any rate, who, having done so, will be ashamed? It is only the wise Asiatic that will shrink from a personal encounter as a vulgarity, and the Asiatic has oftener been a slave than a free man. We Indians are not the proper judges of such matters.

It is the same with the other acts of violence to which Captain Hearsey, in answer to Counsellor Gasper (whose interrogatories were throughout prompted by Mr. Ross Alston of the Allahabad bar brought down on purpose by the *Pioneer*), so glibly deposed. The list may appear formidable to mild Hindus and spiritless Mahomedans, but it is nothing to the true Briton. No doubt, the "sprees" and "larks" and *escapades* of a whole life condensed into a small compass by the ingenuity of Counsel, may have a staggering effect even upon unwary Europeans. Captain Hearsey himself may have felt for a moment, under the catechism and invective of the Burke of the Calcutta Old Bailey, as if he was the greatest villain under the sun. But it was only the effect of the focus of the magician. Soon he must have recollected that there was a worm digging up all the worst garbage of thirty years—of indeed the whole of his conscious career. And then, it has to be remembered that he was not allowed to explain matters at all. We are sure Captain Hearsey will be able to clear up many points. The public has only heard one side of the story, and those who are judging him from it are doing a great injustice.

## A MAHOMEDAN GRIEVANCE AND MATTERS MAHOMEDAN.

ON Thursday last the 8th instant, the grand festival of the Mahomedans called the *Eed-uz-zohra* or *Buckreed* passed off with the usual *clat*, but in many of the families in the Town and Suburbs, the joy and hilarity observable on this festive occasion in previous years, had been much curtailed by the heartless curtailment this year of the vacation in the Calcutta Medressah from 5 to 2 days. Ever since the Medressah was founded by Warren Hastings in 1870, the students have enjoyed 5 days' holiday in the Buckreed festival, but for some reason or other, which has not been given out, the Principal Dr. Hoernle has cut them down to 2 days and thus given unnecessary offence to the entire Mahomedan community. The Mahomedans feel this curtailment keenly, as it is chiefly the children and through them the elders of the households who enjoy the festivities on these joyous occasions. They protest against this reduction, when in fact 12 days' holidays are allowed during the Doorgapoojas in that Institution, in which there is not a single Hindu student and only one Hindu teacher. The Mahomedans complain that the Institution is closed when their boys do not require any holiday at all, and have to waste their time; while at a time when their social and ceremonial duties require their presence at home, they are compelled to attend the school. The Principal, being a German missionary, ought to be careful, that his conduct towards the boys placed under his charge, is not construed into an inclination on his part to interfere with the religion of his wards. We reminded that a great deal of objection was raised at the time of his appointment to this post, on the score of his being a missionary and the son of a missionary.

There was a Sessions case pending before Mr. Beveridge of the 24-Pergunnahs, in which one Darogha Muatabar Ali Khan, *alias* Bheekun Khan, one of the prominent officials of the late King of Oudh's establishment, was the defendant, having been charged by Mr. Upton, the Governor-General's Agent, with theft of certain articles alleged to belong to the Estate of the late King. The trial commenced on Monday the 5th instant and concluded on the evening of Thursday the 8th. The witnesses on both sides were almost exclusively Mahomedans, and although the presiding officer was asked not to take up the case on Thursday owing to the Buckreed, he refused the application. Mahomedan witnesses were thus forced to attend Court on a day on which religious and social duties wanted them elsewhere—at mosque, at home and the houses of neighbours and friends. It was a most arbitrary exercise of the authority of the Court and a great and unnecessary hardship to these witnesses. They had loyally accepted Her Majesty's summons to attend and assist the administration of justice by her Judges and scrupulously obeyed. But in obeying the call of the Court, they certainly never reckoned on reaping disgrace and damnation. But whether they reckoned or not, they got both, thanks to the stolidity or incapacity for sympathy of the British Judge. The witnesses who came down all the way from Oudh, as they made the greatest sacrifice of all in assisting in a case in which they had no personal interest, must have felt their situation under the enforced attendance on the sacred day the most keenly. How the Mahomedan community regard the business may be easily understood. It was unfortunate that the date of the trial was originally fixed without taking into consideration the possibility of its not being concluded during the 3 days before the grand Mahomedan festival. Mr. Beveridge is known to entertain strong ideas against the Christian religion. It would not be fair to him to conclude from this one instance that he does not care for the religious feelings of the Hindus and

*Holloway's Pills and Ointment* are remedies which should invariably be taken by travellers in search of health, pleasure or business. Many deleterious influences are constantly at work in foreign climes, tending to deteriorate the health; these and the altered conditions of life will entail on those who travel the necessity of carefully attending to early symptoms of disease, and they will find the use of these remedies to be highly necessary, the action of the Pills being purifying and strengthening and of great service in cases of fever, ague, and all inflammatory diseases, whilst the Ointment is a sovereign cure in cases of piles, bad legs, bad breasts, wounds and ulcers. Holloway's remedies do not deteriorate by change of climate.

Mahomedans who have to come before him as suitors or witnesses.

That case of theft of silver articles valued at Rs. 2,000, before the Sessions Judge Beveridge, was committed by the Deputy Baboo Bunkim Chunder Chatterjee. The real prosecutor was Kedarnath Mookerjee, the Head Assistant of the Superintendent of Political Pensions, and the chief witness his son Monmothnath Mookerjee, the collector of the late king's landed property. It was finally disposed of on Thursday. The father and son as well as other witnesses for the prosecution broke down entirely in cross-examination, and so were 2 or 3 of the poor King's Begums, who had been examined by Commission. The Judge without calling for the defence charged the Jury for the verdict. The Jury at once returned a verdict of not guilty and the accused was discharged.

As far as our information goes, the expenses in this prosecution have come up to 4 or 5 times the value of the alleged stolen property. And this amount would most probably have to be paid out of the King's Estate.

We trust the Government of India will enquire into the matter and specially why the prosecution was started solely on the assurance of the Assistants who cut such sorry figure in the witness box.

It is satisfactory to note that the old practice of the Indian Press to ignore the Mahomedans as a component part of the population and to pass over their grievances, is giving way to a better disposition. When our patriots found that the world at large regarded a National Indian Congress without Mahomedans a very much of a misnomer, their organs took to calling the Mahomedans all sorts of names. Bullying having failed to bring them into their fold, they have since commenced coaxing. Our European friends saw their opportunity in the defection of the Mahomedans and set to make friends with them. Since then, the Anglo-Indian Press has been paying more attention to Mahomedan matters. The Mahomedans do not yet support to any appreciable extent the English papers, yet these do not disdain to send reporters to the mosques and Imambaras on the occasion of any festival or meeting. All this is very good. Unfortunately, the European journalists' knowledge is not equal to their good disposition. The leading Anglo-Indian organ in Calcutta has found space for a long account of the late Buckreed, but the narrative is disfigured by a most extraordinary statement. We are told that on the day in question at the mosques in town, the *khutba* was read and that the *khutba* pronounced blessings among others on the king of Dahomy. The writer himself is surprised at his own discovery, as well he may be. Where he got his information, we are at a loss to imagine. The custom is to bless the Sultan of Turkey, the Defender of the Faith and guardian of the Holy Cities. Had there been a recognised Mahomedan sovereign of India, he would have come in for his share of the good wishes of his co-religionists. But the Sultan of Dahomy of all places is a huge joke. The Indian Mussulmans, or for that matter those of Arabia or Turkey, are not aware of the existence of Dahomy.

## Daw.

BOMBAY HIGH COURT.—JULY 31, 1889.

IMPERATRIX v. HARRILAL DALPATRAM.

Mr. Justice Scott :—This reference turns on the construction of section 73 of the Municipal Act (Act VI of 1873) applicable to this Presidency. That section empowers any Municipality "threatened or visited with an outbreak of any epidemic disease," "to take such measures as may be deemed necessary to prevent, meet, mitigate or suppress any such outbreak." In order apparently to prevent any abuse of this wide discretion, it is further provided that measures under this section must be first sanctioned by the Governor in Council or an officer authorized by him. It appears that the Municipality of Ahmedabad received a report from their medical officer that the city was threatened with cholera and that the suppression of caste-feasts was a necessary measure. The sanction of the Governor in Council was obtained and under the powers conferred by section 73 an order was promulgated in the city by posters on the walls prohibiting the holding of caste-feasts when over thirty persons were to assemble. The defendant in this case infringed this rule and was fined under section 188 of the Indian Penal Code twenty-five rupees for disobeying the order of a public servant empowered to promulgate such order. The Magistrate, whilst he held the order within

the powers of the section, still felt a doubt on the subject and referred the question of its legality to the High Court. That question turns on the construction of the words "take such measures as may be deemed necessary to prevent, meet, mitigate or suppress the outbreak." The words are no doubt of wide and general character whilst the powers they confer are to be exercised for the safety of the public and only at an exceptional time of public danger. But can they be taken to cover an order interfering with the right of every citizen to the control of his private life and the use of his own house and placing an interdict on people meeting together to eat and drink in their own houses? Special measures for the health of the town such as sulphur fumigation, daily flushing of sewers, insistence on good house sanitation, isolation of infected districts and other similar steps to be taken by the authorities themselves, come more naturally within the meaning of the terms of the section. Indeed the words to take such measures imply in themselves something actively to be done by the Municipality rather than any limitation to be imposed on the private rights of the citizens in their relations of daily life. If stringent rules as to the conduct of private life generally, and as to the consumption of food in private houses in particular, were contemplated, the Legislature would have found apt words to express their meaning. Terms of command and prohibition would have been used such as occur in section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code. Moreover the Legislature would have provided a special penalty for the infringement of the rules thus made as was done in other sections in the Act. Section 74 enumerates the sections of the Act intended to have penal effect and this section is not in the list. The absence of penalty and the primary sense of the words "to take measures" both are in favour of the section being construed to mean acts of the Municipality itself rather than any unusual restriction of private rights. The section may, however, be construed in two ways. Firstly the words "take measures" may be limited to acts on the part of the Municipality to be done by them such as those we have described. This interpretation need not necessarily involve any infringement of the common law rights of the subject and is also the more natural meaning of the words used. But secondly, the words "take measures" are so vague and general that they may be extended so as to cover commands to do acts, and prohibitions to abstain from acts, which would otherwise be within the common law rights of the subject. This second construction is the one that must be applied to this case to justify the order in question. Yet such a construction of general words is contrary to the rules which govern the interpretation of all statutes. The rule applicable to this case is clearly expressed as follows:—"The general rule in exposition of all Acts of Parliament is this, that in all doubtful matters and where the expression is in general terms, they are to receive such a construction as may be agreeable to the rules of common law in cases of that nature; for statutes are not presumed to make any alteration in the common law, farther or otherwise than the Act does expressly declare; therefore in all general matters the law presumes the Act did not intend to make any alteration; for if the Parliament had had that design, they would have expressed it in the Act. (Viner's Abridgment Title Statute). As the second construction is contrary to this rule of interpretation and against the primary meaning of the words, we are unable to accept it. The Court ought not to strain an Act in favour of an interference with private rights which is not justified by the primary sense of the language. If caste feasts, in private houses are to be prohibited, the intention of the legislature to that effect must be shown either by express words or by necessary implication. That intention cannot, in our opinion, be read in the words before us. We think, therefore, the Municipality has exceeded its powers in issuing this order. The conviction and sentence must be reversed and fine returned.

## Public Paper.

### EMIGRATION TO FRENCH GUIANA.

From---The Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

To---The Government Bengal, General Department.

Calcutta, dated 22nd March 1889.

Adverting to the correspondence ending with my endorsement dated 22nd February last, I am directed to forward a copy of the despatch from the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India, and to state that the Government of India will be glad to be favoured with any remarks which the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor may wish to offer on paras 2 and 3 of the despatch relative to the question of re-opening emigration to French Guiana.

From---The Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India.

To---His Excellency the Most Hon'ble the Governor-General of India in Council.

Dated India Office, London, 31st January 1887.

In continuation of my despatch dated 13th December last, and with reference to the emigration letter from Your Excellency's predecessor in Council of the 4th ultimo, which I have not communi-

cated to the Foreign Office, I transmit, for your information, copy of the Special Report on Indian Immigration at Cayenne prepared by Her Majesty's Consul on statistics furnished by the new Commissary Protector of Immigrants.

Your Lordship's Government will now be in a position finally to decide whether the emigration from India to French Guiana can be re-opened, and on what conditions.

Should Your Excellency in Council be willing to renew the emigration, you will of course insist that a properly qualified Consul is maintained in Cayenne as formerly, and that no expense is to be incurred from Indian revenues in connection with his salary or office or otherwise.

From---Government of Bengal, General Department.

To---Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

Dated 15th May 1889.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 22nd March 1889, with its enclosure, in which the question of permitting the renewal of emigration to Cayenne is re-opened and the Lieutenant-Governor is given the opportunity of making a further representation on the subject.

In reply, I am directed to say that the Lieutenant-Governor does not consider that Consul Wyndham's report of the 8th December last affords sufficient ground for modifying the opinion expressed in my letter dated the 19th April 1888. In view of this fact that, as far as the information of this Government goes, the last batch of emigrants to Cayenne was despatched from Calcutta in January 1874, the statement made in the report that 66 immigrants had not completed their contract in 1888 affords further evidence of the tendency in that colony to prolong the period during which natives of India are kept under indenture. The statistics of mortality now given are certainly favorable, but they can refer only to the survivors after many years of residence---persons who must either originally have been exceptionally adapted to the climate, or have become so in the course of time. Consul Wyndham gives the regulation rate of wages which, judged by a colonial standard, appears to be somewhat low and is not as advantageous as that which prevails in Burma, while prices are stated to be very high. On the whole the Lieutenant-Governor considers that the prohibition of emigration recently passed in regard to the French Colonies should continue to be enforced in the case of Cayenne, the one to which the strongest exception has always been taken.

## LEPROSY.

Report of Her Majesty QUEEN KAPIOLANI's visit to Molokai, by H. R. H. PRINCESS LILIUOKALANI, July, 1884.

[Concluded from page 370.]

The Lock-up was next visited. The building is about 10 by 15 feet in dimension, and contains two rooms about 6 feet long and 9 feet wide respectively. These are poorly ventilated by small iron gratings situated on the leeward side of the building. In one were two Chinamen, both sentenced to one month's confinement on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon upon one of their countrymen. In the other was confined a native, named Makahui, sentenced for burglary in the store of the Board of Health, and abstracting therefrom money to the amount of about \$240, his partner in the crime one Naai by name, had terminated his own life shortly after sentence, by suspending himself from the gratings of his cell.

The cooking arrangements are commodious, cleanly kept, and convenient; a cooking range being supplied sufficiently large to do the cooking for 150 persons. The pot room is also spacious and clean.

As numerous descriptions of the settlement generally, and of the Hospital in particular, have heretofore been published, it will be unnecessary to give a further description. But here I may say that great credit is due to those in charge for the very neat and cleanly manner in which everything connected with the premises is kept.

After leaving the Hospital premises, the party next visited the store-house, situated not far distant from the Hospital and immediately across the road. Upon a close observation of the stores, all the articles provided appeared good, with the exception of the sugar, bread and salmon, the last mentioned article being so mouldy and soft as to be unfit for use; the sugar dark and dirty, of about No. 3 or No. 4 quality; and the bread tolerably good for medium bread, though inferior to that supplied to the Oahu Jail.

There are about 14 head of cattle butchered per week. Allowing (which according to the statement of some butchers is a large average) that each bullock weighed dressed, 350 lbs., and seven pounds per week of beef to an individual, the amount of beef slaughtered would supply only about 700 people; whereas, there are at the settlement, including the kokuas, a population averaging between 850 and 950 souls.

The arrangements for slaughtering are most primitive; and the water supply insufficient for the cleansing of the meat. Arrangements, however, are now being made, whereby this defect will soon be remedied. A new reservoir is now in process of construction



near to the place of slaughtering and designed to be filled from pipes connecting with the valley supply.

The next subject which engaged the attention of the party was an inspection of schools under the charge of the Rev. Father Damien. The buildings occupied for this purpose are supplied by the Board of Health, one of which is used for a boys' school and the other for girls, being situated in near proximity, and on the opposite sides of the roads. But are within the vicinity of the mission church.

In the girls' school are sixteen pupils in all, ranging in age from 9 to 17 years. Among these was the young girl Luahiwa, of whom mention was made by Dr. Fitch in his late Biennial Report. Of all these scholars she bore the worst marks of disease. Out of these children there were four between 9 and 11 years of age who exhibited no external signs of the disease; but one, upon careful inspection by Dr. Arning, was declared to be in the incipient stage of disease.

In the boys' school were twenty-six pupils, all of whom were well marked with the disease.

The pupils of each school are separately lodged and fed. They are all either orphans or friendless, and are under the immediate care of Father Damien and a native woman named Kuilia, not herself a leper.

After leaving the school the party proceeded on horseback for the purpose of inspecting the old and the newly proposed sources of the water supply of the Settlement. The system now in use, and which has been so almost since the establishment of the Settlement, has its source in the valley of Waialeia. It is now recognized by the Board as inadequate to the needs of the place, and a proposition has been made to bring the water from Waikolu Valley—about two miles further on. Waikolu is the place where the paiai supply of the Settlement is landed and dealt out to the patients, being about three and a half miles from Kalawao, and five and a half from Kalaupapa. After traveling the road to this valley one is forcibly struck with the force of the universal objections made by the patients of the great distance they have to travel for their food.

The water supply here is abundant and never-failing, and capable of supplying the needs of a town larger than Honolulu. The scenery of this valley is grand. The numerous cascades darting out in all directions from over the lofty precipices, the spray gracefully falling among the dense shrubbery and covering the green foliage as with gems of pearls. A sight seldom seen or surpassed in magnificence and beauty.

In the valley are several acres of land now lying idle which might be utilized, at a small outlay, in the cultivation of taro and other products for the use of the Settlement. The landing of two boat-loads of paiai during the sojourn of the party there afforded an opportunity of realizing the fact that a number of complaints, already enumerated, were not without foundation. The stream was so swollen by the rains which had been unceasing during our visit that, after a difficult landing had been effected, it was still more hazardous for the animals with their heavy packs, and they had to be forced to cross over the stream.

After staying in the valley for half an hour the party took the opportunity of inspecting a proposed new landing about half a mile from the Hospital, thence returning to Kalawao and visiting on the way every house to be seen. Most noted among the houses visited were the dwelling of Kaulamealani, Napua, Kuanea and Kii. The two last named individuals were pitiable objects indeed, and entirely dependent upon the friendly assistance of their neighbors for what

help they received. Their fingers and toes were almost entirely gone with the disease. With suppurated hands and stumpy fingers they had improvised rude bandages for relief. Hospital accommodations and aid were clearly needed, but in reply to the question put to them, they said that they had a horror of entering the Hospital.

Her Majesty, as well as others of the party, was much affected at the touching sight of these two old women, utterly unable to help themselves, and promised every exertion on her part toward the removal of any objection that might really exist in the institution, and that efforts hereafter should be used to render the place attractive and not repulsive. As there was little time to spare, and as Her Majesty had promised to address the people of Kalawao before leaving, she bade the sufferers a kind adieu, and the company wended their way toward the settlement, arriving at the store where the address was to be given at three o'clock that afternoon. A large number of patients had gathered. Her Majesty proceeded to address them similarly as upon the previous occasion at Kalaupapa. At the conclusion of her address, she was heartily cheered by the people. A few among them responded to Her Majesty's remarks, but as they were of similar tenor to those previously given, it will be unnecessary to quote them here. Upon our final parting, three cheers were given for their Majesties the King and Queen.

Before leaving the house at Kalawao, the party engaged itself in planting several seeds of alligator pears and mangoes, taken from a large supply of such fruit seeds as had been brought by Her Majesty for distribution among the people.

The landing was finally reached at about half-past seven o'clock p. m., after Her Majesty had made a slight detour in order to visit an extinct crater whose basin is partially filled with sea water by a subterranean connection with the ocean. Before leaving the place, however, Her Majesty again visited every tenement in the neighborhood. Incidentally I would mention an interview which took place at the landing between one of the party and Kelikapu, one of the former speakers, several others being in the company. This man claims to have contracted the disease from vaccination, it having appeared about four years after. He asserted that through the same agency all of his schoolmates had died of the disease. In speaking of other matters, he said, that a great deal of bad management existed, rendering a loss to the Government of about one-third of the cattle driven to slaughter over the precipitous road from Kalae, and thought it would be far less expensive on this account to land them from vessels at Kalaupapa. He said there was ample pasture in the district for several hundreds of cattle.

He disapproved of the appointment of a resident judge, saying that such an office was unnecessary, and that such an idea had only originated in the brain of one who was looking forward to his own appointment. A foreigner, he said, would never suit as undersuperintendent of the settlement, as, owing to prejudice, his actions would often be misjudged, and trouble of a serious nature might ensue. Natives would be more likely to overlook or condone the fault of one of their own race, than would be the case if the offender were a foreigner. He said that the present overseer Mr. Hutchison was in every respect a good man for the position and universally esteemed in the settlement. He thought there was urgent need of more Hospital accommodation, and medical attendance and nursing. He said that not the least among their difficulties, was that of obtaining wood for fuel. As it was now the patients had to travel far and climb the mountain themselves to get it.

### A SPECIAL MEETING

OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CALCUTTA,  
under Act II. (B. C.) of 1883,  
WILL BE HELD IN THE TOWN HALL,  
on Thursday, the 15th August 1889, at 4 P.M.  
TO DISPOSE OF THE UNDERMENTIONED  
BUSINESS.

1. To approve the Resolution passed at the Adjourned 5th Ordinary Meeting of the Commissioners held on the 5th instant that the Secretary's salary be raised to the maximum salary of the appointment as it exists, viz, Rs 800 per mensem, with effect from the 1st April last.

NOTE.—In bringing this forward for confirmation at the Adjourned Meeting held on the 5th instant, it was overlooked that Section 44 Act II (B.C.) of 1888 requires such business to be transacted at a Special Meeting.

2. To confirm the recommendation of the Salaries Committee at a Meeting held on 21st June last.

3. To consider the proposal of the Refuse Burning Committee to authorise Mr. Harring-

ton to erect an 8-cell incinerator at a cost of Rs. 39,000, he agreeing to bear half the loss if it proves unsuccessful.

4. To consider the proposed new Bye-laws framed under Section 412 clauses (a), (b), (c), and (d) of Act II (B. C.) of 1888.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

9th August 1889.

### NOTICE.

The Vice-Chairman of the Corporation will put up to public auction at the Municipal Office on Monday, the 19th August 1889, at noon, leases for five years of the undermentioned Tanks, commencing from 1st September 1889.

1. Park Street (Triangular) Tank.
2. Dalhousie Square Tank.
3. Jhao Talao, Lower Circular Road.
4. Auckland Square Tank.
5. Panchcootee Tank, corner of Theatre Road and Loudon Street.
6. Short Bazar Tank.
7. Goristan Tank, Rawdon Street
8. College Square Tank.

9. Cornwallis Square Tank.

10. Musjid Tank. Wellesley Street.

11. Victoria Tank, Victoria Terrace.

The lease will contain a clause giving the lessee an exclusive right of fishing in the tanks.

The purchaser will be required to sign an agreement and to deposit as security a sum equivalent to two months' rent as soon as his bid is accepted, and thereafter the rent will be payable on the 5th day of each and every month following that in respect of which it is due.

The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any bid.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

3rd August 1889.

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Later Minister of the Tipperah State.

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OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridun Jah Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From

the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract.]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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All cargo for shipment by the above vessel should be sent to the Company's Godowns at Juggannauth Ghat, not later than Thursday, the 8th instant.

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Calcutta, 3rd August, 1889.

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THE DIGNITY AND INTEGRITY OF  
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only Rs. 7-8 per V. P. P. with spare  
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Have no appearance of cheapness about  
them. Others sell at double our rates. Mr.  
A. R. Mehta from Bandora says:—"The  
7-8 watch I purchased from you two years  
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says: "A watch maker has valued your  
Rs. 7-8 watch for Rs. 15." Mr. J. Sutcliffe, R.  
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it at Rs. 15 and were completely surprised when  
I told them it only costs Rs. 7-8." Pretty  
Canadian Gold Chains, Lockets, Pencils, com-  
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A. Yelmore, Satur, says:—"The best gold-  
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Rs. 7 and the locket for Rs. 10." Mr. G.  
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up another smell of its own.

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kind in Poultry, Pigeons, Cattle, Horses,  
Dogs, Cats, &c. Effectually cures Gapes, Roup  
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BY  
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getting together reliable matter for the guide  
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numerous illustrations which must be executed  
in England, some delay necessarily will arise  
in the execution of the work. But intending  
subscribers should not delay in registering  
their names at the above address.

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**J. N. MITRA, M.R.C.P.,**  
London,

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CALCUTTA MEDICAL COLLEGE IN 1880.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1889.

} No. 388

## CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

### OLD-MAID'S MUSIC.

ALL down the long, narrow street  
The windows were wide all day ;  
The musks and the pinks smell sweet  
In the boxes over the way.

The night is a night of June,  
When the summer flowers are born,  
And, above, a sickle moon  
Hangs over the coming corn.

No sigh of the past is there,  
And the silence spellful feels :  
When out on the dreamy air  
The Old-Maid's music steals.

It seems like a story told  
That must fill the eyes with tears,—  
So sweet, so wistful, so old,  
That ditty of fifty years !

Even as I listen and hear,  
Those years roll back between,  
And the long ago draws near,  
Till I look on what has been.

And a sound of footsteps rings,  
And the shadows move below,—  
While she lifts her voice and sings  
That ditty of long ago.

\* \* \*

And I see two figures pace  
Together, with lingering feet ;  
And now 'tis a girl's white face  
That looks down the empty street.

And I see her lean and gaze,  
And the crowd is black below,—  
But the Old-Maid sits and plays  
That ditty of long ago !

\* \* \* \*

'Tis light in the narrow street,  
To-day is the longest day ;  
The musks and the pinks smell sweet  
In the boxes over the way.

GEORGE HOLMES.

*The Spectator.*

### SIR EDWIN ARNOLD'S PERSIAN LYRIC.\*

All in a Garden fair I sate, and spied  
The Tulips dancing, dancing side by side,  
With scarlet turbans dressed ;  
All in a Garden green at night I heard  
The gladsome voice of night's melodious Bird  
Singing that " Love is Best ! "

The shy white Jasmine drew aside her veil,  
Breathing faint fragrance on the loitering gale,  
And nodded, nodded " Yes !  
Sweetest of all sweet things is Love ! and wise !  
Dance, Tulip ! Pipe, fond Bird, thy melodies !  
Wake, Rose of loveliness ! "

" Yet," sighed the swaying Cypress, " who can tell  
If Love be wise as sweet ? if it be well  
For Love to dance and sing ?  
I see—growing here always—year by year  
The Bulbuls die, and on their grassy bier  
Rose-petals scattering ! "

All in that Garden green the Rose replied :  
" Ah ! Cypress, look ! I put my leaves aside ;  
Mark what is mid this bush !  
Three blue eggs in a closely-woven nest,  
Sheltered, for music's sake, by branch and breast !  
There will be Bulbuls ! hush ! "

All in that Garden green the Bulbul trilled ;  
" Oh, foolish Cypress ! thinking Love was killed  
Because he seemed to cease :  
My best-Belov'd hath secrets at her heart,  
Gold seeds of summer-time, new buds to start ;  
There will be Roses ! peace ! "

Then lightlier danced the Tulips than before  
To waftings of the perfumed breeze, and more  
Chanted the Nightingale :  
The fire-flies in the palms fresh lanterns lit ;  
Her zone of grace the blushing Rose unknit  
And blossomed, pure and pale !

*Holloway's Pills.*—Weak Stomach.—The wisest cannot enumerate one quarter of the distressing symptoms arising from imperfect or disordered digestion, all of which can be relieved by these admirable Pills. They remove cankerous taste from the mouth, flatulency and constipation. Holloway's Pills rouse the stomach, liver, and every other organ, thereby bringing digestion to that healthy tone which fully enables it to convert all we eat and drink to the nourishment of our bodies. Hence these Pills are the surest strengtheners and the safest restoratives in nervousness, wasting, and chronic debility. Holloway's Pills are infallible remedies for impaired appetite, eructations, and a multitude of other disagreeable symptoms which render the lives of thousands miserable indeed. These Pills are approved by all classes.

\* From *With Sa'di in the Garden ; or, the Book of Love*. Being the " Ishk " or Third Chapter of the *Bôstân* of the Persian Poet Sa'di, embodied in a Dialogue held in the Garden of the Taj Mahal, at Agra. By Sir Edwin Arnold. London : Trübner and Co.

*Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.*

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THEY break up camp at Simla on the 31st October, and the offices reopen in Calcutta on the 1st November.

THE Viceroy visits the Khyber and Quetta and is expected in Calcutta on the 30th November.

ACCORDING to programme, the Lieutenant-Governor, after a halt there of three days, leaves Dacca to-morrow, arriving at Serajgunj the next day the 26th. He starts for Bogra on the 27th and will be back to Serajgunj on the 28th. Leaves Serajgunj again on the 29th and arrives at Dhubri on the 30th, Gauhati on the 1st September and Shillong on the 2nd. After a stay of three days, he comes back to Gauhati on the 6th, Dhubri on the 7th, reaching Rungpore on the 8th. Stops there one day, making for Dinagpore on the 10th, reaching Mozufferpore on the 11th. Again a halt of 2 days. Arrives at Purneah on the 15th, where he stops for a couple of days. Then winds his way to Kissengunge arriving there on the 18th. Reaches Siliguri on the 19th and completes the tour of the season, arriving at Darjeeling on the 20th September.

THE High Court closes for the Long Vacation from the 5th September to the 15th November, Messrs. Justices Tottenham and Banerjee dispensing, leisurely and in quiet, the vacation justice of the Court during the period.

THE suite of Prince Albert Victor to India will consist of Sir Edward Bradford (formerly British Agent at Jeypore), Captain G. S. Halford, of the 1st Life Guards, and Lieutenant Harvey, of the 10th Hussars of which regiment the Prince is Major.

THE Bishop of Bombay heads a demonstration against the proposal to despatch the mail steamer from Bombay on Sundays during the monsoon, and on Saturdays in fair weather. He has drafted a memorial to the Viceroy objecting on religious and physical grounds to the change.

THE Greek Professor at Glasgow is a youth of 25—Mr. J. A. Murray. In 1884 he went to St. John's College, Oxford, took the Hertford and Ireland and most other rewards for classical scholarship and got his "first" in 1888.

THE eating and drinking too at Paris has been on an Exhibition scale. There was a feast to the civic Brahmins assembled at the capital worthy of an Indian Governor's father's *shradh*.

A grand banquet was given on the 18th at the Exhibition to thirteen thousand French Mayors. President Carnot made a hopeful speech. He dwelt upon the evident progress and solidarity of the Republic. The late factious enterprises had made no permanent impression.

OUR Hon'ble friend Syed Ameer Hossein, C. I. E., has had conferred on him the distinction of being chosen for the Dullunda Establishment—in the room of the late Moulvie Kabiruddin Ahmed, a deceased Visitor.

THE Commissioner A. Smith of the Presidency Division has been granted leave during September and October, the Excise Commissioner E. V. Westmacott doing this duty in addition to his own.

THE Queen has been pleased to direct Letters Patent to be passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland granting the dignities of a Marquess and Duke of the said United Kingdom unto the Right Honourable Alexander William George Earl of Fife, K.T., and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the names, styles, and titles of Marquess of Macduff, in the county of Banff, and the Duke of Fife.

THE Thakurs of Jeypore are, it is said, up in arms against the Prime Minister Kanti Chunder Mookerjee, for appropriating their polo ground. The Baboo had better take care, he has long been obnoxious to all classes, and that boy of his is a regular nuisance.

THE Secretary of State has sanctioned the construction, from borrowed funds, of three subsidiary canals in connection with the Sidnai Canal, at a direct outlay of Rs. 9,62,383 and indirect Rs. 37,092.

THE *Calcutta Gazette* of this week publishes the price-lists of staple food crops in the local areas of Bengal, prepared under sec. 39 (1) of the Bengal Tenancy Act, VIII. of 1885, for the quarter ending in 31st March 1889.

THE next half-yearly examination of compounders will commence on Monday, the 21st October, at the Campbell Medical School, Calcutta. Applicants must register their names with certificates and fees at least one week earlier at the office of Dr. S. Coull Mackenzie, the Superintendent of the School.

IN supersession of the old, new rules have been laid down for the conduct of all future elections, under Sections 15 and 27 of Act III. (B.C.) of 1884, of Commissioners of Municipalities.

THE Howrah Municipality is to be divided into ten Wards, two of them returning three, six two and two one Commissioner each.

ALL powers vested in the Magistrate of the district under Chapters I, II, and III of the Cattle Trespass Act I of 1871, have been conferred by the Lieutenant-Governor upon the Commissioners of the Calcutta Municipality in respect of all pounds situated within the limits of the Municipality, except those lying within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal. The surplus proceeds of the pounds affected by the present order will form part of the Calcutta Municipal fund.

UNDER Sec. 16 of the Indian Merchandise Marks Act, IV. of 1889, the Governor-General in Council has issued the following instructions for guidance of the Criminal Courts.

"1.—A trade description of length stamped on *grey, white, or coloured cotton piece goods* shall not be deemed to be false in a material respect, unless—

(a) where a single length is stamped, the description exceeds the actual length by more than—  
4 inches in pieces stamped as 10 yards long and under :  
5 " " " above 10 yards and up to 23 yards long ;  
7 " " " " 23 " " " 36 " "  
9 " " " " 36 " " " 47 " "  
18 " " " " 47 " long ;

Provided that the average length of the goods in question shall not be less than the stamped length ;

(b) where a maximum and a minimum length are stamped, the described maximum length is greater than the actual length by more than—

9 inches in piece goods under 35 yards long ;  
18 " " " 35 yards and up to 47 yards long ;  
36 " " " above 47 yards long ;

Provided that no such piece shall measure less than the minimum stamped length.

II.—A trade description of width stamped on *grey, white, or coloured cotton piece goods* shall not be deemed to be false in a material respect, unless the description exceeds the actual width by—

half an inch in pieces stamped as 40 inches or less in width ;  
three-quarters of an inch in pieces stamped as over 40 inches or under 59 inches in width ;  
one inch in pieces stamped as 59 inches or more in width ;

Provided that the average width of the goods in question shall not be less than the stamped width.

III.—A trade description of count or number, length or weight, applied to *grey cotton yarn* shall not be deemed to be false in a material respect, unless—

(a) the described count or number is greater or less than the actual count or number by more than 5 per cent. ; or  
(b) the average length of the whole number of hanks in a bundle of such yarn is less than 840 yards ; or  
(c) in a bundle described as being ten pounds in weight, the number of knots or *moras* of ten hanks each is not the same as, and the number of knots or *moras* of five hanks is not double, the described count or number of the yarn.

IV.—A trade description of count or number applied to a bundle of *dyed cotton yarn* shall be accepted as indicating length only the hank being taken to measure 840 yards, and it shall be deemed to be false in a material respect if it exceeds the actual length by more than 5 per cent.

Provided that the average length of the whole number of hanks in the yarn in question shall not be less than the described length.

V.—A trade description of length applied to *thread of any kind* (of cotton, wool, flax, or silk) shall not be deemed to be false in a material respect unless it exceeds the actual length by more than 1 per cent.

VI.—The dimensions of goods on which their length or width is stamped shall be determined by measurement in imperial yards of thirty-six inches."

THE Madras Government has directed that all convicts certified as lepers by the jail Surgeon and sentenced to imprisonment for 3 months and more or to transportation when unfit for it, shall be segregated in a specially constituted criminal ward in a Leper Hospital.

A MAHOMEDAN—Wahed Ali—and three women made themselves free with drink. Having exhausted their stock they wanted more liquor. There being no money to buy with any more of the thing which had elated them, the jewellery on the person of one of the women was now utilised for the moment to supply the ways and means. A neighbouring poddar advanced Rs. 18 on it. An hour after, they thought better of it and proceeded to redeem the articles, but could not agree as to the share each should bear of the amount to be repaid. The jewellery therefore remained with the poddar. The woman who had parted with her ornaments next laid a charge of theft against Wahed Ali. He admitted pledging them but with the knowledge and consent of the owner and for her own use. The Deputy Magistrate in charge of the Suburban Court held the act to be theft. Even if there was consent, he argued, it was obtained at a moment when the woman was not mistress of herself. He sentenced Ali to two months' hard labor. On appeal, the Judge has bailed out the prisoner, pending hearing.

SIR Arthur Havelock, Governor of Natal, has been appointed Governor of Ceylon. Sir Charles Mitchell, who was Governor of Natal in succession to Sir William Robinson, late Governor of South Australia, has been appointed Governor of Western Australia.

RUSSIA at length contemplates measures for preserving the unfortunate animals sent to the world with a natural coat of fur, they having already become scarce from the demand for fur skins in Vanity Fair.

"ORDER is Heaven's first law." And it is maintained through a grand compensation balance by which good comes out of evil. If in the midst of life we are in death, death itself contributes to life. There is no death in the long run. As for the anomaly of injustice or wrong in a righteous and all-wise Dispensation, which has puzzled the philosophers from (say) the Humes (to go no farther) to the Huxleys, the mystery is every day made clearer to the reverent inquirer in the growing consciousness that the difficulty all lies in the concrete—is confined to the relative. The difficulty is more seeming than real. There is no absolute evil. It is most interesting to mark the operation of the balance. According to common belief in Bengal, the rains spoil the eggs of snakes, hence the absence of seasonable showers after the close of summer is regarded with a double anxiety. The world would be overwhelmed with the serpent brood but for a self-destroying principle. The cobra swallows up its own progeny as they break their shells and crawl out. A few only escape, to employ and punish proud man. Many animals from reptiles to quadrupeds devour their own issue. The male monkey—prince of mammals—is a veritable King Herod of the monkey tribe who massacres every Simian infant of his sex. (Here, by the way, is a splendid opportunity for the professional jester of the *Bangabasi*, for another of his laboured Panchali *chharads* down to the level of his gaping admirers against us. We have already been definitely reduced to a *chamar* by this pink of Brahman nobility, and from shoemaker to Simian is but a step—a turn of the wizard's wand—another jingle of the famous bells.)

The world simply overflows with minute life. Of insects, there are about a hundred distinct species. Luckily, they are all in some way or another useful even to man himself. They feed on one another or supply the table so to speak of larger animals even to man.

In the empire of Brazil, particularly in the large Province of San Paulo, there is a rather formidable species of large ants which might be a danger to human society, but that the wise inhabitants utilise it for a delicacy of the table. Hence the ants are captured in large numbers for the purpose, with the result of thinning their ranks. From the earliest historic times, locusts have been one of the recognised periodical pests in all the vast tract of the globe, bordering on the Eastern

and Southern shores of the Mediterranean Sea from Turkey and Arabia to the Atlantic Ocean. There too the locust is eaten by man and without reproach. In India, the flight of locusts is unhappily far from unknown, and a dreadful visitation is the visit of these swarming little enemies to any district, and here too it is sometimes eaten by man and is said to be no bad eating either. (Here, again, old *Bangabasi*, my boy!) But here the locust is a low-caste edible. In the West, Saints and Prophets fancy it. John the Baptist feasted on locusts and wild honey.

WILLIAM SCOTT, an *employé* of Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, the celebrated Printers to the Queen, has died at the age of 95. He entered as reading boy at 14, and rose by ability and application to the management of the Government printing department of the firm, which he retained till his retirement on pension at the age of 74, never sick or sorry, during all that prodigious pull of six long decades, in the close burning-gas-charged atmosphere of a printing office in that foggy and smoky Stinkopolis. An extraordinary instance of a fixture among the restless Saxons and Celts, as well as of tenacity of existence! It might be interesting to know how he managed to escape the ills that flesh is heir to. The less fortunate who form the bulk of humanity, may well regard him as a rebel against Nature.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Queen started on the 22nd on her long promised visit to Wales, and has arrived at Bala, in North Wales.

Her Majesty has honored Prince Bismarck with the present of a life-size portrait of herself.

THE strike of the London dock labourers has assumed enormous proportions. They already number 30,000 and more are joining still. They are ready to fight if new men are brought in to replace them. Many vessels are delayed for want of men to load and unload. The strikers stick to their demand for higher wages. The Directors of the Docks received a deputation of the labourers on the 22nd, amicable proposals were made and drafted but they ultimately fell through. The contagion has spread to men working in the tea warehouses. The carters' strike in Calcutta was a flea-bite in comparison.

THE heavy rains having ceased in England, seasonable weather has set in and the grain crops are hopeful.

The mail steamer *Peninsular* from Bombay ran ashore in the Bitter Lakes blocking the traffic of the Suez Canal. Next day it floated off and proceeded to Brindisi.

The English Postmaster-General Raikes has again expressed his inability to reduce the postage to India.

THE undemonstrative visit of the Austrian Emperor to Berlin has been politically very fruitful. The treaty of alliance between the two empires has been further strengthened. Formerly, an attack on the vital interests of either nation constituted a *casus federis*. Now a mere menace is enough. As we believe there is no definition of "menace," the wish will be father to the interpretation.

In reply to Mr. Labouchere, Sir James Fergusson has repeated the denial that during the German Emperor's visit, England promised to support the Triple Alliance against France and Russia in the event of war between the two latter Powers and the Powers forming the Alliance, and said that England was free to act in any eventuality. Mr. Smith has also denied that the British Government was hostile to the Republic, and gave assurances of perfect friendship between England and France.

THE pugilist Sullivan, for the prize fight with Kilrain, has been sentenced to one year's imprisonment. He has appealed and been admitted to bail. These proceedings mark a distinct advance in civilization. When the Bendigo Boy came to England to contest the Belt with Tom Sayer, all England received the thundering brute as a hero.

THE country, however, is just now passing through one of its epidemics of bloody crime.

At the end of last week the editor of a paper called the *Londoner* killed his wife and daughter, and then committed suicide at Stratford.

A mother and three children have been burnt to death in their house at Exmouth; and at Bromley a woman has been outraged and murdered, and her body mutilated.

The petition signed by 91 Members of Parliament for the reprieve of Mrs. Maybrick, capitally sentenced for poisoning her husband, has been successful. The sentence has been commuted to penal servitude for life.

Mr. Stuart Cumberland has described the Whitechappel murderer he saw in his dream. He thinks that the man will be caught but not before he has completed his career of crime by another and ninth murder. We do not understand the *rationale* of his information, though we could understand his seeing the vision of the murderer. Thought-reading is apparently developing into pure prophecy.

LATER information is that Ram Singh has not been removed from the Cashmere Council, but has only lost the presidentship. The latest *communiqué* is to the effect that he has now renounced his opposition and is believed to be working cordially with Amar Singh. We suppose if he becomes a good boy he will regain his lost nominal lead.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY'S tour in Behar was hard work. He inspected as much of the affected districts as was not inaccessible on account of the floods. He was at Bankipore from the 16th to 20th July, in Mozufferpore from the 20th to 23rd, 25th to 29th July and the 2nd to 7th August, in Chumparun from 23rd to 25th July, and in the Durbhunga district from 29th July to 2nd August. He made all possible enquiries from District Officers, District Engineers, indigo planters, as also from native gentlemen who could give necessary information regarding the districts.

THE Divisional Commissioner's report of the fortnight ending in 31st July, shews that the floods have prolonged the scarcity and sufferings in Mozufferpore. The Boor Gunduk had risen above its highest recorded level, and the long Turki embankment south of the Bagmutti had been breached, and these floods combined much injured the crops in the centre of the district. In the Sitamurhi division, several hill streams had overflowed and prevented communication for a time in the interior. The area of the inundation is not given. It is estimated, however, that the bhadoi crops which proved to be promising will not yield more than 10 annas in the Mozufferpore thana, 11 in Kutra, 13 in Paru, or an average of 11 annas in the Sudder sub-division, 13 in the Sitamurhi thana, 15 in Sheohur, 10 in Poopree, or an average of 13 annas in the Sitamurhi sub-division. On the high lands the crops are hopeful. The relief works were practically closed by the 12th July. There is difficulty in procuring laborers on the Durbhunga-Sitamurhi-Bairagnia extension of the Tirhoot State Railway. On the other hand, the candidates for gratuitous relief continue to increase. Uncooked food is given at 13 centres to 2,609 persons, and cooked at 3 to nearly 500, the Zemindars having taken charge of some 2,765. The Lieutenant-Governor has ordered liberal grants for agricultural loans and gratuitous relief, Rs. 15,000 and Rs. 5,000, being allotted for the purposes.

Durbhunga has ceased to cause anxiety. The rivers Daus and Kumla indeed overflowed their banks covering a great tract, but the inundation subsided in 3 or 4 days without any great damage, only some of the bhadoi crops in the low lands being washed away.

In the Madhubani sub-division, in Soorsund and Parihar, the distress had been severe and the floods heavy. The Lieutenant-Governor could not visit these, but the reports were cheering. There was little damage by the inundation and the bhadoi prospects are good. The relief operations must, however, be continued for some time.

In Chumparun, the floods have been serious. In the Bettiah sub-division, the Gunduk rose higher than in the last six years.

RELIEF works were opened in the Parihar, Jalai, Alapur, Naridigur and Rohilla circles. Up to the 25th July, Rs. 62,424 were expended; Rs. 81,157 advanced for the purchase of seed-grain; and Rs. 5,083 given in charitable relief. During the last half of July, at Parihar alone, on an average 800 persons—chiefly women and children—received gratuitous relief. The Maharaja of Durbhunga, as befits his position, has distinguished himself by his substantial cooperation in relieving human suffering.

THE Lieutenant-Governor was not unmindful of the claims of Orissa. Unable himself to visit the distressed tracts there, he deputed his Chief Secretary, for more thorough operations for present relief and provisions against future dangers than those done by the officers on the spot. In a resolution "the Lieutenant-Governor desires to acknowledge the services rendered by Sir John Edgar on his deputation, and the thoroughness of the proposed measures of relief which he has recommended."

THE Hon. Mr. J. W. Quinton, Junior Member of the Board of Revenue, N.-W. P., and Additional Member of the Supreme Legislative Council, succeeds Mr. Westland as Chief Commissioner of Assam. He is at present on leave and returns in October next. Mr. Quinton is a worthy man, of character as well as ability.

MR. C. J. Lyall has assumed charge of the Home Department as Secretary. Mr. A. P. MacDonnell is on his way to Burma to be installed there as Chief Commissioner. A brother of the well-known Irish patriot and Parliamentarian of that ilk, Mr. A. P. MacDonnell has all the ability and culture of his family. He is a brilliant penman and had proved himself a valuable adviser to the Government of India. He will of course carry out the views of that Government in Burma.

THE Thakore of Bhownugger has surpassed himself. He has increased his donation of Rs. 30,000 for an Endowment Fund for the training and maintenance of nurses at a Bombay hospital to a full lac. The gift is coupled with the request that the endowment may be called "The Lady Reay Fund for Nurses" by way of a permanent memorial of his "appreciation of the unremitting efforts of her Ladyship to promote the improvement in India of hospital arrangements in connection with the nursing of patients both male and female," his high esteem for their Excellencies Lord and Lady Reay, and his grateful remembrance of the kindness received by himself at his Lordship's hands. This is a splendid benefaction, worthy of a Prince, worthy of the liberality of the Western Presidency, worthy of the popularity of the present local administration, and worthy of the Reays and the Dufferins.

CALCUTTA had not yet done with the *Pioneer* case before news came from Madras of an approaching *cause celebre* in the South. Mr. Eardley Norton has been put in Court by Colonel Moore. At a recent meeting of the Municipal Commissioners of Madras, that redoubtable gentleman moved a vote of censure on the President for improper relations with the sewage farm contractor. That motion was narrowly lost by the votes of the Vice-Presidents. Hence the result scarcely relieved the gallant civic dignitary, the more so as Mr. Norton and his friends still harped suspicion. There was only one way of setting this at rest, and an appeal to the law was talked of. The valiant son of Bruce was not to be silenced by a threat. He announced his resolve not to let the scandal drop. Writing to the *Madras Mail*, he says—

"That there has been carelessness of some sort, and loss to a certain extent, is now practically admitted on all hands. I should not desist. I should move for an enquiry, and I shall not be seduced from my plain duty by any attempts on the part of the President to terrify me by legal proceedings for libel."

The President like an honorable man has here anticipated the famous Congress orator. Before Mr. Norton has had time to execute his threat, Colonel Moore has made good his. He has filed a suit in the High Court for defamation against Mr. Norton, in which he claims Rs. 50,000 damages. The plaintiff has engaged Mr. Willie Grant. The defendant has retained four leading counsel.

THERE has been a petty quarrel at Bhagulpore over a cow, which a Mahomedan wanted to sacrifice on the late Bakrid and which the Hindus naturally wished to save if possible. A correspondent of the *Statesman* corrects the different accounts of the matter which have gone abroad with this narrative:—

"There was a certain cow belonging to one Chutter Jolar, of mohulla chowki. About a fortnight ago Chutter lodged a complaint before the Magistrate alleging that one Ghurreebulla, *monin* of Chumpanugger, had taken away from him the cow by force, for which he sought redress. The trying Deputy Magistrate, Baboo Bepin Behari Mookerjee, ordered a local inquiry through the police. During the enquiry the accused stated that he had purchased the animal from the complainant and that he wanted to sacrifice her on the day of *Bukr-ood*. The police, most probably apprehending a breach of the peace, took the cow into



their own custody and reported the case to be false. The Deputy Magistrate, on the report of the police, dismissed the complaint, and ordered the cow to be made over to the accused, requesting the Superintendent to guard against any resistance which might be made by the Hindoos. In the meantime a third person came in, and filed a regular suit in the Civil Court in respect of the same cow, alleging that she was hypothecated to him under a bond. This man moved the Moonsiff to issue an injunction and to attach the cow before judgment under a certain section of the Civil Procedure Code. The prayer was granted, and attachment issued in due course. The cow, being now a disputed property, is still in the custody of the police subject to the Moonsiff's order, awaiting the trial of the civil suit. The Moonsiff's order though justified in law, was resented by the Mahomedan mob of Chumpanugger, and they tried to have it set aside, but to no purpose. For this particular reason the Mussulmans might have attempted to create a disturbance, but they were properly curbed by our good Magistrate, Mr. Wace, and the festival passed off as quietly as usual."

It is lucky that Mr. Wace attended to the matter with promptitude and prudent firmness. These rows have an aptitude for spreading. It is easy to undervalue successful measures of the kind, but candid men of experience know better, and we should fail in candour if we did not acknowledge such service.

THERE has been a sensation in Benares over a cross—very cross—local litigation. The end is reported thus in the *Morning Post* :—

"The cases against the bania of Orderly Bazaar of Sicrole have just terminated. It will be remembered that an account of the circumstances under which Mrs. Rostan charged the accused under sections 448 (criminal trespass), 504 (using abusive language), and 506 (criminal intimidation) have already been published. The accused produced evidence to show that he went to Mrs. Rostan's house and in a peaceful manner demanded payment of his dues, but the husband of the prosecutrix, who was informed that civil proceedings would be taken if the debt was not paid off, grew angry and destroyed some vouchers which were valueless as the debts represented in them had been already acknowledged in a bond which Mr. Rostan has given, and in which he had made a part-payment of Rs. 25. Mr. Taylor, the Joint-Magistrate, convicted the accused, and ordered him to be rigorously imprisoned for one month, and to pay a fine of Rs. 25, or in default to a further imprisonment of one month. Along with this case, Mr. Nicholson, one of the witnesses, who appeared in Mrs. Rostan's case, also prosecuted the bania for assaulting him on the public roads on the night of the 15th July, 1889, because Mr. Nicholson gave evidence for Mrs. Rostan and against him. The accused produced two witnesses, who commenced with saying that they knew nothing of the matter, and then went on to say that no assault had been committed within a month in the locality in question. At the conclusion of the case for the defence, the Court ordered the accused to undergo three months' rigorous imprisonment."

This Bania may not be an amiable person. These small usurers, whose usury is very far from small, who finance for the poorer Europeans and Eurasians, are not a savoury lot, but they are nonetheless entitled to justice, and we are afraid this poor Bania has not got it. Not having any special knowledge of the cases, all we can say is that there is *vraisemblance* in his account. We know how these things are done. We have heard of the man who commits a nuisance on the highway and frowns on approaching passengers. A lady is often a difficulty in the way of justice in England itself. Even a Eurasian matron may be a thorn in India.

There was nothing strange in the behaviour of the Bania's witnesses in defence against Nicholson's accusation. The insinuation against them is gratuitous. They knew nothing about the matter, and there had been no assault in their neighbourhood within a month. As they were not witnesses to an *alibi*, they could not in any other way have proved a negative.

THE Deccan papers report the death of Nawab Tahnet Yarud-Dowlah, at nearly 90 years of age. He was a venerable and respected city noble. He had long since retired from active life, but he was a well-known personage, though of modest proportions, in the history of Hyderabad during a long series of years, many decades before. As the vakeel or intermediary between the Nizam and the Prime Minister, he had been useful. He had served under three successive Nizams, and remembered Sikunder Jah himself. He was hale and hearty to the last day of his life, and died counting his beads and reciting part of the Koran.

He has left two sons, of whom the eldest Nawab Mahboob Yar-ud-Dowlah, Mustkham Jung, succeeds him, the other is Nawab Budrud-Dowlah, Ekram Jung, lately deputed by the Nizam to meet and welcome the new Resident at Gulburgah. The young Nizam is said to have had a great regard for the old Nawab, and will doubtless extend his protection to the deceased's sons.

IN our last issue we alluded to a widespread rumour that Dr. Hoernle, the Principal of the Calcutta Medresseh, intended to curtail the usual number of holidays allowed in that institution during the approaching Mohurram festival. Since then we are informed, that the rumour had arisen from the fact of the Doctor having notified that the Medresseh would be closed for 9 days from the 29th instant to the 6th proximo. As a result of this arrangement, the institution would have most probably remained open on the last day of the festival. This was what the Mahomedan community had been alarmed at, as well they might, considering the importance of the last day.

Some of the leading members of the Mahomedan society had addressed the Principal on the subject of the Buckreed holidays, but they discovered the German Domini Sampson is far from an Angelic Doctor for temper, and got very like a snub for their pains. Our correspondent "Arabi Pasha" in his last week's letter had, in drawing his portrait, probably this rout in mind too, besides the scenes at the Asiatic Society.

The clamour and dissatisfaction increasing amongst the Mahomedans with reference to the Mohurram, the Mahomedan Literary Society of Calcutta addressed the Principal on the subject, and pointed out to him the grave hardship which would be felt by the students, if the College was not closed as had always been the case, for the full term of 10 days. We are glad to learn that the Principal has, after all, listened to reason, and issued an order that the College will be closed for 10 days instead of 9. This is a happy termination of an unpleasant affair, and we congratulate all parties on it. We hope there will be no similar indiscreet exercise of authority.

A PROBLEM in gubernatorial casuistry seems to be "exercising" certain minds in high latitudes. The question has been raised whether "monies obtained by receivers of stolen property ought to be regarded as income and taxed accordingly." Why not? The Act is all-grasping and ruthless. Fiscal legislation indeed has no discrimination and knows no distinction. There are practical difficulties in the way, too. How many would escape all taxation if exemption were allowed to incomes derived from exercise of immorality and bad conscience! Where is the line to be drawn?

It is something, at any rate, to find a Government troubled with a case of conscience. So, then, though a corporation may not have a body to be kicked, it may have a soul to be damned.

A GREAT man has fallen. Tantia's occupation is gone. The Robin Hood of Central India, who had for years kept that part of the country under constant anxiety and fear and eluded the pursuit of the Police of all the States, British and native, is now a prisoner, awaiting disposal at the hands of the enemy. Not in fair field has he been reduced—not to lawful pursuit has he yielded. He has not succumbed to any honorable or normal enterprise. He has slipped his foot into no trap of any one's contriving. He has simply fallen victim of a villainy. Captive dacoit as he is, he has by the manner of his capture been almost ennobled. He shines in his fall with a glory thrust upon him by the agents and representatives of Church and State, Order and Civilization. As between the captor and captive, the latter is certainly the more respectable of the two. Like his greater namesake, Tantia was betrayed—by a brother Bhil, at whose house he had taken shelter. This wretch informed Resaldar-Major Ishri Pershad of the Holkar's Service, who went and caught the unsuspecting guest.

But Tantia was a robber! What are your greatest heroes? or all but a mere handful? Notwithstanding all the advance in civilization, the rebuke of the Thracian Dacoit to Alexander the great applies to the modern hero as well as to the ancient. The meaning of the word has in our century been widened no doubt, in order, doubtless, to reconcile modern sentiment to it by the inclusion of really respectable characters who might not be men of blood and iron, but the author of the departure retained much of the old prejudice in favour of the old ogres. His model hero was almost as bad as any of past times, and a cynic into the bargain. Thus he is reported to have said—*If I had the millions war would cost, I would not care a straw for treaties*, or words to that amiable effect. The "robber" is despised virtually for carrying his depredations on a small scale.

Tantia the Second also is inferior to Tantia the First in the limitation of his sphere and his means and operatives. The genius of the two was similar, and there was a strong similarity in their fortunes—their career as in their fall.

BABOO PRANKRISTO CHOWDRY, the ex-Mayor of Chandernagore, has been decorated with the Palm Leaf of the French Republic. We congratulate his Government as well as the native recipient of the distinction. Although late, the honor has fallen on the really deserving. We speak advisedly and not without the book when we say that France could not, through all her Indian possessions, discover a worthier man or it. Baboo Prankristo and his ancestors have been always attached to the French and have done right knightly service to them. His family stuck to their old masters and would not be won over to the English before the fall of Chandernagore, in the previous century. They suffered in consequence. Baboo Chowdry himself has been a prominent citizen. A thorough man of business, his mayoralty was a brilliant chapter in the history of local self-government, to speak nothing of the great success of a native administration. The "Governor" (*Chef de Service*) of Chandernagore, Mons. Clement Thomas, before leaving in 1886, thanked the Baboo "for the valuable concurrence I have always met from you." He thus testifies to his labors in the municipality. "Since you have been at the head of the municipality, the public affairs have taken a new aspect." He goes on to say

"You have in the interest of the population taken into hand one series of reforms and ameliorations which will not be slow to bear their fruits.

You have knowledge to win the general affection and esteem by your intelligence of affairs as well as by your elevated character and by your constant care to be useful to your fellow citizens."

"I wish that the inhabitants of Chandernagore should be able to keep for a long time at the head of the 1st Magistrature of the city one who has knowledge to show so worthy of the confidence that his fellow citizens have placed him."

His services as Mayor were recognized at home. The Minister of Marine—the equivalent of the Principal Secretary for the Colonies in England—sent him a Temoignage official de satisfaction, dated 30th October 1885, for his zeal and devotedness during the heavy rains and inundations at Chandernagore in that year. It would take up too much space to recount all the acts of public usefulness of Baboo Prankristo Chowdry. For intelligent well-doing and modest public spirit, his match is not commonly met with, either in French India or British. We feel confident that higher honors await him.

THE "Pioneer" defamation case had an unexpected ending in the Sessions Court yesterday. Mr. Justice Norris held there was nothing to connect Mr. Chesney with the publication of the paper in Calcutta. He directed the Jury as a matter of law to return a verdict of not guilty, which done, Mr. Chesney was discharged. We have no space this week for the eloquent address of Mr. Phillips who with Mr. Handerson appeared to prosecute. Messrs. Gasper and Garth were Counsel for the defence. We reproduce from the *Statesman* the evidence recorded in the case and what followed.

#### "EVIDENCE OF PUBLICATION IN CALCUTTA"

Thomas Arratoon Nelson, sworn and examined by Mr. Henderson:—I am Sheriff's officer of the High Court, (shows a paper). I read that newspaper. I read the article marked about the beginning of January. That was in Calcutta. I got the loan of the paper in which I read the article from a friend of mine. Looking at that article I can say it is the identical articles. I don't know where the identical copy of the paper I read.

Cross-examined by Mr. Gasper:—I was not examined before the Chief Presidency Magistrate. I read this paper in the High Court, Calcutta. Since then I have not seen that article. I read it only once, as I read a daily paper.

The prosecution next called—

Charles Stamford Nyss, sworn, and examined by Mr. Henderson:—I am an Assistant in Messrs. Newman and Co., Booksellers and Publishers in Calcutta. I have seen Captain Hearsey. I remember his coming to Messrs. Newman's shop. I sold him two newspapers. That is now about two months ago. These newspapers were sold in the ordinary course of business. I do not know how they are received into the office. Messrs. Newman and Co. are in the habit of selling the *Pioneer* newspaper. That is in the ordinary course of their business. Messrs. Newman and Co. receive three copies of the *Pioneer* every day. They are kept for sale by Messrs. Newman and Co. They come in a parcel at both ends open. They come by post in the ordinary way that newspapers are folded up. They remain in the shop till they are sold. It is open only to the assistants to open the *Pioneer*. I do not remember whether the two papers bore the same date.

Cross-examined by Mr. Gasper:—I don't know how the paper arrives at Messrs. Newman and Co. They had wrapper round them.

#### THE CONTRETEMPS: DISCHARGE OF THE ACCUSED.

At this stage occurred the contretemps, which took almost everything in Court with surprise, with the exception perhaps, of a few, who having closely watched the cross-examination of the accused, had an inkling of what was to come.

Mr. Phillips (after consultation with Mr. Henderson) said:—On consideration, my lord, I think I ought to call the prosecutor in order to show that he is the person referred to.

The Judge.—I express no opinion. Captain Hearsey wearing a medal on his breast then walked into the witness-box, when—

The Judge (addressing Mr. Phillips) said before this case goes any further I wish to ask if that is all the evidence of publication.

Mr. Phillips.—Except what Captain Hearsey will say with regard to himself.

The Judge.—Except for that, is that all the evidence?

Mr. Phillips.—Except for that, that is all the evidence of publication. That is all the evidence we have been able to get.

The Judge.—Then what is there to connect Mr. Chesney with the publication in Calcutta.

Mr. Phillips:—The fact of the paper issuing under the authority of Mr. Chesney.

The Judge:—I am clearly of opinion that the simple fact of his being the Editor is not sufficient to charge him with the publication in Calcutta. I have no hesitation about it. I must act on my own knowledge of newspaper business. It is no part of an Editor's business to see to the distribution and sale of the newspaper. That is the publisher's or proprietor's business. If you can show that Mr. Chesney was aware of the despatch of these newspapers to Calcutta, to Messrs. Newman & Co., it would be evidence of publication, but if you cannot carry it any further, in my judgment, there is no evidence of publication.

A pause occurred here during which expectation was greatly roused. Here was a hitch which greatly threatened to terminate the case, just at the moment it would have proved most interesting.

Mr. Phillips:—Do you not think that it is part of the Editor's business to prepare and sanction for publication all the issues of the newspaper?

The Judge:—It may be in Allahabad.

Mr. Phillips:—I am only speaking of preparing and sanctioning for publication.

The Judge:—Using the word publication in the sense of insertion in the paper.

Mr. Phillips:—Just so.

The Judge:—That may be—

Mr. Phillips:—And with a view to their ultimately going beyond the place where the paper is published?

The Judge:—Now, I don't think that is any part of his duty.

Mr. Phillips:—With a view I did not say it was his duty to see that it goes out of the office. But it is issued with his knowledge that in the ordinary course of business, the papers will circulate among the subscribers and the general public. That is one of those irresistible inferences. It is almost impossible to bring the case home otherwise. Otherwise it would really amount to the Editor evading his responsibility for anything that he may not himself have written. We are perfectly well aware that the Editor does not personally concern himself with anything that relates to the publication.

The Judge:—I cannot follow you, Mr. Phillips. I think you must give some further evidence to connect the defendant with the publication of this paper in Calcutta. I am sure you can easily understand that the matter has caused me considerable— I won't say anxiety—but I have a very considerable amount of trouble from the beginning of this case to satisfy myself upon every point that I thought could be raised by the prosecution or the defence. I think I have reason for the faith that is in me with regard to every point that can be raised. If you are not prepared to go any further, I shall direct the jury as a matter of law that—there is no proof of publication in Calcutta.

Mr. Phillips:—We are not in a position at the present moment to carry the case any further.

The Judge (to the Jury): Gentlemen of the Jury.—I direct you as a matter of law that there is no evidence of publication of the defendant's newspaper in Calcutta, and I ask you to say that he is not guilty.

(Judge to the public.)—If there is any demonstration, or anything of that sort or kind, I shall have the court cleared at once. Let there be no demonstration of any sort or kind.

The Jury then returned their verdict accordingly, and—

The Judge said:—Gentlemen of the special jury you are now discharged. I thank you and your attendance.

The Court then speedily cleared, and the rest of the cases were proceeded with. So ended what nearly every one expected would prove a memorable trial.

Everybody was astonished at the explosion with which the learned Judge dispersed bar and jury, prisoner and plaintiff to the right about. Mr. Chesney himself could hardly believe it was meant seriously.

As we were going to press, we received a paragraph of Domestic Occurrence, for which we make room below. We have much pleasure in congratulating both families and the young gentlemen and young ladies chiefly interested, on the doubly interesting news and both nuptial occurrences. The families are well matched and the couples, we hope, well mated. We wish them joy. Though there is no wedding-cake, no dinner of friends with bridegroom and bride, and no toasting, nor even a honey-moon, as there was no courtship or anything at all like it, there may be ample compensation in substantial felicity. We wish each couple a long and happy married life.

The bridal party proceeded to Nattore by the Mail train yesterday afternoon, and are expected back by the Down Mail which reaches Scaldah to-morrow at 11 A.M.

#### DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE.

##### MAHOMEDAN MARRIAGE IN HIGH LIFE.

At Nattore, District of Rajshahye, at the Family Seat of the Khan Sahibs, on the night of the 23rd August, 1889, were married, according to the rites and ceremonies of Islam, Mr. A. F. M. Abdur Rahman (Barrister-at-Law) and Moulvie A. K. M. Abdus Subhan, Khan Bahadur, Deputy Magistrate of Patna, the two eldest sons of Nawab Abdool Luteef Bahadur, to the third and fourth daughters of the late Chowdhry Mahomed Rusheed Khan, Khan Bahadur, Zemindar.

## REIS &amp; RAYYET.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1889.

## DEWAN HET RAM ON BURMA.

I HAVE had lying by me, for sometime, a small pamphlet, entitled "Burma visited by P. Het Ram, C.I.E., Dewan of Rewa."

This gentleman manages the affairs of the state of Rewa, and has done so for a considerable time, during the present minority of the chief. In the month of March last, the Dewan visited Burma, and after residing 14 days there returned to India. For the benefit of his countrymen no doubt, he has fallen in with what is apparently considered the right thing to do, namely, to convey the impressions of your visit, through the press, by book or pamphlet. The latter form the Dewan has chosen to record his observations and impressions. The chief interest attaching to the pamphlet lies in its having been written by an Orthodox Hindoo. As such, of course, it has nothing in common with the ambitious literary efforts that have preceded it from time to time, not unoften influenced by a desire to be distasteful. On the contrary, looking at things as the Dewan must have been made to look at, through official glasses, all here is, as doubtless all did for the time appear to him perfectly clothed *colour de rose*. The Dewan's observations convey to us at any rate the novelty with which he was struck by the strangeness of the Burmese and their habits. He does not favor the Bengali opinion which has stood up for the cause of Theebaw. At the same time, he does not classify the people of the country as a band of dacoits. In fact, the free and easy style of the Burman seems to have amused him considerably. One feature in particular is the privilege the female sex enjoys. The familiarity of the sexes does not seem to have shocked the modest Hindoo feelings of the Dewan, but must have highly tickled his fancy, as he assures his countrymen that Burma is a fertile field to secure a wife, the Burmese girls are pretty and attractive. Not only does the Dewan believe in the fertility of Burma as a matrimonial field, but also a fertile field for labor. The cultivator and colonist of Hindoostan he exhorts to take advantage of the easy terms of land offered there. There is one great drawback, however. The Dewan omits to impress upon his countrymen he would counsel to emigrate, whether with the object of forming a matrimonial alliance or that of entering upon land cultivation, that they must take capital with them, without which they will starve. That the Burmese female makes a good wife is undeniable. I know instances of Europeans whose fortunes were built up by Burmese females. Among Mahomedans there are many such instances. The Burmese females I should say are the most industrious of all Asiatics of their sex, and, as the Dewan says, docile and submissive to a degree. For sometime, one or two elaborate schemes of emigration have been encouraged by Government, that of the greatest importance being supported by the chief of Dumraon. There must be some substantial action more than writing on the subject to recommend any plan. It is advisable individual emigrants wait the result of the Behar operation, if it ever gets any further than mere talk, of which I have grave doubts. The Dewan's assurance of the perfect quiet prevailing in Upper and Lower Burma, if estimated at its true value, is not worth much from the fact that he did not venture himself into the interior two miles

from the banks of the Irrawaddy. I do not imply that the Dewan has misrepresented the state of things he himself was eyewitness of, but his visit was so limited to time probably, that he could not venture beyond reach of any part of Burma that was never actually in a disturbed condition. What the Dewan describes as having actually seen himself is fairly enough put before his Indian brethren. But I cannot lend myself to endorse his assertions against Theebaw and the state of his territory, which last he likens to the condition of India before the introduction of British rule, when tyranny, rapacity and confusion reigned supreme. Had the Government of India when administered by Lord Ripon acted with greater firmness, things would never have come to that chaotic state which necessitated the interference of Lord Dufferin in 1885. With one or two exceptions, the whole press of India, native or English, have severely condemned Lord Dufferin's annexation of Upper Burma. Lord Ripon permitted Burma to drift into a perfect state of chaos, whether purposely or not is not for me to say at present. I know the difficulties Lord Dufferin had to contend with, all of which if handled by a firm administrator years before would have avoided the consummation of the act Lord Dufferin has so unjustly been censured for.

ZITO.

## THE PRODIGAL RETURNED.

NATIVE Calcutta has received a notable accession to its number in the return of a well-known individual. He is a Bengali and Baboo of course, but not of the genus classical, except by way of courtesy. Not but what he cares little for classicism, Oriental or English, Sanskrit or Hellenic. Why should he? he who would any day sell (whether you take the word as used in common parlance among the natives of England or in that among those of Bengal) in the nearest market any "lot" of representatives of European enlightenment or the country imitation. No "ovation" greeted this public character on his return, he was allowed to re-enter Black Town in quiet. But he will yet be revenged for the neglect, and doubtless secure his due honours before long. He is a political practitioner of medicine and the auxiliary sciences (such as chemistry) and other arts on those on whom he has a chance of trying his proficiency. This extraordinary medical man was the favorite Physician in Ordinary to the late Raja Haris Chunder, a typical landlord of Mymensing who, for convenience and pleasure, had domiciled himself at Calcutta, where he had taken a house in a far from reputable quarter and lived in congenial society. Among other peculiar traits, the Raja had a great disinclination to pay his dues without legal compulsion or threat. This disposition, though it might be agreeable in its consequences, was not without its drawbacks. The Raja frequently received invitations from courts in town and country as a witness. For though Government had raised the Chowdry to a Raja, he had not been freed from the obligation of attendance at courts in *propria persona*. He had sought the coveted distinction of exemption under Section 641 of the Civil Procedure Code, but he was at once too little and too wellknown to induce Government to exercise in his favour the discretion vested in it under the law. His smart court Physician readily came to his rescue—for a consideration—a small reward of Rs. 5,000 or so. He produced a document purporting to be an order of exemption from attendance in any civil court by the then Lieutenant-Governor Sir Rivers Thompson and bearing the signature of his Private Secretary Mr. Barnes. The Raja was delighted so much so as to rally in the illness from which he was suffering, and which had been aggravated by the terror of being compelled to appear in court. Only one thing remained to fill his cup and presumably complete his recovery—the notification of the exemption in the official *Gazette*. He was told that it would come in due course soon. Instead, however, of the *Gazette* appearing, the believing Raja himself soon expired. As among the papers

of the historical Maharaja Nundcoomar, so among those of the late Raja, many suspicious documents were found. Besides the *sanad* of Sir Rivers Thompson, there were letters from Dr. Coates, who had been treating the Raja in his last illness, in which the eminent Brigade Surgeon assures his patient that he will exercise his influence to get him the object of his desire—the *sanad*. Of course, Dr. Coates had no more to do with the letters than Mr. Barnes had with the *sanad*. Accordingly, Baboo Gopal Chunder Dutt, Physician in Ordinary and what not besides at the Court of the late Raja Hurris Chunder, was brought under a guard of honour, told off for the purpose from Mr. Lambert's Force, before the Magistrate to answer to a charge of forgery. That authority, in consideration of the dignity of his guest, sent him, with all due honours and with a suitable escort, to Her Majesty's High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal to do him justice. There his answer did not prove satisfactory either. In accordance with his importance, he was sent for safe custody and proper exercise, not to say rigorous discipline, in the great castle at the Southernmost end of the plain before Fort William, for the space of six years. There he evaded the penalty of labor altogether, to say nothing of hard labour, by a convenient knack of falling into epileptic fits and was removed to the lunatic asylum. His disease was soon enough cured in that haven. The medical visitors naturally took pity on a plausible brother in distress and recommended his release, and so he managed to be at large at the end of little more than two years! It is of course the stupid convicts that under the blessed British system serve out their full term. Our hero has, of course, resumed his practice.

While he was attending Raja Hurris Chunder, he had insured his brother at two Insurance offices for Rs. 9,000 and Rs. 10,000 respectively. Luckily for him, the insured like a good accommodating brother, after the payment of the first premiums, suddenly died. There was some difficulty in burning the body, but the surviving medical brother produced a doctor's certificate and removed the scruples of the burning ghat people. The hero now preferred his claim against the Insurance companies. His trial and imprisonment prevented his prosecuting it. Now he is out, the Companies had better look out.

And so had Mr. Lambert too, and Government also. Above all, let society beware!

#### NARAIL.

August 19, 1889.

\*River Chitra, on whose banks our village is situated, was the scene of a tragical event the other day. Several people, who had accompanied a wedding party, were returning home at night, by a boat. As soon as the boat neared the shore, all the passengers crowded together on one side of it to get to the shore. The boat capsized with the whole of the crew. All, however, swam to the shore, and reached home unscathed, with a solitary exception. This was a poor old man, who expired on the shore.

#### THE CHUCKDIGHI LITIGATION.

[From p. 304.]

Written Statement of Lalit Mohun Roy, defendant No. 1.

The defendant Lalit Mohun Roy states as follows:—

1st.—That he is advised and believes that the plaintiffs have insufficiently stamped their plaint filed in this suit and that they were bound to pay *ad valorem* Court-fee on the value of property the subject-matter of such suit under Clause 1 of the first schedule of the Court-Fees Act 1870 and not under Clause 17, Sub-divisions 3 and 6 of the second schedule thereof as they have done.

2nd.—That this defendant is further advised and believes that the said plaint does not disclose any cause of action.

3rd.—That this defendant is further advised and believes that Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India in Council is a necessary party to this suit.

4th.—That this defendant is further advised and believes that regard being had to the provisions of Section 42 of the Specific Relief Act of 1877, the plaintiffs are not entitled to maintain this suit.

5th.—That on the death of Saroda Prosad Roy the testator in the plaint mentioned, his executors took and held possession of all his estate, movable and immovable, for and on behalf of this defendant as the absolute owner thereof, subject to such valid religious or charitable bequests as affect the same, and so continued to hold the same until the Court of Wards of Burdwan division on the day of day of took possession of the same on behalf of this defendant as the absolute owner thereof, and thenceforth the said Court held the same for and on behalf of this said defendant until on the attainment by him of his majority when the said Court made over the same to him, and thereafter this defendant himself held and enjoyed and still holds and enjoys the same as absolute owner, and this defendant submits that such possession was throughout adverse to all other persons whomsoever, and that by such possession, he has acquired an absolute right in the said estate by prescription even if such absolute right did not vest in him by the will of the said testator, and that the plaintiffs are not entitled to disturb such right.

6th.—That this defendant is further advised and believes that the plaintiffs' right of suit, if any, is barred by the law governing the limitation of suits.

7th.—That not waiving his objections to his suit hereinbefore set forth but relying and insisting thereon, this defendant believes that the statements contained in the first seven paragraphs of the said plaint are substantially correct, save that Beroda Debi in the said plaint also named predeceased the said testator and did not survive him, as is alleged in the said plaint, and that the said will and codicil thereto in the said plaint referred not only purport to be, but are the last will and testament of the said testator.

8th.—That with reference to the allegations contained in the eighth paragraph of the said plaint, this defendant denies that he is managing and holding the said estate in the sense alleged by the plaintiffs, and he asserts that, as is hereinbefore stated, he is in possession thereof as its absolute owner and is dealing with it as such subject to the said religious and charitable bequests contained in the said will and codicil.

9th.—That this defendant admits the statements contained in the ninth paragraph of the said plaint save that he asserts that he is now of the age of only 29 years or thereabouts.

10th.—That this defendant denies that, as is in the 10th and 11th paragraphs of the said plaint alleged, the plaintiffs became, on the death of Rajessury Debi, entitled to succeed to the said estate, or that they or either of them have or has substantial or any rights or interests thereto or therein or to or in any part thereof, or that the same or any part thereof is in any way vested in them or either of them.

11th.—That while submitting the true construction of the said will and codicil to the judgment of this Court, this defendant wholly repudiates the fanciful construction which the plaintiffs have sought to put thereon respectively in the eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth paragraphs of the said plaint, and he submits and humbly insists (1) that according to the true construction of the will and codicil, the said testator has conferred an absolute heritable and alienable interest in the said estate on this defendant as the absolute proprietor thereof, (2) that at all events the said testator has conferred such interest as aforesaid on this defendant defeasible only in the event of his dying without leaving male issue naturally begotten or adopted and that such defeasance was in favor of person other than the plaintiffs then and still in existence and capable of taking the same, and (3) that in any case regard being had to the ultimate gift in favor of the said Secretary of State in Council, the heirs of the said testator are effectually excluded from taking any right, title or interest to, or in, his said estate.

12th.—That this defendant admits the statements contained in the fourteenth paragraph of the said plaint save the allegation that the directions contained in the said will and codicil in respect of the religious and charitable institutions therein mentioned are not being carried out, which allegation is, as this defendant asserts, false, the fact being that all the bequests and directions contained in the said will for religious and charitable purposes have been and are, save only as respects the asylum of the poor therein directed to be built, fully and properly given effect to, and as to the said asylum, this defendant states that he has all along been anxious to build the same and had, in fact, collected materials and selected a suitable site therefor near the Hospital erected by the testator, but has hitherto been unable there to build the same owing to the improper refusal on the part of the plaintiffs to carry out the arrangement, which had been come to between them and himself with respect to the said site.

13th.—That this defendant lastly submits that the plaintiffs have no right to the said estate or to any part thereof, that even if they or either of them had any right, they are not entitled to any relief in respect thereof in this suit, and that it ought to be dismissed with costs.

Written Statement of Bipin Mohun Roy, defendant No. 2.

1. The plaintiffs' suit cannot be entertained according to law inasmuch as instead of paying stamp duty upon the value of the property under claim, they have brought the suit on a stamp of Rs. 10 only.

2. According to the allegation in the plaint, the plaintiffs have no cause of action.

3. The plaintiffs' suit is open to defect of party inasmuch as the Secretary of State for India in Council has not been made a party to this case.

4. The present suit of the plaintiffs is inadmissible under Sec. 42, Act I of 1877.

5. The plaintiffs' suit is barred by limitation.

6. The allegation in para 3 of the plaint that Biroda Debi was alive at the time of the death of the testator Sharoda Prosad Roy, is not true. As a matter of fact, Biroda Debi died in the life-time of Saroda Prosad Roy.

7. The allegations made by the plaintiffs in paras 10 and 11 of the plaint that on the demise of Rajessuri Debi, wife of the testator, substantive right accrued to the plaintiffs, and that excluding the valid gifts out of the legacies mentioned in the will, the plaintiffs' right of inheritance or any other right accrued to or devolved on the other portion of the said estate, and so forth, are not true. As a matter of fact, no substantive or any sort of right accrued to, or devolved on, the plaintiffs in respect of the said estate or any portion of it.

8. The will and codicil referred to by the plaintiffs in paras 11, 12 and 13 of the plaint are fabricated and not genuine. This defendant has no objection, rather he fully consents to the said will being truly construed by the Court.

9. This defendant is advised and believes that according to the true interpretation and construction of the said will, the plaintiffs or any heirs of the testator other than persons named in the will have no sort of right, concern or ownership. The provision contained in the will and codicil that in the absence of the persons, recipients of ownership, the estate would pass into the hands of Government, shews that the testator intends not to make the heirs legatees.

10. The plaintiffs' allegations that Lalit Mohun Roy defendant No. 1 or any other person named in the will was not vested with absolute right in the estate left by the testator and that with regard to heirship, provisions contrary to the Hindoo Law had been laid down, are not true. As a matter of fact, the right conferred by the will on Lalit Mohun Singh Roy defendant No. 1 is absolute right according to law, but in the absence of son, grandson, &c., born of loins or adopted, at the time of the death of Lalit Mohun, the said right would cease, the same absolute right would devolve on this defendant, who had been born in the life-time of the testator, and on the son, grandson, &c., born of the loins of, or adopted by, this defendant; and in the absence of this defendant and his son, grandson, &c., born of his loins or adopted by him, the said estate would devolve on the other persons named in the will—such right is perfectly legal.

11. The plaintiffs' allegation in para. 11 of the plaint that the charitable and religious legacies and the rules enjoined in the will are not being carried out, is not true. As a matter of fact, the directions contained in the will in respect of religion and gift are duly being carried out. Only the building, which was directed to be constructed for the residence of 50 helpless persons, has not still been completed. The defendant No. 1 has collected materials and selected a site for the construction of the said building. But as the plaintiffs have acted contrary to the arrangement made between them and the defendant No. 1 in respect of the said site, a bar has arisen with regard to the construction of the said house.

12. The plaintiffs have no manner of right to the estate of the late Saroda Prosad Roy or to any portion of it; and even if they had any right, the plaintiffs cannot reap any benefit of it in the present suit. It is, therefore, prayed that the plaintiffs' claim may be dismissed and costs awarded against them.

*Written Statement of Priambod Roy, defendant No. 3.*

1. The plaintiffs have no cause or right of action in this case.  
2. According to the allegation contained in para. 3 of the plaintiffs' plaint, the late Biroda Soondari Debi, mother of the defendant No. 3, was not alive at the time of the death of Saroda Prosad Roy.

3. According to the will and codicil of the deceased Saroda Prosad Roy mentioned in the plaint, no manner of right has accrued to the plaintiffs, as heirs, to the estate left by him or to any portion of it.

4. The construction put upon the said will or codicil on behalf of the plaintiffs is not correct. The said Saroda Prosad Roy laid down certain moral injunctions in the said will in order that after his demise, the legatees may not waste the said estate and that his own acts may remain alive.

5. The plaintiffs' indirect allegation that the defendants Nos. 3 and 4 have no absolute right to the properties granted to them by the said Saroda Prosad Roy under the said will and codicil, proceeds from misconception and is unfounded.

6. The grants made for religious and charitable purposes under the said will are valid according to law.

7. The directions laid down at the latter end of para 4 of the said will in favor of this defendant and his successors are valid according to law.

8. The duties are being discharged according to the purport of para. 4 of the said will, and as Rs. 25,000 mentioned therein was

not paid to this defendant, he brought a suit against the defendant No. 1 in the year 1889 in the Court of the Subordinate Judge of the district of Burdwan, and it is still pending.

9. Two sons of the plaintiff No. 1 have been married to the two daughters of the defendant No. 1. From the circumstances and probabilities of the case it seems that they have, by mutual collusion, instituted this suit. Therefore, the written statement is filed and the defendant prays that he may be exonerated from the unjust suit of the plaintiffs and costs awarded.

*Will executed by Sarada Prashad Ray, dated the 2nd Asoin 1272.*

I, Sarada Prashad Ray, son of the late Ambika Prashad Ray, and grandson of the late Bhairab Singh Ray, of Sura Chakdighi, division Selimabad, chowki Selimabad at Memari, pergunnah Havelli, District East Burdwan, do hereby execute this will to the effect following:—

I am in a perfectly sound state of body, and am not afflicted with any disease, which may cause any apprehension regarding my existence. But life is transitory, and there is no knowing as what may befall it and when. I have got no son nor daughter born to me up to this time. Whereas it is highly necessary for me to make some particular provisions for the purpose of temporal and spiritual beatitude, so that everything may be done peacefully after my death in accordance with such provisions, that the members of my family may not suffer any inconvenience, and that no representative may, in future, waste away the property, &c. at pleasure, extinguish the family name and prestige, or prove troublesome to the family, I do by this will make the following provisions, in a calm state of the mind and with a sincere heart, in respect of all properties held by me in Districts Burdwan, Hooghly, &c., ancestral or self-acquired, movable or immovable, standing in my own name or ostensibly in the name of others, rent-paying or rent-free, as also revenue-paying zemindari, putni, dur-putni, se-putni or mokrori, &c. taluks; khiraji (rent-paying) or lakhiraj (rent-free), resumed lakhiraj, and gardens and tanks, houses and buildings, and personal properties, Company's papers (Government Promissory Notes), trading business, Jewellery, Shawls and Rumals, &c.,—whatever estate movable or immovable I have and of which I am the absolute owner and of which I hold exclusive possession no body else having any connection or concern therewith, or right or interest therein; inasmuch as I do not live joint and undivided with any of my agnate or other relatives and as I have separated long ago in mess and house from the descendants of my great-grand-father, have got the properties, movable and immovable, of my share duly partitioned leaving no concern with anybody—in short, in respect of all properties movable or immovable mentioned below, that are now held by me or that may be acquired hereafter. And all acts shall be performed in accordance with those provisions, and nobody shall ever be competent to contravene the same, and whatever may be done in violation thereof shall be inadmissible in every way.

1. That there are at Chakdighi one Shiva Thakur established by my grandfather, and one Shiva Thakur established by my mother, and I have, in accordance with the letter of the late Hon'ble Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, No. 1499 and dated the 29th August 1859, sanctioning my request, founded a dispensary at Chakdighi at my own expense and under the supervision of the Government. Besides these, I have, moreover, resolved to found an institution capable of entertaining 50 men always, from my own village, adjacent villages and from abroad, with food and clothing for life, who by reason of their being maimed in body, crooked, lame, blind and incapable of moving about are incapable of earning their own livelihood by bodily labor, the lepers only being excluded. In order, therefore, for the convenient and satisfactory performance of the services of the said deities, for the maintenance of the Dispensary and of the aforesaid 50 men, who are incapable of helping themselves and for the performance of my mother and father's *sradhs* and other rites and ceremonies, daily and periodical, I endow my putni taluk lot dihi Baghnan, lot Para Baghnan and lot Gangeshnagar in Zillah Hughli and lot Netrakhandia and lot Chuk Bhurah in Zillah Burdwan, and make a separate list of the amounts to be expended on these several accounts. According to that list, the profits of the aforesaid putni taluks amounting to Rupees 9,996-2 annas-10gds. shall be applied for ever in performing the services of the deities, *sradhs* of my father and mother, and the daily and periodical ceremonies, in paying the salary of the medical man attached to the Dispensary and of the karpardaz; in purchasing country medicines required in addition to English medicines, generously supplied by Government and in defraying the expenses for maintaining the in-door patient or patients of the hospital until their recovery and supplying medicines to the out-door patients treated at the Dispensary until their recovery; and in repairing the Dispensary-house from time to time, when necessary. In like manner, the aforesaid 50 men, who are incapable of earning their livelihood, shall be located in a separate place, that is, in the house to be erected by me for their accommodation and shall get food and clothing when necessary, through life. Should any of them die or be removed, other such person or persons shall be admitted in the place



of the persons, so dying or removed, subject to the discretion of the malik or owner for the time being. For the accommodation of these helpless persons, a pucca house shall be erected from the income of my estate at Chakdighi. The properties, out of the income of which the expenses of the services of the deities and of the dispensary were hitherto defrayed, being thought inadequate for the proper maintenance of those institutions, I endow them as well as other taluks for the purpose, taking away detached pieces of lands, hitherto set apart for the purpose. The profits of those taluks shall be permanently applied in the above ways, and nobody shall be competent to dispose of those taluks by gift or sale or to place them under mortgage, nor shall they be liable to sale for the debts of anybody; and if they be sold at all, such sale shall not stand good and valid. The profits of those properties, which are hereby endowed, shall not be applied or used for any purpose other than those mentioned above. If for any reason, the profits of the said properties be diminished or if, for some accidental cause, all those mehals or any one of them should pass into other hands, the amount so assigned shall for ever be paid out of the interest of the Company's Papers belonging to my estate.

2. That I reserve to myself the power of management of the taluks, which I have endowed for the purposes alluded to in the 1st para., namely, the performance of the *dev-sheva*, the entertaining of *atitbis* (itinerant guests), the performance of my father and mother's *sraddhs* and other daily and periodical ceremonies, maintenance of helpless persons and the defraying of the expenses of the Dispensary and other institutions, and that after my death my representatives shall have the same power also.

3. That with the exception of the putni taluks, endowed as stated in para. 1 above, the undermentioned zemindary, kherajee, lakheraj and other immovable properties, yielding a profit of Rs. 50,193-8 annas, 2 pie a year and Company's Papers of the value of Rs. 2,40,000 only fetching an interest of Rs. 11,100 only a year, both amounting to Rs. 61,293-8 annas 2 pie, shall be considered as composing my estate, unless I dispose of the same by sale or gift during my life-time.

4. That should, by the grace of God, I be blessed with one or more sons, such son or sons shall be the owner or owners of my estate after my death, and he or they shall have the charge of looking after the *dev-sheva*, the dispensary, the helpless persons getting their daily bread, as well as other affairs. Such portion of the income of the estate, as shall be left after paying the monthly allowances, &c., according to the provisions of this will, shall be spent for necessary purposes, subject to the consent of their heirs. If, however, instead of any male child, one or more daughter or daughters should be born to me, such daughters shall become the owners of my estate down to their sons, son's sons and so on, in succession, and shall be vested with the power of looking after, and shall look after, the performance of the *dev-sheva*, and the maintenance of the Dispensary and of the helpless persons, &c. In the event of not my being blessed with any children, that is, any son, son's son and son's son's son, or any daughter and daughter's son, or in the event of their not being alive at the time of my death, then my nephew, Lalit Mohun Singha Roy, the eldest son born of the womb of my third sister Kheroda, whom I have loved as my own son since his birth and who by constantly living with me has pleased me by his good conduct and moral training and who has been brought up by me, shall, on my death, become my representative and the owner of my estate and properties, &c., and being invested with the power of looking after the *dev-sheva*, the Dispensary and the daily fed helpless persons, he shall as my representative reside in my ancestral dwelling-house at Sura Chakdikhi and enjoy the profits of my estate down to his sons and grandsons and so on in succession by preserving the said estate. The said nephew is still under age; and if I die during his nonage, my wife Srimati Rajessury Debi and my cousin's (*i. e.*, father's sister's son's) son named Jogendra Nath Roy of Maniram Bati shall become the guardians and executors of the minor and manage all the affairs according to the provisions of this will, until he comes of age. When the minor shall come of age, he shall exercise the proprietary right in respect of all the estate. Should he die without any male issue, his widow shall get an allowance of Rs. 100 per month for life; should he die leaving a daughter or daughters behind him, such daughter or daughters shall have their own expenses and the expenses of their marriage from my estate. Should there be no son, grandson nor great-grandson of my nephew, then the eldest of the sons of my sisters Birada and Kheroda, excepting the one who is born of the womb of Kheroda and is insane and therefore excluded from inheritance, shall have the power of holding the management of my estate and properties, &c., and he shall become the owner of my estate down to his sons and son's sons and so on in succession and look after the Dispensary, the *dev-sheva* and the daily fed persons as well as all other affairs and enjoy the profits by preserving the estate and draw and receive interest on Company's Papers and renew them and do other things in connection with them, when necessary.

5. That in the event of my male children or daughters getting my estate, my nephew the said Sriman Lalit Mohun Roy shall receive from my estate an annual allowance of Rs. 10,000 only down

to his sons, son's sons and so on in succession and get a separate dwelling-house built at Chakdighi at an expense of Rs. 10,000 only to be paid from my estate, and in case of his having no son, grandson or great-grandson by son, &c., the amount of the said allowance and the dwelling-house shall revert to my estate.

6. That of my 4 sisters, the eldest Srimati Sukhada and the youngest Srimati Kulada are both childless widows, and they as well as my paternal aunt Srimati Kadambini Debya, who is also a childless widow, have been and are living in my house up to this time and are being maintained by me. After my death they shall get an allowance of Rs. 100 only a month each for their maintenance and shall occupy the two-storied rooms in the eastern portion of my inner apartment. After their death their allowance shall revert to my estate.

7. That my third sister Kheroda Debi is now living as a member of my family. The said sister shall get a monthly allowance of Rs. 100 from my estate down to her sons, son's sons and so on, in succession, and my second sister Beroda Debi shall get a monthly allowance of Rs. 100 from my estate as long as she lives, and her son, that is, my nephew Priyambod Roy, shall live and be brought up and educated as a member of my family until he attains majority. After he attains majority, he shall get a monthly allowance of Rs. 100 from my estate down to his sons, son's sons and so on in succession. When my sister, the said Srimati Kheroda and my nephew Priyambod Roy shall go and live in their house, they shall get Rs. 5,000 each from my estate for the purpose of building houses for their residence, irrespective of whether I live or die, and they shall get from my estate at the rate of Rs. 1,000 only for the marriage of their son and Rs. 500 for the marriage of their daughter. But on the failure of their having sons, son's son, son's son's son and so on in succession, they shall get their said monthly allowance only for life. Besides this, my nephew the said Priyambod Roy shall, on attaining the age of 25, receive from my estate Rs. 25,000 as a donation once for all, and my second and third sisters shall receive the said monthly allowances after my death.

8. That after my death, my wife Srimati Rajeshsori Debi although acting as the guardian of my nephew Sriman Lalit Mohun Roy, shall continue to get from my estate Rs. 300 only a month for her food and raiment, as long as she lives; and she shall own her *Sreedhan* (dower) &c., the precious ornaments, which I have given her from time to time or which I may give her in future, as also the jewellery &c., which are for my own use. She shall live in the two-storied rooms of the inner apartment, which she now occupies, until her death; and she shall not be competent to act otherwise. She shall also receive from my estate reasonable amounts of money for performing religious ceremonies and going on pilgrimage to holy places, as she may require. On her death, her allowance-money and the ornaments &c., left by her shall revert to my estate.

9. That the person, who may succeed as my representative, shall, after defraying his own necessities and paying, year by year, the expenses payable according to the provisions of this will out of the income of my estate, spend the surplus balance spared, in charitable purposes for perpetuating the name and glory of my family, keeping in stock, however, such amount as may be necessary for the preservation of the estate.

10. That whoever shall, for the time being, become my representative in estate shall sign his name as owner of the estate, register his name and conduct and manage all lawsuits and affairs of the estate in conformity to the said rules.

11. That whoever shall become my representative, shall take particular care and pay special attention to the performance of the *dev-sheva*, to the feeding of itinerant guests, &c., and to the maintenance of the Dispensary and of 50 such persons as are incapable of helping themselves, as mentioned in paras 1 and 2.

12. That in case I fail to build without delay a house for the accommodation of the daily feedable persons, who are incapable of helping themselves, as mentioned in para 1 and in case I die, then the person, who shall become my representative, shall perform a benevolent act by constructing one good pucca building fit for the accommodation of those persons.

13. That in case the persons, provided by the will to become my representatives, leave no person behind capable of succeeding them as their representative after their death, then the Government shall out of favor take the whole of my estate under its control, and out of the income of it, shall open a college in my own native place Chukdighi and make proper arrangements for the management of the said college and for the performance of the charitable deeds and the payment of the fixed monthly allowances mentioned in para. 1 above and for the due performance of all the provisions of this will.

14. In the event of there arising any inconvenience in the management of business by reason of the two guardians of the said minor Sreeman Lalit Mohan Roy failing to act in accord with each other, or in the event of any waste being made by the guardians, my whole estate shall go under the management of the Court of Wards, and everything shall be performed in accordance with what has been written above. I do execute this will to the above effect.



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## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridood Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From

the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract].—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. .... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 1889.

} No. 389

## RECENT SPECIMENS OF THE IRISH MUSE.

### THE DE-NATIONAL ANTIEM.

DEDICATED TO THE PARTICULARISTS OF GREAT IRELAND  
AND LITTLE BRITAIN.

[ "Without any disparagement to our own old 'God Save the Queen.'"—MR. GLADSTONE'S *Speech at Wrexham, September, 1888* ]

GOD save our gracious Green,  
Long live our College Green,  
Gallant and free !  
Scatter the Saxon crew,  
Strike the Red, White, and Blue,  
Roderick Vich Alpine Dhu,  
Cushla machree !

God save the septs and clans,  
Bless all the Micks and Dans,  
Bless all the Pats :  
Heaven guard the gallant Manx,  
Heaven bless their herring-banks,  
Strengthen their triple shanks,  
Prosper their cats !

Oh ! may heav'n's choicest smiles  
Watch o'er the Channel Isles,  
And make them French !  
Save gentle Patrick Ford,  
Convert the Orange horde,  
Confound each Tory Lord,  
Prostrate the Bench !

God save Charles Stuart—Parnell,  
Shield him from shot and shell,  
Powder and ball.  
Oh ! may no Saxon spy  
Wipe poor old Ireland's Eye,  
God bless the Isle of Skye,  
Ne'er may it fall !

God save the Jute, the Dane,  
Long may Trelawny reign,  
Long live the Gael !  
Long live the Mayor of Cork,  
Raise high the price of pork,  
Long may Kings Log and Stork  
Rule Innisfail.

God save our noble Green,  
God save the Ghibelline,  
Down with the Guelph,  
Discrown the Ocean's Queen,  
Shatter the whole machine,  
Bless every smithereen,—  
Chiefly myself.

CHARLES L. GRAVES.

*The Spectator.*

TO F. M. C.

LINES ADDRESSED TO AN OXFORD FRIEND

(From Mr. Rennell Rodd's new volume *The Unknown Madonna, and other Poems.*\*)

Strange, is it not, old friend, that you who sit  
Bowered in quiet, four garden walls your world,  
With books and love and silence,—sails fast furled  
And grounded keel that hardly now will quit  
Its stormless haven, —you sit there and write  
Of human passions, of the fateful fight,  
Of all men suffer, dream, and do,  
Denounce the false and glorify the true !

While I the wanderer, I whose journey lies  
In stormy passages of life and sound,  
I with the world's throb ever beating round,  
Here, in that very stress and storm of cries,  
Make songs of birds, weave lyric wreaths of flowers,  
Recall the spring's joy and the moonlit hours,  
And know that children's ways are more to me  
Than all you write of and I have to see

### IRELAND.

(The opening Stanzas of "The Banshee," from Mr. John Fodhunter's recently published *The Banshee, and other Poems.*†)

I.

Green, in the wizard arms  
Of the foam-bearded Atlantic,  
An isle of old enchantment,  
A melancholy isle,  
Enchanted and dreaming lies,  
And there, by Shannon's flowing,  
In the moonlight, spectre-thin,  
The spectre Erin sits

II.

An aged desolation,  
She sits by old Shannon's flowing  
A mother of many children,  
Of children exiled and dead,  
In her home, with bent head, homeless,  
Clasping her knees she sits,  
Keening, keening !

III.

And at her keene the fairy grass  
Trembles on dun and barrow,  
Around the foot of her ancient crosses,  
The grave-grass shakes and the nettle swings ;  
In haunted glens the meadow-sweet  
Flings to the night wind  
Her mystic mournful perfume,  
The sad spearmint by holy wells  
Breathes melancholy balm.

\* London : David Stott.

† London : Kegan Paul, Trench, and Co.

*Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.*

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE three Officiating Judges of the High Court—Messrs. Rampini, Gordon and Hill—go out from the 9th September, the three permanent Judges—Messrs. Wilson, Macpherson and O'Kenealy joining the Court after the Long Vacation. Both the Bengal Civilians go on leave—Mr. Rampini for 3 months and Mr. Gordon for 27 days, to prepare for descent to the nether world—before resuming work as District and Sessions Judges.

The intermediate rustication cannot be deemed to be thrown away, if it succeeds in thoroughly breaking in the whilom legal gods *pro tem* to single harness and the business and bosom of everyday life in plain and valley.

THE Joint-Magistrate Ashutosh Gupta acts temporarily as Magistrate and Collector of Jessore.

THE Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Chota Nagpore Division Rai Churn Ghose has passed an examination in the Munda language and won the prescribed reward of Rs. 1,000.

THE Second Half-yearly Departmental Examination of 1889 of Assistant and Deputy Magistrates in the Regulation and non-Regulation districts, and of officers in the Police, Medical, Forest, and Opium Departments, begins on Monday, the 11th November 1889.

THE fortunate son-in-law has again justified his title. He has been confirmed in class III of the Bengal Educational Service from the 27th April, *vice* Mr. J. Van S. Pope. These appointments, if they do not wholly go by favor, are, at any rate, no reward of merit.

EIGHT mouzahs of Pergunnah Barbakpore, belonging to the Dubulhati estate, ordered in December 1887 to be surveyed along with others, for the preparation of a record of rights under the Bengal Tenancy Act, have been saved that expensive settlement of rights between landlord and tenant. The order as regards these has been cancelled. We take this as a sign of the return of good feeling between the Raja and his tenants, who have been at war for the last several years. This will enable the manager of the estate to save the credit of his master by payment of the debts which have been hitherto overlooked overmuch—with the usual unhappy result.

WITH the exception of section 31, the Indian Salt Act XII of 1882 has been extended to the Sonthal Pergunnahs.

THE outstills at Kanchrapara, Jadubati and Jaguli, in the Nuddea district, have been closed and distillery shops substituted for them. Within certain areas around these places, the introduction is forbidden, without a pass from the Collector, of country spirits manufactured elsewhere than in the distillery at Hooghly. The prohibition equally applies to the construction or working of stills and to manufacture of spirituous liquors, within the defined boundaries.

TO raise and strengthen the Bhagirathi Embankment, Register No. 94, from 0 to 32nd miles in the Moorshedabad district, 21 biggahs and 5 cottahs of land will be taken up by Government under the Land Acquisition Act.

FIFTEEN days' quarantine has been imposed in all Turkish ports against all arrivals from ports of the Persian Gulf. The period runs from the 22nd August.

"EXECUTIVE ENGINEER" thus solves, in the *Englishman*, the Calcutta sewage problem:—

"A very interesting article about a visit to the Salt Lakes near Calcutta appeared in a recent issue of the *Englishman*. It told of the filth that existed on the Square Mile there, of the beasts and birds of prey that existed on this garbage, of the succulent maize that thrived on it, and lastly, of the wind that wafted the malodorous air direct to the purlieus of Chaurangi.

'Is our civilization a failure, &c.?' This Bret Hartian question may well be asked here in these days of science. It is very well known that by making settling tanks, running the sludge into these, adding clay, alum, &c., all the solid filth can be caused to settle at the bottom of these reservoirs, and only the fluid portion of the sewage allowed to

flow away. This latter, by being caused to flow over a weir, can be thoroughly aerated, and so become sufficiently purified to be run into a river. The deposit is next pumped up, submitted to pressure, formed into balls, either pure or mixed with clay, burned, and finally ground to powder and packed in bags ready for sale as manure. This is a process carried out on a large scale in England, and what is there to prevent the same plan being resorted to in this country? Such manure would fetch a high price, and if any soil wants improving surely our Indian soils do.

It is very easy to suggest an improvement, but most difficult to ensure its being carried out. In the sewage now carried to the Salt Lakes there is, one must think, a means of making a large fortune for any private firm, if Government does not undertake the work itself. A line of rails is said to be already in existence, so that there is absolutely nothing to prevent the necessary plant being bought and erected on the most convenient site."

THE prosecution of Meejee Lukshmon is a persecution indeed. He was employed at a Parsee's at Jessing, in the Broach district. The case is thus stated by the *Advocate of India*:—

"It is said that on the 25th of April last he asked a man named Wassan, a professional hunter, to procure for him a live deer, which he intended to present to his master. Wassan promised to do this; but as the expedition on which he set out that day proved unsuccessful, he informed Meejee, whom he is said to have met on his way back, that he could not get a deer. Wassan was never seen alive again. His dead body was found on the road on the 27th, with evident marks of ill-treatment. The skull was fractured, and several ribs were broken. A *post mortem* examination further showed that death had been caused by a rupture of the spleen, which was unnaturally large. The doctor was of opinion that death must have taken place forty-eight hours before the body was found.

The important gap between the disappearance of the man and the finding of his body was soon filled in. Witnesses came forward to say that on Wassan informing Meejee that he could not get a live deer, Meejee beat him severely with his clenched fists in their presence, and, accusing him of theft, put him into a cart, and drove away. It was alleged by these witnesses that this assault was committed in their immediate presence: more than this, that several persons were at work in adjoining cotton-fields at the time. With this evidence, duly furnished up by the police doubtless, Meejee was taken before a native magistrate, and charged with voluntarily causing grievous hurt. This testimony, it will be remembered, went only so far as to say that the accused had assaulted Wassan with clenched fists. But against this assertion there was a positive medical opinion that the man had been beaten with a stick, and common-sense recoils at the notion that a skull may be fractured and ribs be broken in such an assault as was described by the prosecution. True, the police alleged that bamboos similar to those in Meejee's cart were found on the spot where the quarrel is said to have taken place; but it is an obvious objection that such bamboos are common to all carts in that part of the country, and that these particular bamboos did not bear the traces of blood. What wonder that the magistrate acquitted the accused, on the ground that the evidence was insufficient and untrustworthy? The surprising part of the business is that Mr. T. Hamilton, Acting Sessions Judge at Surat, should have set aside the acquittal, and ordered that Meejee be re-tried in the Sessions Court.

Once more, therefore, was he arraigned on the old evidence before another judicial officer—Mr. Dyaram Gidumal, Joint Sessions Judge, Broach—and a panel of assessors. The assessors were not more seriously impressed by the story told by the prosecution than the magistrate had been. They unanimously returned a verdict of 'not guilty'; but Mr. Dyaram, disagreeing with them, convicted Meejee, and sentenced him to suffer four years' rigorous imprisonment, and to pay a fine of Rs. 200, or in default to undergo a further term of imprisonment for six months."

There was an appeal to the High Court, and Messrs. Justices Scott and Jardine have found that Meejee was condemned on "incredible" evidence.

THE Parnell Indemnity Fund exceeds £40,000, while the expenditure is only £20,000. The question now is How is the balance to be expended? The *Dublin Express* would like to have it distributed among the evicted tenants or returned to the subscribers. There seems to be no law on the subject. Usually, the Committee charged with the administration of the Fund have their own way in the disposal of the balance. Sometimes, the general body of subscribers are invited to consider the matter—most of whom are unable to attend, and consequently leave the matter to the Committee, and the resident Committee virtually rule the day. A few of the distant subscribers to the Prince of Wales' Native Reception

*Holloway's Pills and Ointment* exert a rapidly favourable effect in all those diseases which are induced by exposure to damp or by great changes in temperature. They will therefore be found eminently serviceable to those who work in iron foundries, copper mines and collieries. These well-known remedies present manifest advantages in respect of use and effectiveness, being entirely compounded of vegetable drugs selected with the greatest care and regardless of price. When used in accordance with the ample printed directions which accompany them, they act surely but mildly, and do not interfere with the daily work. There are but few diseases which are not capable of cure—or, at all events, of great relief—if Holloway's remedies are perseveringly used.

Fund wished their shares of the surplus to be paid over to the fund for the Unchastity case. But their right to the unexpended balance was not recognised.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE London strike for higher wages threatens to be historical. It commenced on the 16th with 2,500 dock labourers. In 5 days the number swelled to 30,000. The contagion took. Next day the men employed at the tea warehouses joined the revolt of Labor against Capital. Before a fortnight had elapsed, other labourers in the London port, the wharfingers and the coal heavers had cast in their lot with the disaffected who now numbered 1,30,000. It was next the turn of the workers at coal depôts, gas works and iron works. Later on 2,000 printers took up the cry. The latest report is that the tailors are coming over—not merely the famous Three of Tooley Street, but counting by thousands. The strikers held a meeting of 50,000 at Hyde Park on the 25th in which they unanimously resolved to continue out. The war has hitherto been a bloodless one. But there is no depending on the temper of vast multitudes animated by a common feeling of wrong. Luckily, there are signs that this mutiny of Labour cannot last longer. The masters have begun to give way, and coal heavers have returned to work with the increased pay they demanded. A manifesto has, however, since been issued by the Dock Labourers' Committee appealing to the workmen of all the trades in London to strike on Monday next, unless the demands of the labourers are granted by noon this day. Unless the masters agree to the full demand, the strikers hold another meeting at Hyde Park tomorrow. The Dock Directors have raised their offer to 5 pence but the labourers stick to their six.

OTHER bad reports come from the Continent. Three Hundred foreigners have been expelled from Warsaw. Half the town of Dubno in Russian Poland has been destroyed by fire. Greece has been visited by a series of earthquakes to much damage of property. A St. Petersburg telegram also speaks of a terrible shock at Khenzorik, a hundred persons being buried alive by falling houses.

THE Queen has returned to Balmoral from her visit to North Wales.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Balfour promised to bring forward a Bill for the endowment of a Catholic University in Ireland.

The India Council Bill has passed the Upper House.

Lord Cross has announced in the House of Lords that the Bombay Mamlatdars who had offered bribes for certain favours would be sent out with compensation, but the victims of extortion would be retained in the service and guaranteed against prosecution.

Lord Cross has assured the Upper House, that there never was any intention to annex Cashmere. The Maharaja would be restored to power as soon as the situation in that quarter had been remedied. That will hardly be much of a consolation to Maharaja Pratap Sing. His hopes lie in Providence and the Powers of earth which do not believe in It—such as the Romanoff and Bradlaugh. The Russian *Novoe Vremya* considers the action of the British in the Unhappy Valley as virtual annexation of that territory affording justification for Russia to take measures in her interests on the Afghan and Thibetan frontiers.

The Indian Budget was presented in the House of Commons on the 27th, as usual, late in the session and before a poor House. Sir John Gorst attributed the increase of salt revenue to its being bonded in anticipation of a reduced tax. He also explained that the increase in the tax had not affected the consumption. He announced that more Rs. 70,00,000 would be sunk in frontier railways and Rs. 2,50,00,000 invested in defences. He scouted the idea of any decrease in civil expenses. Although certain reductions recommended by the Civil Service Commission have been given effect to, it was hopeless to contemplate a centralized India, for the present policy was to encourage provincial independence in matters financial, legislative and administrative. It had been calculated that the conversion of four per cent. securities would secure an annual saving of £266,000. He concluded by saying that India was in a prosperous condition and that the periodical gloomy forebodings were groundless. The Member for India Mr. Bradlaugh pressed for the abolition of silver ware duty; charged Government with dishonest appropriation of the Famine Fund; condemned the costly expenditure on buildings at Simla, and called for stricter financial control. Sir Roper Lethbridge pressed the old recipe for a Royal Commission on India. The Under-Secretary of State for India, in reply, did not deny the famine fund,

but defended its appropriation as spent on railways, on irrigation—thereby lessening the chances of famine, or properly speaking facilitating the transport of food during famine—and in the reduction of debt. He held out prospects of abolition of the outstill system at an early date. He objected to fussy interference of certain Radical members. An amendment to abolish the salt tax was negatived.

Parliament was prorogued on the 30th, the Speech from the Throne referring in approving terms to loyal offers from the Native Princes for defence of the Empire.

“The *Daily News* has been proscribed in the Turkish dominions. The telegram gives no reasons, but they must be of the usual kind. Anyhow, it is a good advertisement for the Liberal organ.

THE Russian expedition under Colonel Pevtsoff to Thibet has been stopped by the local Chinese authorities in Kashgar.

NEWS from Japan is distressing. Most disastrous typhoons and floods are reported from Wakayama, in the province of Nippon. No less than 10,000 persons are said to have been lost and double that number rendered homeless.

ACCORDING to the report laid before the Academy of Medicine by the Commission appointed by the Medical Congress of 1888, held in Paris,

“One-third of the mortality in France is caused by tuberculosis. In 1884, out of 56,970 persons who died in Paris, about 15,000 were carried off by this disease. The report says if mortality from tuberculosis is so great, it is because pulmonary phthisis is not the only manifestation of tuberculosis, as the public generally imagine. The doctors consider as tuberculosis many other diseases besides pulmonary phthisis. Tuberculosis is a virulent, contagious, and transmissible disease, caused by a microbe which penetrates into the system by the digestive organs with food, by the respiratory organs with the air, by the skin and mucous membrane after abrasions, punctures, wounds, and various ulcerations. Sundry maladies, such as measles, small-pox, chronic bronchitis, pneumonia, &c., predispose a person to contract the disease. It adds that the microbe of tuberculosis may be met with in the milk, muscles, and blood of animals used for food, such as oxen, cows, and especially rabbits and fowls. Raw meat and underdone meat should be prohibited, as the germ may be in the blood. For the same reason, milk should only be drunk after being boiled. Particular attention is called to the milk given to infants, as over two thousand children under two years of age die annually in Paris of tuberculosis. A mother having the disease should not suckle her child.”

That and the controversies of Dr. Huxley and other sanitary reformers, only prove that, throughout Europe, milk is used without boiling, and meat fully or partially raw consumed, with, of course, consequences most injurious to the comfort, and even fatal to the health of, the population of Christendom. Here then is another very important point on which Europe may still learn from the East. In India, at any rate, meat is thoroughly cooked—spoiled by too much cooking—usually with a lot of spices and condiments which also go far to destroy all hostile organisms that might creep into it. And milk is always boiled before consumption. The old Sanskrit authorities in medicine taught the secret which has now been discovered by the advanced medical inquirers. Every housewife—not to say schoolboy—is familiar with what, under the grand new name of science, the doctors are making such a fuss about. Our people are therefore comparatively exempt from diseases from which so many suffer and die in Europe.

This new knowledge in the West will, we suspect, strengthen the cause of the publicans and sinners. It certainly goes against teetotalism. Were it not for the common use of spirits in Christendom, the victims of the minute microbes would, we fear, have been counted by many more thousands. We believe strong spirits are fatal to these infinitesimal but formidable pests. For one thing, we remember, Dr. Grauvogl of Germany proved that absolute alcohol destroys the diphtheria parasite.

ECCELESIASTICAL litigation has, in common with the *odium theologicum*, the quality, if so it may be called, of being endless. What wonder that the Bishop of Lincoln, undergoing trial for heterodoxy before the superior in the Church, the Lord Primate, is yet far from discerning signs of approaching land. We read in an English paper of Aug. 9:—

“In the case of Read and Others v. The Bishop of Lincoln the bishop is charged before the Archbishop of Canterbury with having on two occasions used or performed certain ritualistic practices during the celebration of the Holy Communion alleged to be illegal. To this the bishop contested the right of the archbishop to try him. That point having been argued at great length, and decided against his lordship, the bishop, in reply to the articles of the prosecutors, argued that being a bishop he was not bound by the rubrics, canons, and ecclesiastical laws and constitutions of the Church of England in the same way as an ordinary priest. The archbishop again decided against the bishop, and announced that the Court was prepared to hear the merits of the case. Upon this Sir Walter Phillimore, on behalf of the bishop, entered a ‘negative issue,’ and asked for time to file a ‘responsive

plea.' This plea was ordered to be filed on Aug. 6 before twelve o'clock at the archbishop's registry; but by arrangement, and with the consent of the vicar-general, the time was extended until Aug. 13, when this 'responsive plea' may possibly be filed."

We wonder what the uninitiated Oriental reader thinks of this tedious business. Of one thing he is sure, that some fundamental dogma of the faith is in dispute—the vital interest of the Church at stake. What must be his disappointment to be told that there is no doctrinal difference between the parties in this terrible tempest in a teapot! It is a mere tailoring business! A row over clerical *chapcans* and *chogas*!

THE higher authorities and even nonofficial men of position living in Presidency capitals, have no idea of the endless annoyances and petty tyranny which the people have to put up with in the country. To begin with, the microscopic system of British administration must answer for a good deal of all this. That system necessarily leads to harrassing interference with the subjects of the Crown. The poor people are constantly required, to do this, that or t'other. Then the laws are so many and so complicated! In spite of the incessant activity of the numerous mills of State in that behalf, they are so uncertain and, above all, so difficult to understand! The makers themselves of the laws and regulations hardly know their own minds. The administrators, great and small, from Governor down to constable, are absolutely at sea. This is a strange commentary on the claims of our functionaries and our British legislators. But facts are facts. The slightest inquiry in any direction will produce a handful. Any week's careful perusal of the papers will discover shoals.

THE chief constable of Jamner in the Khandesh district, Bombay Presidency, forwarded a written order to the head constable in charge of a subpost at Shendurui directing him to send to him to the police station six persons as witnesses in a case under the Arms' Act. The head constable communicated to the parties concerned the order of the chief constable. One of the six, Sitaram Devidas, refused to attend on this order which he argued was neither a summons nor a warrant which should be obeyed. He was therefore prosecuted under Section 174 of the Indian Penal Code, for not obeying a legal order to attend at a certain place, and convicted by the Rao Saheb Lakshman Chintaman, second-class Magistrate of Jamner, and fined Rs. 10 with the alternative of as many days' simple imprisonment. Mr. W. W. Loch, the District Magistrate, was dissatisfied with this order—not that he considered the Rao Saheb had lightly disposed of the case but that he was wholly wrong in ordering any punishment. Mr. Loch made a reference to the High Court in which he states—"the only authority in the Code of Criminal Procedure which empowers the police to secure the attendance of witnesses in investigations is Section 160. The words are 'may by an order in writing require the attendance of any persons', and I think these words mean that an order should be addressed directly to the person whose attendance is required, as is done in the case of a summons. The wording of the section is, however, not quite clear." The High Court has accepted the interpretation of the District Magistrate and reversed the conviction and sentence.

These petty tyrannies of the sub-magistracy tend in a great measure to crush the remaining notions of the rights of citizenship still left in the country.

THE first class magistrates are no better instructed in the law. Mr. R. V. Gadkari of Wada, in the Thana District, fined Vidiadhar Gungadhar Lele Rs. 40, in default one week's simple imprisonment, for disobeying the order of a public servant by omitting to attend the court of the District Deputy Collector, Thana, on a summons issued by the Mamlatdar of Bhiwandi. On a review, the High Court held that a Mamlatdar is not empowered to summon a person to attend before a Deputy Collector.

These cases by no means exhaust the liabilities of the people to oppression under colour of authority. The forms in which they are tickled by the myrmidons of the Executive are innumerable. Many as are the powers that be entitled to come down upon the Queen's subjects, specially the poor and unsophisticated, these, under a lax administration without Parliamentary check, are indefinitely multiplied. The rank and file of the administration habitually exercise the private leges of the superior hierarchy, and are obeyed, partly in ignorance,

partly in despair of any practical relief, so elastic is Indian legislation in favour of Government in any shape or under any pretence, and such is the vicious spirit in vogue among the higher officials of supporting their underlings at any cost!

In the Calcutta Survey, lately a clerk called on a gentleman to shew cause why he should not be prosecuted for omitting to answer the notices issued on him.

The submagistracy, of course, daily act in the name of the District Chiefs and other superior officers. Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors issue notices and orders for Magistrates and Collectors, with or without authority, often without the knowledge of the latter. But is a Deputy competent to sign for the Collector?

Under the prevailing laxity of the State departments and the meek submission of the people, these officers do not care always to be intelligible. From the perfunctory way in which documents addressed to individual citizens and the public are issued, it is in most cases difficult to determine their validity or ascertain the credentials of the officers issuing them or even make sure of their identity.

THIS reminds us of a correspondence, in 1871, between a Zemindar and the Collector of a neighbouring district, in which the former took exception to the notices issued from the Collectorate in the following terms:

"Before I proceed further, I beg to be permitted, not only as one concerned in the present matter, but also generally as a dutiful citizen of the State, to point out the suspicious external character of the notices and other papers issued from Courts and Government Offices like those of the Collector and Commissioner. It is not only that the writing is often illegible and the paper always wretched, though the former is a serious matter, if the latter be rather one of taste—but what is worse is, that the documents are utterly wanting in the necessary marks of authenticity. How, for instance, can one be sure that the notice the receipt whereof I hereby acknowledge is genuine? There is nothing which can be properly called a seal mark or confidently a signature. There is indeed a dark circle or outline of one meant doubtless for a seal mark, but there is no appearance of so much as a letter in any language, nor is the absence of a seal mark made up by anything that can be read as a signature of any officer. There is a writing near the seal (such as it is), but while I have been long trying to decipher it in vain as a signature, a friend suggests the reading 'True copy,' and it may be so, or a signature, or anything. Under these circumstances the notice not coming with any mark of genuineness, one would be morally and I hope legally justified in not taking cognizance of it. It may be deemed a small matter, but I respectfully submit it is not. It is because care is not taken in making the seals and signatures legible that so many imposters are enabled to extort and harass people, particularly the ignorant and in the interior, by palming off on them their fabrications as documents served by authority. Although my chances of being so deceived are small, I take this opportunity to bring this matter to your notice in the interest of good government, considering it a more loyal and proper course to inform Government through its own appointed officers, and in due course as the point is suggested by a matter under consideration of one of them, than to appeal to the public through the press, in which it is likely to take the form of a factious cry. I believe that a reform in the direction indicated is necessary in so ignorant a country, and well worthy of the attention of Government to the notice of which I hope you will bring the subject."

HERE is a truly painful record of the rewards of public spirit in British India, even in a part governed by a statesman like Lord Reay.

Mr. Ardesir Merwanjee, Chairman, for the last 15 years, of the Lanowlee municipality, in the Bombay Presidency, and a man of position to boot, was criminally prosecuted, along with the Secretary, for Rs. 69-10 found short in the municipal cash. The account was examined on the 12th December last by the Mamlatdar of Mawal, a personal enemy of the Chairman, shewing a balance of Rs. 466. Mr. Merwanjee produced only Rs. 298 and said the remainder was with the Secretary then on leave. The Secretary being sent for by the Mamlatdar, on the 14th December produced, as the balance in hand, Rs. 99-6. The Mamlatdar immediately reported the Chairman guilty of criminal breach of trust as a public servant. Accordingly, both Chairman and Secretary were hauled up before Mr. Lucas, the Assistant Collector of Poona. The Secretary was let off. The Chairman urged that Rs. 69-10 was not accounted for in the books, because it could not be. The books had been examined up to the 10th and this sum was not paid till the 12th, to the sweepers who were to receive it. The prosecution admitted the facts to be so, but suggested that the money was paid to the sweepers on some date after the 12th, on threat of criminal proceedings. Not a tittle of evidence was given that payment was made after and not on the 12th. Notwithstanding, the sage Lucas convicted poor Ardesir Merwanjee and sentenced him to seven days' imprisonment and Rs. 1,000 fine. There was, of course, an appeal, but the Sessions Judge Mr. Crowe would not interfere with the order of the



lower Court, and the Parsee gentleman had to work out the sentence of imprisonment. There was a second appeal to the High Court, and Messrs. Justices Scott and Jardine have reversed the conviction and sentence. They are of opinion that, if guilty at all, the accused was simply responsible for a slight delay in paying the sweepers, which was no criminal offence. The conviction is quashed but the stigma of a felon's residence in jail attaches to Mr. Ardesir Merwanjee, and will stick to his family. And hereafter, when the explanatory circumstances become dim, some literary Fouché of the Government of Bombay will utilise the conviction for calumniating the whole Parsee race in a secret report. This is a strange illustration of self-government under a paternal Despotism.

THE Mohurram commenced on Thursday the 29th instant, the new moon having been seen the previous evening. The festival is celebrated in this town in a grand style in the Imambarrahs of Haji Mirza Abdool Karim Shirazi and the late Agha Mahomed Kurbulai, as well as in the Imambarrah of the late King of Oudh at Garden Reach.

The grand processions will come out of the Imambarrahs on the Chitpore Road in the afternoons of the 4th and 5th and the morning of the 7th proximo, when the festival comes to an end.

THE Government of India have had Prince Albert Victor's tour under consideration. The programme arranged has been sent home for final approval. The Government of India would have the Prince land at Bombay in the beginning of November and proceed direct to Poona, where he would be the guest of the Governor at Gunness Khind. Thence he would proceed to Bhownuggur to open a new port on that coast. The Gaekwar has invited the Prince to visit Baroda, where he will be housed at the new palace. The Nizam of Hyderabad will receive him at his capital. Then His Royal Highness will make his round through India. Whether he will visit Burma or not, remains to be settled by the home authorities.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 1889.

### THE SIN OF GREAT CITIES.

THE subject I have chosen to-day, though a very unsavoury one, is of the greatest importance to society generally, and at the present moment it is causing no little anxiety, while taxing the ingenuity of the Secretary of State and the ablest men in India, how to combat this scourge of sin. In my earlier life, I spent many years in Germany, residing in Hamburg, Berlin and Leipsic, and was frequently struck with the admirable system in force, particularly in Hamburg, which acts almost as a perfect safeguard against the loathsome and contagious disease. Before proceeding further, without any intention of wounding the feelings of any one, or myself being less scrupulous in matters of nicety than any other individual, I make bold to say with a half-heartedness for fear of offending religious or other scruples, we do not look the evil in the face, but meet it half way only. With the admirable example before us on the Continent, our statesmen, clergy and laymen must look at the matter with a bold front, admit the necessity of the evil, and place it under a proper system of control, and grapple it, as they do in other civilized countries, with the hand of iron, and for any contravention of the law let the punishment be sure. If, as is agitated for, there is to be a reimposition of the Act, I can see no good reason against it, whether in the interests of Tomy Atkins or Tomy any body else. It is contended by many that the Act is revolting. I am of a different opinion. The revolt is not in the Act, but in the manner in which it is enforced, in the conduct of those entrusted with its working. Can there possibly be anything more

revolting or indecent than the congregation of fifty or a hundred females, in all stages of the disease, standing outside in a narrow street, brought together like so many animals, each awaiting her turn for admission and examination? I have witnessed this not once but a hundred times over. Is this necessary? I contend it is not. Those responsible for such dereliction of duty should be called upon to explain why this exhibition of infamy is made so public. As I have said, it is not the Act that is either obscene or revolting. On the contrary, the Act is a necessity, as the result of an evil, which evil, if we would look at it with open eyes, be candid with the argument and restrain imaginary evil thoughts, is a necessity. That I am bold enough to make this assertion, will probably bring a hornets' nest about my ears. But in support of what I say—did this evil not exist, respectable females could not go forth as they do now unless protected from unseemly and ruffianly outrage. Even now we hear from time to time of the modesty of females, European and native, being outraged. What the result would be if the evil had no existence, no man living would have the courage to say. In no city on the Continent of Europe would such scenes as the one enacted daily and in broad daylight in Calcutta, be tolerated for one hour, and yet the rights of citizenship are not interfered with. On one occasion I resided in Hamburg for three years and knew every nook and corner of that city. During that term I never saw one German the worse for liquor in the streets. Female drunkenness is a thing unknown in Germany, at least it was so in my early school days. Fast females—it is a milder expression than we are in the habit of hearing in Calcutta—are not allowed to ply their trade in the open streets. Neither are they permitted to do so out of their own houses, which are confined to two streets, Schwieger Strasse and Dantewahl. They are not prohibited from appearing in public, but they are so under police surveillance that any attempt at solicitation is never made. The lost dens out at St. Paul's Gate are as paradise to anything visible to the naked eye in Calcutta.

Bremen, Antwerp and Rotterdam, like Hamburg, are all large shipping ports. In none of these are scenes visible such as are of daily occurrence amongst fast females, European and native, in Calcutta. Sundays in all the above ports are invariably marked with an occasional drunken brawl with English seamen who get leave on that day, but drunkards are invariably met by a closed door at any of the licensed houses.

All houses of ill fame are licensed, and any female who plies a life of prostitution is also licensed. This probably to the sanctimonious community of Calcutta may seem revolting, it is not half so much so, as worse than revolting scenes are daily passing under our eyes and those of our children and daughters in Calcutta. The evil is kept under restraint, it is not visible. Yet the evil exists, has existed since the creation of Adam and Eve, and, despite all efforts of Exeter Hall or other such institutions, will continue to exist to the end of the chapter. That efforts should be made to suppress the evil as much as possible, I will not deny. But the authorities do not put an effort forth to do so. Or, they do not know how to proceed about it, or won't. The latest craze of the Contagious Diseases Act is that it is demoralizing the army in India. Why is it allowed? Can it not be checked? I answer it can, by adopting proper measures. There is no such thing as a Contagious Diseases Act on the

Continent, yet the disease is kept within limits. Many will say the Continental system is not adapted to this country. Why? It is adapted to this or any other country that looks the evil in the face, and admits that it is an evil of necessity, by placing it under control and punishing any contravention of the law under which it is to be restrained with severity.

ZITO.

#### RELEASE OF THE SIKH PRISONERS.

IN the *Reis and Rayyet* of the 17th August, there appeared, under the title "A Glimpse of the History of the Punjab," an account of the imprisonment of the Sikh political prisoners Sirdars Prem Sing (for a short time Wuzir to Dhuleep Sing's mother Rancee Chunda), Colonel Maun Sing, of the Sikh Artillery, and Lal Sing, the whilom Khotwal of Lahore, for a supposed plot to poison Colonel Henry Lawrence. How is it that when the Government of India wish to interfere in the internal management of their greater or lesser Feudatories' states, some trumped up charge is brought against the Chief, Raja, or Maharaja, of a plot to poison or murder some Government official, which plot if judicially enquired into, would be found to have not the slightest fraction of truth? Look at Cashmere at the present moment! Other instances of this kind of dealing with our feudatories are too numerous to mention. Even as a child my mind was always open to tales of injustice and oppression. I have wept as a boy of eight or nine years of age over the cruelties inflicted on the Poles by Russia and the imprisonment of Baron Trench and other celebrated prisoners.

One day in the month of March 1865, whilst on duty at the fort of Allahabad, I visited the arsenal and lingered there sometime gazing at the long lines of stacked rifles, with the swords and pistols arranged in fanciful devices on the walls, watching the play and flash of the sunlight streaming through the windows on the burnished bayonets and sabres. I stopped at the doorway to look more closely at an old model of a brass cannon constructed on the Palliser principle, that is, with an iron or steel centre tubing. I recognised in it the handiwork of my grandfather Major Hyder Hearsey. I asked one of the *employes* whence it came and was informed it was from the Agra arsenal. The sun was fast setting and it was time for me to go round my guards and likewise to pay a visit of inspection to Sirdars Prem Sing, Maun Sing and Lal Sing. I saw my bearer at the gateway of the arsenal waiting with my sword, so, casting a hasty glance at the gun in question, I hurried to the gate. The quarters of the Sikh prisoners adjoined the arsenal, so I went up the steps to their room to ask the old stereotyped question—"Any complaints?" How many times during the period of their twenty years of incarceration must this question have been asked, and how many times at this mockery of their grief must the words "Justice" and "Enquiry" have sprung to their lips only to be immediately repressed by the innate knowledge that if they were to express their complaints, they would not be listened to! I was ushered into their room furnished with only cots and tables. There was not the slightest attempt at any comfort which one might expect from a rich and powerful Government for political prisoners whose supposed crimes had never been enquired into. A tall fine man was gazing through the barred window of his prison at the setting sun throwing the lengthened shadow of the fort across the waters of the Ganges, thinking doubtless of his home and longing to be once more with his dear ones from whom he had been parted, simply on suspicion, for upwards of twenty years. My bearer had followed me after handing over to me my sword into the apartment. I forgot to premise that my bearer Kurrum Khan was a Punjabi Mahomedan. As a young man he had served in the Sikh Army in the Artillery against the British at what almost proved to be a disastrous defeat, I mean Chillianwallah. Here, as history tells us, the Sikh Artillerymen made a most gallant stand by their guns, and if they had only been as heroically supported by the rest of the Sikh Army our troops would have been annihilated, as it was on the night of the bivouac on the field of battle our loss from the Sikh guns, especially in the 24th Foot, was enormous. During

the Mutiny, Kurrum had been a trooper in the Indian Army in the Twannah Horse. Another prisoner, a handsome aged man with long hair and beard as white as driven snow, was seated in a chair, and a third, with a rather vacant expression of the eye, was lying down on his cot. The common green parrots which fly about the fort of Allahabad in swarms were entering the bars, settling on the shoulders and head of the figure stationed at the window without any apparent fear, making sounds of delight as they caressed the long grizzled hair of his head and beard. I was much struck at the sight, it was a subject worthy of the brush of an Old Master. The refulgence of the light from the setting sun through the window; the tall proud martial figure, which never fails to leave its stamp on the true soldier even in death; the old soldier in his chair telling his beads; and the recumbent figure on the couch with the numerous bright green parrots enlivening the room with their discordant cries at the same time offering affectionate caresses to the chief figure in the scene formed a picture which even now recurs to me at times in my sleep and in day dreams. I noticed a look of recognition—a flash to which at the time I paid no attention, pass between the old Artillery Colonel seated in his chair and my bearer. As we entered, the old man hastily rose and the figure on the cot made a motion to rise likewise. I exclaimed "Don't rise, Sahibs. I have only come as usual. My duty requires to ask you if you have any complaints." The figure at the window turned round. It was a proud and handsome face on which care had stamped its indelible mark and in it one could read, as in a book, the effect an imprisonment of twenty years had written legibly on it. "Any complaints?" I again asked in a kindly tone of voice as I approached him. I noticed a flickering smile hover about his bearded mouth when he replied "none." I then said "Your pets seem very numerous, don't you cage or shut them up at night?" "Shut them up!" he replied, "I have quite enough of that myself. No, no, they all know me and come when I call them. You see that old fellow on the string!" He then uttered some pet name, and the bird immediately flew to his outstretched hand and commenced caressing it in the manner usual to parrots. He called another and another by name, and they came at once and without the slightest hesitation. I said "How have you managed to tame all these wild birds?" He replied "Sahib, I have been here a very very long time, and I have tamed them by a method which will tame not only all animals and birds but all human beings—that is, kindness. The Sirkar might have the hearts of all its people if it would only give them three things—Kindness, Enquiry into complaints and Justice." To this I answered, "I should like to hear your story. It must be a most interesting one, but I have no time now as I have to go round my guards and finish my other duties. I hope, before I leave the fort, I may have the good fortune to hear it." "Salam, Sirdar Sahib," said I to the chief, and again repeated my salam to the aged white bearded old soldier. Hearing a kindly and compassionate voice which, in all probability, they had perhaps scarcely heard for many many years, tears sprang to their eyes. As I left their room, I said "If I can be of any use to you during my tour of duty in the fort, let me know through my bearer. He can understand your language better than I can, as he is a countryman of yours." Another flash of recognition and intelligence seemed to pass between Col. Maun Singh and my humble menial Kurrum Khan, as I quitted their quarters.

ANDREW HEARSEY.

#### SCIENTIFIC MARES' NESTS.

THE multiplication of prodigious scientific discoveries within the last few years, has not only whipped the emulation and inflamed the imagination of the experts, but also apparently turned the heads of many good wights beyond the charmed circle. All sorts of reports fly about. Nothing is too startling for belief and, of course, nothing too absurd to start. The Americans, who reduce everything to business, were understood to employ on their press regular inventors of *canards*—good hands at romancing. Formerly, the newspaper white lies were of a modest, if still sensational, kind. However varied in circumstantiality, the staple was the same. The reader was amused with fables of political intrigues, social feuds, domestic disruptions, mad fights, extraordinary burglaries, desperate raids, and horrible tragedies of all possible and impossible descriptions. Of late

years, the scientific fabulist has come into prominence, who treats you to all sorts of physiological, anthropological and zoological curiosities and astronomical and geological discoveries, and chemical and mechanical wonders and optical illusions, and mental aberrations and what not delusions. Some of the more *piquant* specimens of this species of literature found their way to this side the water and were enjoyed by the effete Old World mind as a novelty. For the institution was of the New World—racy of the soil—and so remained. The English had produced the penny-a-liner. The “penny dreadful” too was a development—or degeneration—of the British press. But the cent-a-fabler with its aristocratic variety the dollar-a-scientific-romancer, is the creation of the Journalism of the United States. Be it so. Give every being his due, be it Cæsar or any other. We do not suppose any respectable Europeans grudged the enterprising settlers beyond the main their legitimate distinction. Latterly, we confess, we have discerned signs this side the water of a desire to trench on Cousin Jonathan's patent—symptoms of apéry in Europe, particularly in some French journals, of the American scientific hoax. It is usually a rude thing—a bad imitation, but the desire is manifest. And now the British press seems to be infected by the same mania.

The other day, it was given out in some English paper, on the alleged authority of the representative of an American newspaper, that Mr. Edison, the great American inventor, had notified that he was engaged on an invention, which he hopes to perfect in a short time and to bring out before 1892. It purports to be an improver of the human sight, which, in some way or another, unknown and inconceivable by us ordinary mortals, will increase the power of seeing to such an extent that a face will be distinctly visible and recognised at the distance of some hundred miles. No explanation was given of the nature of the instrument, or whether it is an instrument at all, still less of its *rationale*. But the simple statement was enough for most people. It certainly set many wags as well as “softs” and “simples” athinking, and some were elated while others rendered uneasy, at the prospect. But it was a brief “sensation”—scarcely a nine days' wonder.

The account has been contradicted. A work of supererogation, to be sure, but then, possibly, the story was started for the purpose of contradicting it.

But no sooner has the American story or the account of the American invention been withdrawn than another is produced, in the Old World itself, of a European machine of even more astonishing pretensions. The present account is still more circumstantial, and thoroughly business-like. It is definitely announced that a French *savant*, by name Courtonne, has actually deposited with the French Academy of Sciences a sealed tender containing a minute description of an instrument, invented by himself, which he has christened the “Telephoto,” for the transmission of luminous vibrations. This machine will simply annihilate space and all obstructions so far as seeing goes. By means of it, a man will not only see objects at the distance of thousands of miles, but even see them through walls and buildings and rocks and mountains! By day and night, but this is wondrous strange! Already old Dean Swift is uneasy in his grave, for having perpetrated his elaborate jest at the men of science. And now Dickens and his Sam Weller are clearly in jeopardy.

#### DACCA.

August 23, 1889

Nature, apparently, is not in a very good humour with the people of East Bengal and especially of Dacca. Terrible winds have been visiting this part of the country from time to time; only a few days ago, some portion of the district was caught in a violent storm and much damage was done. Famine has already been doing its fatal work at the same rate as in other parts of the country; even the worst sort of Kumillah rice is selling at Rs 3-7 a maund.

To fill the cup of misery, the rivers have overflowed and the whole district is under water, as it were. The flood of this year has reached a higher pitch than that of the year before last. For two or three days, however, it has been showing signs of decrease. The Buckland bund, which is a favourite resort of gentlemen both European and native, was quite under water; a part of it has now dried up. The Buriganga of to-day rushing and roaring with its full burden of muddy water presents a striking contrast to itself in the hot summer days when the river shrinking in its bed to a thin and superficial stream meanders along its lifeless way.

I had occasion to go to a neighbouring village only a few days ago and the spectacle which presented itself was a melancholy one. The active Buriganga was everywhere wearing away its sides and at parts bursting its banks with great violence and overflowing into the country. Many families had to leave their house and home—a prey to the mighty river. It was pitious to behold them shifting for themselves as best they might in the midst of their manifold sufferings. In many houses even the floor of thatched huts had sunk under water and the poor people had erected wooden frames to make their bed on. The mightier Pudda of course has not been slow in its work of destruction on the other side of the district; but the same story of sadness need not be repeated.

The Dacca people have celebrated the well known Janmastami ceremony with the usual pomp and circumstance. The inhabitants of Nawabpura and of Tatibazar bring out processions on two different days. The rivalry that exists between the two parties helps a great deal to make the processions as grand as possible. Each party makes an exhibition of the richest treasures and spends large sums of money.

Some twenty-five elephants, gorgeously equipped, head the procession; they are followed by as many horses also splendidly fitted out. Next follow a long train of historic and mythological representations. Songs well sung and music excellently performed, accompany. There is nothing in fact wanting to please the eye and gratify the ear. But the great moving structures—chowkis as they are called—deserve special notice. They are from twenty to twenty-five cubits in height and art is lavished upon them to make them dazzling or imposing. They represent castles, forts, palaces and other beautiful and interesting objects. This time the Tatibazaris have gained the victory, to use a current Bengali expression.

August 28, 1889.

Sir Stuart Bayley, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, arrived here in the evening of the 22nd instant; according to programme His Honour should have arrived at 4 P. M., but unfavourable wind and strong current stood in the way. His Honor landed at Suder Ghat and proceeded directly to the Northbrook Hall where an address was presented to him by the local municipality. The reply made was a sympathetic and graceful one. His Honor then drove down through Nawabpura to the polo ground and returned to his yacht after nightfall.

Next morning His Honor visited the gaol and the Mitford Hospital, where he stayed only a few minutes. After noon, he admitted such gentlemen to private interview as wanted to see His Honor on business.

At 4 P. M., a levee was held and several gentlemen of influence and position were presented.

In the evening, the obelisk erected by the European friends in honor of Sir Abdul Gani, K. C. S. I., was very beautifully illuminated. Seen from a distance, it looked just like a Musjid in the midst of flames. I cannot help admiring the man who suggested the idea. The Buckland Bund and the road leading from Sudr Ghat to the Kutchery were also beautifully lighted up.

The Dacca School of Medicine has so long been held in a poor thatched hut; but through the generosity of some of Zemindars a new building has been set up. It occupies a very pleasant situation just on the bank of the river Buriganga. It may be safely said to be one of the finest buildings of our town. The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal opened the Dacca Medical School on the morning of the 24th instant. Among those present were Sir Abdul Gani, K. C. S. I., Raja Rajendra Narain Roy Bahadoor of Bhawal and several other gentlemen of wealth and position. His Honor distributed medals to the successful students of the Medical School, the whole affair taking a little over half-an hour. His Honor next visited the Dacca College and the Collegiate School which were decorated with flags and arches. The School and College have been closed for three days in honor of the visit of His Honor. Sir Stuart Bayley left the town on the morning of the 25th instant.

#### THE PIONEER LIBEL CASE.

##### • A MISERABLE FIASCO.

On Friday before last (Aug. 23) according to arrangement, the case of the Queen-Empress (on the complaint of Hearsay) *vs.* Chesney, the Editor-in-chief of the *Pioneer*, was taken up before the Criminal Sessions. The case having attracted considerable public attention and being looked forward to with a great deal of interest, a large number of the general public were present in Court to witness the progress and conclusion of the trial, which, however, ended in a miserable fiasco, on a point of law.

When the hour for commencing proceedings arrived the Court was quite crowded. The lawyers, of course, mustered in considerable force, and of the general public there were very many present, so that every available inch of standing space was occupied, and

even a lady, following the fashion in England no doubt, did not disdain to witness the proceedings from the jury-box on the Judge's left hand, which was devoted to the general public on this occasion. The whole scene presented was an animated one which a local artist did not think it unworthy of his pencil.

Precisely at 11 o'clock, the Hon. Justice Norris entered the court, dressed in the judges' red gown, the Court-crier commanding silence in that peculiar and well-known cry, and immediately the hubbub ceased, and there was a silence of a few minutes.

#### A NOVEL APPLICATION REJECTED.

At length the stillness was broken by a little short man rising up from around the bar table and saying in a voice not very audible at the Press desk---"Will your lordship permit me to make an application?"

The judge :---What is your name, Sir?

The gentleman :---My name is Alston. Your lordship is about to try a case in which I have been retained. I am a member of the High Court Bar in the North-Western Provinces, and I understand that I am not at liberty to appear before your lordship without your Lordship's previous permission. I understand your lordship will give me permission.

The Judge :---Have I got the power to give you that permission?

Mr. Alston here quoted in full section 4 of the Legal Practitioners' Act, after which,

The Judge said :---I have considered this matter. I am of opinion that the Court there means the collective body of Judges forming a Court, and not a single Judge. If it does mean a single Judge, I see no reason, for acceding to your application.

Mr. Alston then sat down.

The Judge here complained that he had not been furnished with a copy of the charge in this case, and remarked that he ought to have had one.

#### THE ACCUSED ENTERS THE DOCK.

The Clerk of the Crown next called out for "George Macklagan Chesney," and so far as the reporters could hear, no response was made by the accused, who was standing immediately in front of the dock and behind his counsel.

The Judge :---The defendant must surrender as usual, Mr. Gasper. He must plead from the proper place.

Mr. Gasper :---Certainly, my Lord.

Mr. Chesney looking calm and self-possessed, but rather pale, then entered the dock and stood while the Clerk of the Crown (Mr. Apar) proceeded to read the three counts of the charge, to each of which he severally pleaded "not guilty."

#### THE JURY: TRUSTING TO THE CHAPTER OF ACCIDENTS.

Mr. Gasper here made some application to the Judge, under section 451, in reply to which

The Judge said :---Yes, Mr. Gasper, you are entitled to it.

Mr. Phillips :---I am instructed to appear, my lord, with my learned friend, Mr. Henderson, for the prosecution.

The Judge :---Who appears with you Mr. Gasper?

Mr. Gasper replied that his learned friend Mr. Garth appeared with him.

Mr. Phillips :---Your lordship will observe that the Code prescribes no mode of securing this majority. The mode which I have seen adopted as far as I recollect, is to empanel the jury in the usual course, and if that results in a majority of the desired description being empanelled *prima facie* to leave that portion in tact.

The Judge :---I think we had better trust to the chapter of accidents first as the Clerk of the Crown shall happen to draw the names.

Mr. Gasper :---There will be some difficulty in dealing with it.

The Judge :---But I think that will be the better plan, would it not?

This was acquiesced in, and the

#### EMPAANELLING OF THE JURY

was proceeded with. But not before Mr. Phillips suggested that the Clerk of the Crown should call a complete panel and his lordship could see the character of it.

The Judge :---That is what I propose to do. Call the panel.

The panel was accordingly called and consisted of the following gentlemen :---Baboo Amar Kanto Sen, Mr. A. Shanks, Mr. J. Dyce Nicol, Mr. A. Stephen, Baboo Kumar Narayan Sen, Mr. C. M. Smith, Mr. P. S. Young, Mr. R. Howard, Baboo Deb Narayan Bosc, and Thomas Watson.

The Clerk of the Crown (to the prisoner); I am now about to call the names of the jury to try you in this case. If you have any objection to any of them you will take your objection when he comes to the book to be sworn and before he is sworn.

The list was then called out again when the following gentlemen were challenged :---Mr. A. Stephen, Baboo Kumar Narayanan Sen, Mr. C. M. Smith, Baboos Ganendranath Tagore, and Chandee Charan Banerjee.

Mr. A. C. Young whose name was called out was absent, and his lordship said that he ought to have attended and made his application in person, but he would excuse him under the circumstances stated in his letter.

The jury therefore was composed of the following gentlemen, and they chose Mr. Shanks as their foreman :---Messrs. A. Shanks,

Wooma Kanto Sen, J. Dyce Nicol, C. M. Smith, R. Howard, Deb Narayan Bosc, Thos. Watson, J. N. Gowanlock and R. R. Bain.

His lordship then directed the remaining special jurors in attendance to be discharged with a warning to hold themselves in readiness to attend if they received a notice to that effect. With regard to the gentlemen of the common jury, he was at present unable to say anything.

#### A NECESSARY CAUTION.

The Judge here addressing the crowd which had collected around the jury-box, said: Gentlemen, this is an inconvenient court in some respects but I must ask you, please, to stand away from the jury-box. I hope I shall not have to speak a second time. If I have to, I shall have to have the precincts cleared.

These preliminaries having been disposed of at length began the real business of the day, which every one was impatiently waiting to get to. Mr. Phillips, the Crown Prosecutor, rose at about 20 minutes past 11 o'clock to commence---

#### THE CASE FOR THE PROSECUTION.

He said :---May it please your Lordship, Gentlemen of the Jury,---I think that I may make one observation at the commencement in which we shall all concur, and that is that---

#### THIS IS A PAINFUL CASE.

It is a painful thing to see a gentleman of the defendant's character placed in the dock, a gentleman bearing a name distinguished in this country; but on the other hand, we can only say with regard to that that it is of his own choosing. The injury that he has committed towards my client has gone without the slightest, the faintest offer or attempt at reparation of any description whatever. Of course, if you come to the conclusion that the conduct of the defendant has been entirely proper, that will not be a matter of comment, but if you come to the conclusion, as I think you can hardly fail to do, to which I venture to submit all right-minded men must unanimously come, that this was not a nice thing to do, not a generous thing to do, and as I shall presently submit, as a matter for your consideration, not an English thing to do, then, I think you cannot help feeling that it is very much to be regretted that the defendant should have persisted in fastening this stigma upon my client.

#### CAPTAIN HEARSEY BEARS AN HONORED NAME.

My client, gentlemen, also bears a name which is, I might almost say, illustrious in Indian history. If the defendant is right, he is a very degraded descendant of his ancestors, but at any rate he bears that name, and that will also be a matter for your consideration, if, as may possibly happen, it may be suggested that no possible libel could harm the reputation of my client---a suggestion which if it should be made I shall submit to you considerations which will very easily and summarily dispose of it. I think now gentlemen

#### THE CIRCUMSTANCES

are these :---In the *Pioneer* of the 26th of January which, as you know, is published in Allahabad, and which is a leading journal I think we are all aware in this country, and which was published also in Calcutta, there was this article most of which---if not all of it---you have heard read; but, perhaps, I may venture just to read it in its integrity. (The learned gentleman then read the article through and continued.) That was published under the authority of the defendant, and in it he libels not only Mr. Hearsey, but I venture to think the Bar. According to my humble opinion, as a very unworthy member of that noble profession, it is---

#### A LIBEL ON THE BAR

to say that it was to their honor to refuse to hold a brief for a client when required to do so. We are not identified with the character of our clients, but I presume that the insinuation there is, as we allege, that not only was the defendant under the impression that counsel is identified with the character of his client, but that to be so identified with Captain Hearsey would be a dishonour; that he and his case were such dirty work that the bar refused, and honoured themselves by refusing to conduct his case for him. That I venture to think, is a gross libel on the Bar. I hope the day is very far distant when the Bar will ever deserve any such stigma as that.

#### THE ASSAULT ON MR. CHESNEY.

Now, gentlemen, the circumstance to which attention is called in that short article is reported in another column. I shall not read to you all the report at present, unless it becomes more material than at present appears to me. Suffice it to say at present that the case referred to---in which such salutary chastisement was meted out, and very severe it was---was a case for assaulting the defendant. And I think you will hardly fail to come to the conclusion from that circumstance referred to in the article that whatever the motives---we will hope some worthier motives were mingled in the mind of the defendant---one, I say, can hardly fail to draw the inference that there was

#### ACTIVE MALICE IN THAT ARTICLE.

\* This is the decision of the case and it will give you a sufficient idea of the case at present :---"In giving his decision Captain Hewett stated that the accused had admitted his guilt, and that he did cause hurt to Mr. Chesney. He read a long statement, a very great deal of which was irrelevant, to the court. He said its cause was the

amount of 'provocation given' in that article in which reference was made to a brown Captain, and he also alleged that the insinuation was made that he would not again fight for his country." The allusion to a brown Captain will probably be easily perceptible by you. The suggestion that he would not again fight for his country together with the allusion to his appearance was, I think, very well calculated to provoke a man who admits himself to be rather hot-tempered: and therefore this very assault for which he was being punished, and over which his enemy gloats in that article, was a more or less excusable thing. I do not wish to justify it in the least, but it was an offence which was committed under considerable provocation. "There was nothing in the article complained of to show that Captain Hearsey was referred to; and even if his idea was well founded, he might have had recourse to the law." No doubt that was perfectly correct. Captain Hearsey took that article to be meant for him and took the allusions to be to him, and I think you will be satisfied that he was justified in taking them so. "It was intolerable that he should have taken the law into his own hands in the manner he did, and there is another statement it appears, that was most unwarrantably made. He had been four times previously convicted, and as his assault was on this occasion premeditated he (Captain Hewett) did not think the infliction of a fine would be sufficient. The defendant would be simply imprisoned for one month, bound over to keep the peace for twelve months, and to find two sureties in a hundred rupees each." And not upon this, in the very same issue of the paper and before the appeal could be preferred, his foe thought fit to publish this damaging statement with regard to him.

#### AN UNREASONABLE INTERRUPTION.

Now, gentlemen, I shall, subject to his lordship's direction, call your attention very shortly to the Code, and his lordship will tell you whether I am correct in suggesting that it will be for you to consider whether there was active malice in this matter. If that should be a subject which his lordship submits to your consideration, then I will venture to submit with regard to these two articles that the report and the article bear on the face of them. [Mr. Gasper here interrupted with some remarks, but owing to the low tone in which he spoke, he was not very audible at the reporter's table. He was, however, understood to say that he was very sorry to interrupt his learned friend, but he begged to submit that it was not open to the prosecution to rely upon such motive.]

The Judge (sharply) :—I see no grounds for any interruption at present. Please to go on Mr. Phillips.

Mr. Phillips (resuming) :—I venture to submit, gentlemen, that THAT ARTICLE IS NOT CHARACTERISTIC OF AN ENGLISHMAN.

No doubt, newspapers perform a very useful function, and the freedom of the Press, the liberty of writing, is, we all know, to be cherished. I need not dilate upon that, and we all know equally well that inasmuch as by reason of the anonymous nature of these publications license may grow up and private malice be pursued under the pretence of the public good, and private malice, private vindictiveness may be gratified under the guise of public spirit, it is very necessary that the Press should not be allowed to go beyond its legitimate and wholesome functions, and, I submit to you, gentlemen, that this article is in the nature of a stab. It is not the characteristic mode of fighting of an Englishman. Whatever Captain Hearsey may be, that is not a fair way of meeting him. He had been that very day sentenced to a punishment at which one cannot help feeling some revulsion. The idea of his being sentenced to one month's imprisonment with a further period, as an alternative, for an assault, no doubt very blameable, very much to be regretted, and which I hope, he will not in any way justify or palliate now in cooler blood, but which he alleged was made under provocation, being goaded on to it by certain disparaging, if not offensive, allusions to his appearance and being grossly insulted in that article which he conceived applied to him! Smarting under this provocation, with his temper roused to fever heat, he went to the defendant, and in default of obtaining any satisfaction from him struck him a blow which, I suppose, was merely nominal. It was intended to mark his sense of the insult which had been put upon him. For that he was punished, we must assume with perfect justice, in a very severe manner undoubtedly. With that, all vindictive feeling—I say vindictive feeling, because any public feeling that the defendant had must certainly have evaporated,—that vindictive feeling which he cherished ought to have been amply satisfied. An appeal was at once proclaimed, and upon that comes out this article. Can anybody, will any English gentleman venture to say, that is a proper proceeding? and when an English gentleman who has been unfortunately led by his feelings into such a position declines to admit that that is a wrong course, and to come forward and make the reparation which any right-thinking man would make, then I venture to submit to you, gentlemen, that the inferences I ask you to draw are correct inferences. Therefore, I submit, you cannot feel any compunction in finding that gentleman guilty, and leaving him to be dealt with by the law. Gentlemen, my client, although alluded to in such disparaging terms, is also entitled to the full protection

of the law, and, if it is a fact that he occupies a less favourable position in society than the defendant, he is the more entitled to protection at your hands. Now gentlemen, no one can, I think, subject to his lordship's direction, have any doubt that

THIS IS A LIBEL: A GROSS LIBEL.

Now, then, what possible excuse can there be for this statement? I do not know whether it will be suggested, as I have hinted to you, that the prosecutor is a man who has no character to lose. That is too absurd to be really seriously considered. He is not presumably known to the great body of people in Calcutta; and therefore as far as they are concerned he is accepted as an honest man, as a man without any stain attaching to his character; and consequently a publication in Calcutta must necessarily damage his character. I shall allude to that very shortly in referring to the circumstances under which you are troubled with this case. But what sort of a man must he be who had no character to be damaged by a notice of this sort? It might be an aspersion on the character of a member of the criminal class to say that he is an honest man. Character may get to that pitch, no doubt. *Prima facie*, as I believe his lordship will tell you, Captain Hearsey is as good, as honest, and as reputable a man as any of us here present, and therefore, *prima facie* of course, there is no question about such a publication injuring his character. But should it be attempted to be shown that, in fact, he has not that character, still the defence must fail on that ground, because whatever may be said at Allahabad—whatever may be his reputation there—he certainly has not and cannot have that evil reputation here, and I hardly think that my learned friends, in exercise of their wise discretion in the conduct of this case, will venture to put forward that ground because it will entirely destroy the other ground on which, I imagine, they will seek to rely, namely, that it is for the public good: because if everybody in the world knows that Captain Hearsey is of this character there could be no public benefit in publishing it; everybody knows it already; I think I may dismiss with these observations any anticipations that I have of their setting up that ground.

THE IMPUTATIONS: ONE ANDREW HEARSEY.

And as I say, what sort of a man is it who could not be injured by these imputations? I will shortly call your attention to one of them. One Andrew Hearsey. (a laugh). There is a sort of mixture of the known and unknown there. It seems to stamp the man as it were out of the pale of civilized society: and yet inconsistently they go on to say "notorious"—"notorious in these Provinces as Captain Hearsey." Now what do they mean by notorious as Captain Hearsey, Captain Hearsey being in italics? They say that he was in the Army, and therefore they cannot intend to suggest what would seem at first sight to be the intention—that he had no right to any military title whatever, and therefore the suggestion must be that he has assumed the title of Captain, and that he has become notorious under that title. Of course, it is difficult to say what would be the precise effect upon the mind of the reader of that passage, but it has a very unpleasant resemblance to a description of a swindler: and certainly a swindler of some sort is suggested in the unwarranted assumption of the title of Captain.

WHAT IS A CAPTAIN?

Now I shall submit with regard to that, that we are not going to inquire whether Captain Hearsey was, according to military rules, strictly entitled to be addressed by the military authorities as Captain, because we know that there are many titles, which are assumed and conceded by courtesy, and I shall be able to show to you, if necessary, that this gentleman has been known for many years—in fact ever since he left the Army—as Captain Hearsey. He obtained the grade of Lieutenant when he left the Army, and he was next for promotion to Captain, and about the time that he retired from the Army the Captain who stood in his way chanced to die, and he according to his view of the matter became entitled to that rank as a matter of course. But at any rate whether or not he became entitled to it in the strict sense that I have mentioned, that title has been conceded to him universally, and if it is a courtesy title there is no reason why it should be spoken of in this way. This suggests that he always assumed the title himself, but that nobody else recognised his claim to it.

THE RETIREMENT FROM THE ARMY.

Then it says, "Mr. Hearsey, originally Lieutenant in the 107th Foot, closed his career in the Army under pressure from the then Commander-in-Chief." If this article had been more outspoken it would have been more manly. It proceeds by way of insinuation: what kind of pressure it was we are not told. As a matter of fact, his retirement from the Army was due to his making a mistake in a manoeuvre which he was directed to carry out. He made a mistake. The Commanding officer got angry, and perhaps there may have been other feelings influencing the authorities. We cannot exclude the possibility of that—and the Colonel, although several other officers made mistake on the same occasion—noticed this very severely, and my client was required to send in his resignation. He made a protest and a great deal of opposition, but ultimately complied. Well, to retire from the Army under pressure of that sort, is a totally different thing from what is insinuated here. The impression conveyed is that his accounts were impeached or his honor



in some way concerned. The lie which is half the truth, gentlemen, you know what the character of that is--and this is of that character.

**REMEMBER NOT THE SINS AND OFFENCES OF OUR YOUTH.**

Gentlemen, then the article goes back five-and-twenty years ago--to his hot youth. In 1864 he was fined Rs. 100 for an assault. We say "Remember not the sins and offences of our youth," and probably with very good reason. What man is there whose career could be raked up in this way? "During the ten years ending 1884 he was convicted seven times for various offences against the Penal Code, in four of these for breach of the peace." They do not give the character of those assaults, or whether they were under any provocation or not? They do not mention what the other three offences were. But I venture to submit to you, subject to his lordship's direction always, that it is not competent even to a newspaper, except for some adequate object, to rake up the past history of any person whatever. Of course, if you have a public man, there may be an adequate object. If it is under circumstances requiring that the character of a private individual should be made known to the public, then there may be an adequate object, but I venture to put it to you, gentlemen, that unless on occasions of that sort, it is not competent to a writer--perhaps less in the public Press than elsewhere, but certainly not more--to rake up a man's past history. They are entitled at the time to give a true and faithful account of what takes place in Court, however disparaging, however damaging, however ruinous it may be to the character of the person involved; but there is no such right to rake up past events.

**NOW, WHAT IS THE OBJECT OF THIS?**

It is to show that Captain Hearsey is a ruffian. "It may be hoped on public grounds that Mr. Hearsey's ruffianly propensities will be effectually discouraged by the salutary action of the Cantonment Magistrate."--A ruffian, a stubborn ruffian, an inveterate ruffian, one whose ruffianly propensities, too, can only be checked or discouraged--they cannot be eradicated. They break out from time to time according to this writer, and may be expected to do so, unless they are met by severe punishment of the description meted out by the Cantonment Magistrate. That punishment I have already pointed out to you, is that which this defendant--I do not think I use too strong a term in saying--gloats over. Then, to further stigmatize my client, the article adds that he is too disreputable for the Bar--the native bar, it says. I do not know whether it means that *a fortiori* the English Bar there too would have declined to have anything to do with him. If so, it is a more venomous stigma than if it simply put them on the same level. I presume it must mean that. It says that the Bar declined to perform their functions on his behalf--functions which are cast upon them by the public for the benefit of the public, although they are exercised in particular cases on behalf of individuals. What man is there unless he belongs to the criminal class, who would not be injured by such a notice as that? I put it to you, gentlemen, whether it is easy to conceive of such a case? I put it to you also, gentlemen, whether after this unfortunate man had been adequately punished for the offence he had committed under provocation, this is an English, a manly thing, when he has gone away to prison, and is lying there awaiting the opportunity of appealing, to publish a paragraph of that description concerning him? I submit it is not. Well, now then, what possible excuse can there be? I have dealt with an excuse, which perhaps is only suggested to my own mind, and which you will hear no more of. I will pass on from that. Can it be suggested that there is any public object in publishing this libel? Why, it does not profess any public object. It does not profess that there is anything about Captain Hearsey except notoriety and the ruffianly description of his character, which renders it necessary to warn the public. They are not warning the public. They are not saying to the public, "Here is a man who is liable to mislead people, or who is looked up to." On the contrary, they say, he is looked down upon; he is not looked up to. They appear to be warning people against getting in his way for fear he should assault them. They do not appear to be endeavouring to divest him of any public reputation because they do not appear to consider that he has any public reputation of which it is desirable to divest him. They wish to stamp deeper what they declare to be his public reputation, and therefore I submit to you

that there can be no defence, because it is only on the footing of his being a coarse ruffian who is known to a very considerable portion of the community as a determined ruffian; but as a portion of the community may not be aware of his ruffianly propensities, it is desirable to warn them. That is the only possible good I submit they can possibly allege. There is nothing whatever suggested, in this article, which would lead you to imagine that there was any other object, except that of fixing deeper in the mind of the reader of this paper, the fact that this gentleman who goes about calling himself Captain Hearsey, is notorious as a breaker of the peace and a ruffian, so that they may be on their guard against that ruffianly propensity which is here alleged--not to place him in his right character as a press on wrongly enjoying the respect of the public. There is no attempt at that. Therefore, I venture to submit to you that there is really no defence. There can be no defence. The fact of the publication of itself brings the defendant within the law. I will just read to you, gentlemen, one or two sections of the Code referring to this matter. (The learned gentleman here read section 499, which defines defamation and the subsequent section on the subject. He continued:--) If I have correctly submitted the result of what I have stated, the defendant intended to harm and also knew, and had reasonable ground for believing that the imputations would harm the defendant. The only exception that I can imagine that can be relied upon in any degree is the ninth exception, which says that "it is not defamation to make an imputation on the character of another, provided that the imputation be made in good faith for the protection of the interest of the person making it, or of other persons, or for the public good." That is an exception which allows freedom of speech with regard to the faults and defects of other people when occasion requires it; when it is necessary for the protection of the person speaking or the person spoken to or the public generally. But that is not, I venture to think his lordship will direct you, to be used as a cloak for private malice. These, gentlemen, are all the observations I have to trouble you with at the moment, except with regard to the matter I suggested, as to why you should be troubled with this case. I regret it very much. The prosecutor no doubt is not resident here. The defendant is also not resident here. The prosecutor is a resident of Mussoorie, and therefore unless he were content and able to prosecute this case in the Mussoorie Court, he must leave his own domicile in search of a tribunal. You see from the nature of the article itself that unless it is totally false that there is anybody who has this impression about the prosecutor--you see it states that this is his reputation in the North-West Provinces previously--the defendant cannot complain that the plaintiff does not seek a tribunal in the North-West Provinces. Moreover, had the complainant prosecuted in the North-West Provinces, I believe he would not have had the advantage of having his case tried before a Judge of the High Court, and I conceive that, if he had a choice of tribunals, although I regret the burden should be cast upon you, he could not possibly do better than choose this tribunal.

**AN ELOQUENT PERORATION.**

You, gentlemen, will look at both sides of the case. You will consider whether the prosecutor deserved to be stigmatized in this remorseless manner to be thrust down into the very lowest abyss of society, even if not thrust out of it, whether there can have been any proper or excusable motive in doing so. You will, as gentlemen of experience and as men of the world, take into account that these delinquencies which are charged against him go back to his youth. It does not appear when the others took place, if they did take place at all. Perhaps from the Prince of the blood commanding the entire Army down to the lowest Ensign, no member of it can claim to be altogether exempt from follies of that sort in their youth. Then, again, you have it indicated that this gentleman is of a hot disposition. And as I submit to you, you have it that the defendant has received full satisfaction for the wrong that had been done him, as far as the law can satisfy him, but still he gives vent to his vindictiveness in what ought to be at that stage cool blood by deliberately publishing this article. You will see, gentlemen, that it is in a prominent part of the paper, and I venture to submit that there is no possible excuse for it.

This concluded a speech which lasted for nearly an hour.

**THE 6th ORDINARY MONTHLY MEETING**

OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CALCUTTA,  
under Act II. (B. C.) of 1883,  
WILL BE HELD IN THE TOWN HALL,  
on Thursday next, the 5th September 1889,  
at 4 P.M.

**BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.**

1. To consider the following item of business left undisposed of at the adjournment of

the 5th Ordinary Meeting held on the 29th August, 1889:--

To confirm the proceedings of the Bustee and Town Improvement Committee at a Meeting held on the 10th May 1889.

1. To confirm the proceedings of the General Committee at Meetings held on the 29th July and 12th August 1889.
2. To confirm the proceedings of the Water Supply Extension Committee at a Meeting held on the 17th August 1889.
3. To confirm the proceedings of the Suburban Improvement Committee at Meetings held on the 30th July and 13th August 1889.

4. To confirm the proceedings of the Complaint Committee at Meetings held on the 24th July and 7th and 21st August 1889.
5. To confirm the proceedings of the Market Committee at Meeting held on the 7th August 1889.
6. To confirm the proceedings of the Bustee and Town Improvement Committee at meeting held on the 3rd July 1889.
7. To consider further the proposed new Bye-laws framed under Section 412 of Act II. (B. C.) of 1888.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

30th August 1889.



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## TRAVELS &amp; VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,  
BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDDOON JAH BAHADOOR,

(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,  
Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street,  
CALCUTTA.

## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From

the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract.]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA, ENGLAND.

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This Company's Steamer "BURMAH" will leave Calcutta for Assam on Friday, the 30th instant.

All cargo for shipment by the above vessel should be sent to the Company's Godowns at Juggannauth Ghat, not later than Thursday, the 29th instant.

## CACHAR LINE.

The steamers of this line will run to Cachar as usual, for which cargo will be received until Tuesday evening.

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Calcutta, 24th August, 1889.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1889.

} No. 390

## CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

### CANADIAN SONNETS.\*

#### ON A DOG.

"Grotesque!" we said, the moment we espied him,  
For there he stood, supreme in his conceit,  
With short ears close together and queer feet  
Planted irregularly: first we tried him  
With jokes, but they were lost; we then defied him  
With bantering questions and loose criticism:  
He did not like, I am sure, our catechism,  
But whisked and snuffed a little as we eyed him.

Then flung we balls, and out and clear away,  
Up the white slope, across the crusted snow,  
To where a broken fence stands in the way,  
Against the sky-line, a mere row of pegs,  
Quicker than thought we saw him flash and go,  
A straight mad scuttling of four crooked legs

#### MARCH (CANADIAN).

Over the dripping roofs and sunk snow-bartows,  
The bells are ringing loud and strangely near,  
The shout of children dins upon mine ear  
Shrilly, and like a flight of silvery arrows  
Showers the sweet gossip of the British sparrows,  
Gathered in noisy knots of one or two,  
To joke and chatter just as mortals do  
Over the day's long tale of joys and sorrows.

Talk before bed-time of bold deeds together,  
Of thefts and fights, of hard-times and the weather,  
Till sleep disarm them, to each little brain  
Bringing tucked wings and many a blissful dream,  
Visions of wind and sun, of field and stream,  
And busy barn-yards with their scattered grain.

#### THE TRUTH.

Friend, though thy soul should burn thee, yet be still.  
Thoughts were not meant for strife, nor tongues for swords.  
He that sees clear is gentlest of his words,  
And that's not truth that bath the heart to kill.  
The whole world's thought shall not one truth fulfil.  
Dull in our age, and passionate in youth,  
No mind of man hath found the perfect truth,  
Nor shalt thou find it; therefore, friend, be still.

Watch and be still, nor hearken to the fool,  
The babbler of consistency and rule:  
Wisest is he, who, never quite secure,  
Changes his thoughts for better day by day:  
To-morrow some new light will shine, be sure,  
And thou shalt see thy thought another way.

\* From *Among the Millet, and other Poems*. By Archibald Lampman. Ottawa: 1888.

## CONTEMPORARY IRISH POESY.

### THE DESOLATE WIDOWED MOTHER.

(From "The Coffin-Ship," in Mr. John Todhunter's new volume of poetry.\*)

Mad, in the storm, her grey hair dank with the wind-blown spray,  
Her homespun gown soaked rotund her, heavy with brine  
As her heart with tears—alone  
A woman stands by the pool,  
And wrings her hands, and thuds her shoddering breast  
With bruising blows; then scans the face of the pool,  
And tosses her arms aloft, and sends through the night  
A moaning heart-breaking cry:

"Norah ahoy! Kathleen ahoy!  
Dhrops o'me heart, come back to me! *Cushla machree*  
Norah, come back to me! look at me here alone!  
Come back from the say, come back from that Coffin-Ship—  
The rats is lavin' her. Whisht! do you hear the wind  
Keenin' keenin'? Whisht! Don't you hear? When it blows  
This-a-way, thro' and thro' me, the hunger le's in my heart.  
The hunger's on me for you to-night. I want you, I do.  
I'm lonely, childre, I'm lonely. Your father stuck to the soil—  
Why couldn't the' make short work, evict us into the say?  
The Big House got him at last, the faver, the yalla hole,  
The pauper's grave; an' me down; and Patsy under the sod;  
An' Shemus—I disremember where 's he at all. Ochone,  
I'm lonely, childhre' I'm lonely! Norah, don't lave me, *asthore*,  
Come to me, Kathleen, *aroo*!"

"Oh, wather, wather! for all you're quiet an' small,  
Sure you're a slip of the say—the say wid its landlord's heart  
That never heeds for a cry, th' ould slaughtherin' absentee.  
Ragin' an' roarin' beyant. Aw, whisht! I owe you no rint,  
Ould disolation; your rint is waitin'—the Coffin-Ship,  
Take her this night, an' welcome; but Christians isn't your due."

### POESY OF THE IRISH BAR.

#### SONNET.—TO PATRICK ROBERTSON, ESQ.

Patrick! than whom no man or mother's son,  
From Rydal northwards to thine own Strathspey,  
The grave can better temper with the gay;  
Who art in truth a double-barrelled gun,  
One barrel charged with law, and one with fun;  
Accept the customary votive lay,  
On this the festive, though the thoughtful day,  
When time another cycle has begun,  
Spite of the working of "the people's bill."  
May thy quaint spirit long impart its zest  
Unto thy daily life, making the year  
One constant merry Christmas—seasoning still  
The learning of the law with well-timed jest,  
And meditation pale with purple cheer.

W—W—H—TH.

\* London: Kegan Paul, Trench, and Co.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

A NEW Rama has risen in the South to abate the Simian nuisance stimulated and aggravated, if not created, by his greater namesake of old. From the classic days that has been the land of the monkey. At last the humans are tired of the Simian tribe. The good people of Tanjore have for some time been casting about for a means of deliverance from the depredations of these nimble-footed Mahrattas and Pindaris of the trees and woods. The local municipality has just accepted the tender of an enterprising but scarcely orthodox Hindu contractor, Rama Sawmy Naik of Kombaconan, to catch them at the rate of a Rupee each, the cost of feed and transportation being borne by the corporation.

THE Prince of Wales is troubled with a gouty affection of the eyes and a recurrence of the venous inflammation of the leg—the legacy of his typhoid fever in the winter of 1871-72.

ON the 6th August, Lord Tennyson celebrated his 80th birth-day, the Duke of Edinburgh his 45th and the Marquess of Lorne his 44th.

THE frauds at the Imperial Dockyard, Kiel, are bringing out prominent men. The head naval architect, Herr Pannecke, Secretary Dubky, and Privy Councillor Kruger, of the Imperial Naval Department at Berlin, are under arrest. There have been also several arrests at Hamburg.

THE Italian engineer, Vittorio Bocca, has projected a canal connecting the Adriatic with the Mediterranean. It is to be 200 Kilomètres long, 262 feet wide and nearly 40 feet deep. It is to start on the west coast of Italy from a point near Montalto di Castro, in the Roman province, and issue at Fano, in the Adriatic. The scheme provides for a harbour with an area of 12 acres at each extremity. The work is calculated to employ 200,000 workmen for six years, costing 40,343,690 frs., or about 1,600,000*l*, including the amortisation of the borrowed capital. The expected annual income is put down at 48,221,893 frs.

THE visit of the Shah of Persia to England has won for His Excellency Mirza Ali Ashger Khan Amin-es-Sultan, Grand Vizier to his Majesty, the appointment of an Honorary Membership of the Civil Division of the First Class, or Knights Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath.

TO make the roads noiseless, it has been proposed to lay the London roads with india-rubber.

THE Hotel Bernina, at Samaden, is lighted with electricity, power being supplied by a waterfall. In the day, instead of allowing it to waste, they thought of utilising the current and all the ordinary cooking is now done in a range fitted with a series of German silver resistance coils.

THE British Medical Association opened its fifty-seventh annual meeting at Leeds on August 13. There were six hundred delegates present. The society has thirteen thousand members on its rolls with branches in the Cape of Good Hope, Nova Scotia, West Indies and India. Dr. Wheelhouse presided. In the address, the Doctor claimed that "medicine and surgery had been founded on a rock of knowledge from which they could never henceforth be dislodged. They were adding year by year to the vast stores of their knowledge, and doing a mighty work in the dominion of pain and suffering. He foreshadowed the time when by the spread of sanitary and other sciences the whole human race would be protected from the evil influence of the seeds of disease." In one of the papers read on August 14 at the Conference, Dr. Brindley James, of London, suggested the establishment of a Government Department of Health, with two medical Peers and a Cabinet Minister of Public Health.

ONE of the charges against General Boulanger was embezzlement of public money. According to the address of M. Quesnay de Beaurepaire for the prosecution, when Boulanger took office as War Minister,

the reserved fund amounted to 2,250,000 francs. He took for his personal propaganda no less than 242,000 francs, the amount being written off as subsidies to journals. Captain Driant was paid 10,000 francs for the publication of biographies of the General by way of increasing his popularity. The *Action* received 25,000 francs, and 1,000 copies daily of the *National* which took up his cause were purchased, while 10,000 and 5,000 francs went to other journals. An unknown "B" was rewarded with 15,000 francs. When he joined the Ministry, he was poor and his father in debt to the extent of 60,000 frs. These were cleared off at once. He had two small apartments hired and furnished for him by Mine. Pourpe at costs of 12,000 and 15,000 frs. where he received ladies. It was undeniable that the General took for his personal uses at least 107,000 frs. of the Secret Service money.

A question was raised whether the Secret Service money, not amenable to accounting, could be the subject of a charge against a Minister, but the court—minus the 53 of the Right who had questioned the competency of the court to try the General and would not be present—overruled the objection by 195 against 5, (there being 10 abstentions) and found the General guilty.

GENERAL BOULANGER, Count Dillon and M. Rochefort were sentenced on August 14, to deportation to a fortified place and to pay the costs of the trial. Under the French law, it is open to them to demand retrial within six months.

THE following is a summary of the subsequent proceedings in the ecclesiastical litigation we noticed last week:—

"On Aug. 13, Mr. Edgar F. Jenkins, Proctor for the Bishop of Lincoln, filed in the Registry of the Court of the Archbishop of Canterbury the responsive plea of the Bishop of Lincoln. The bishop admits the facts alleged by the prosecution, but denies the use of the alleged illegal practices. He submits that the use of two lighted candles on the holy table was lawful; in taking the eastward position while consecrating the elements he had 'no wish or intention to prevent the communicants present from seeing him break the bread and take the cup into his hand'; he contended that the ablution of the paten and chalice and the reverent consumption of the remaining bread and wine were in accordance with the rubric. Similar replies are filed to like charges on the second occasion mentioned in the articles, with this addition—that 'during the celebration down to the Creed he stood or knelt as required by the rubrics in front of the holy table, and at the northern part thereof, this being the north side of the table as directed by the rubric. During the reading of the Ten Commandments he turned to the people as directed by the rubric.' In conclusion, 'the said proctors, save as aforesaid, do not admit, but on the contrary deny, the allegations in the articles contained; and they submit that the acts stated in this plea are not, nor are any of them illegal acts forbidden by the laws, canons, and constitutions ecclesiastical of this Church and realm. Wherefore the said proctors pray that their said party may be dismissed from all further observance of justice, and that otherwise right and justice may be done in the premises."

FOR the statement in his paper the *Nirodini Prava* that the Bulgarian Government had signed a convention with Austria-Hungary, giving that Power the right to occupy Widdin and Rustchuk in case of war, which statement has been construed to damage the Government in the eyes of the people, M. Radoslavoff, a former Bulgarian Prime Minister, has been ordered to be prosecuted.

MR. FRAMJEE C. MEHTA, editor and proprietor of the *Kaisar-i-Hind*, has obtained a summons from the Bombay Esplanade Police Court against Mr. K. N. Kabraji, editor, and Mr. Merwanjee Fardoonjee Marzban, proprietor, of the *Rast Goftar* and *Satya Prakash*, on a charge of defamation.

ACCORDING to the *Kathawar Times*, the vernacular paper *Kathiawadi* published in Wadhwan will be prosecuted this month before the Acting Political Agent, Jhalawar, on a charge of extortion, at the instance of the Dhrangadra State.

A CORRESPONDENT from Lahore telegraphs to us on the 4th that

In the Lahore defamation case Pandit Gopinath *versus* the proprietor and the editor of the *Kohinoor*, the defendants, acknowledging the baselessness of the allegations, tendered unreserved apology in Court, which the plaintiff in common courtesy accepted.

THE Commissioner of Police at Bombay, having, a few months ago, issued a circular to book-sellers warning them against selling Vizetelly's translations from certain French works condemned in England, the 'cute vendors now offer them under different titles. Their custom is scarcely affected.

IN response to the call of the Trustees of their Punchayet Funds, the Parsees met in large numbers at the Albless Baug, Girgaum, Bombay, in the afternoon of Sunday the 25 August, to protest against the strictures made upon them by the Inspector-General Ommaney's confidential report in the Crawford scandal. Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy presided. The meeting unanimously adopted the following Resolutions:—

"That whilst gratefully appreciating the kindly feelings, good will and confidence of the Government of Bombay towards the Parsee community, as expressed in the first para. of the demi-official letter of his Excellency Lord Reay to the Hon'ble Sir Dinshaw Manockjee Petit, Knight, dated the 22nd July, 1889, in reply to his letter of the 20th idem, relating to the false imputations against the whole Parsee community, contained in the Note of the Acting Inspector-General of Police, dated the 20th February, 1889, in connection with the Crawford case, this meeting records its opinion, that the Parsee community would have had no cause for dissatisfaction had the said Government been pleased to express officially its dissent from the said imputations at the time of placing the said Note on the official records, or at the time of forwarding the same to her Majesty's Secretary of State for India."

"That this meeting considers—(a) that the Parsee community as a body was entirely disinterested and unconcerned in the objects of the particular enquiries narrated in the said Note of the Acting Inspector-General of Police, and completely indifferent to the results thereof; (b) that the Parsee community fully appreciated the desire of the Government of Bombay in directing the said enquiries to maintain a high standard of morality in the administration of the Public Service of this Presidency; and (c) that throughout the conduct of such enquiries, the Parsee community fully sympathised with the efforts of the Government to elucidate the truth by appointing the Commission which sat for that purpose."

"That this meeting considers that the imputations against the whole Parsee Community contained in Section 78, headed 'Opposition of the Parsees' in the said Note of the Acting Inspector-General of Police, in the following terms, namely:—(1) That 'that whole of the Parsee community, which includes all the people who know most about Mr. Crawford's financial arrangements, were in the opposition;' (2) that 'from Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy down to Merwaenje Pleader and the proprietors of the *Deccan Herald*, every Parsee was a passive or active obstructionist;' (3) that 'it deserves mention, lest the Parsees who have succeeded in preventing themselves being mixed up with Mr. Crawford, should get credit, which they most certainly do not deserve, for superior morality,' are sweeping, entirely unfounded, and contrary to truth in every respect and that this meeting desires to express its strong and firm repudiation of the said imputations, and its extreme regret that they should have been recklessly made against a whole community by a responsible officer of Government in an official document which has gone forth and been published to the whole British Empire."

"That copies of the resolutions passed at this meeting, together with the full minutes of the proceedings, be forwarded to the Government of Bombay, and through them to her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, in the name and on behalf of the Parsee community generally of Bombay, Poona, and other places, duly authenticated by the signature of the chairman of this meeting, with a request to annex the same to the records of the Crawford Commission Case, and to give them the same extent of publicity as has been given to the imputations contained in the Note of the Acting Inspector-General of Police."

The same day, the Parsee community of Kurrachee held a similar meeting.

THE Principal of the Sir Jamsetji Jejeebhoy P. B. Institution in Bombay, Mr. D. N. Wadia, has inaugurated a Pice Savings Bank to teach the pupils thrift. We thought this was a lesson which the Parsees imbibed with their mothers' milk. The majority of these boys belong to the poor of the Parsee community. Have they pice to save? We hope they will not deny themselves creature comforts to save.

SHAHEEZADA MAHOMED BUKHTYAR SHAH, of the Mysore family, son of the late lamented Prince Anwar Shah, has been granted the privilege of private entrée to Government House.

THE *Englishman* announces that "Dr. Chew, Analyst to the Calcutta Corporation, has resigned his appointment." Why? Was he not suspended? The Calcutta Corporation is continually appointing persons who very soon have to retire or to be sent away.

IT is reported in Madras that Mr. J. D. Rees, at present on furlough, hopes to arrive at Agra from Europe next month, in time to meet Lord Connemara on his way from Madras to Simla, and, having relieved Mr. Claude Vincent, the Acting Private Secretary, will accompany His Excellency to Simla and back to Madras. It is said that Mr. Vincent will also go to Simla, for instructions in connection with his appointment to serve on the staff of Prince Albert Victor during His Royal Highness's tour in India, Mr. Rees retaining the Private Secretaryship until Mr. Vincent is able to resume his post on the Governor's staff.

W. HAGGERT having for the past 15 years taught the Santhals that the Bible was inspired by God and should be taken as their guide in living, seems astonished to find it put into practice. The headman of Monohor, divided between his fear of punishment from man and his dread of what may befall him if he disobeys the word of the Lord and suffers a witch to live, has taken to flogging the poor woman that he considers to be thus afflicted.

Mr. Haggert should explain to his disciples that the Bible is only to be understood in a Pickwickian sense.

Mr. Haggert recommends more Government schools, and I agree with him and further suggest a society for the promotion of common sense amongst Europeans as regards religious matters.

When are they going to abandon this belief in witches and spirits and devils and bedeviled pigs and singular superstitions?

AT Jubbulpore on the 30th of last month, Mahomed Khan, the gymnastic instructor at the Raj Kumar School, shot dead with an Express rifle one of his fellow tutors named Abdoos Salam, whilst he was drawing water at the cistern, and afterwards blew out his own brains with the same weapon. The motive was revenge at being accused of theft.

LAST month, the visitors to the Museum—open 21 days—numbered 35,869, namely, natives 26,559 males and 8,560 females and Europeans 554 males and 196 females, or a daily average of 1,708.

NILAKUNTA SHASTRY, a Pleader, sued the Secretary of State for a piece of land, in the Sub-Judge's Court at Madura. The Government Pleader Mr. French asked one of the witnesses the question "Do you or do you not know that the Sheristadar was bribed to write exhibit E?" Nilakunta resented this action of the Government Pleader as casting a slur on his character and moved the District Court for permission to sue Mr. French for professional misconduct. The District Judge Mr. Ross referred the matter to the High Court, privately giving it as his opinion that a reprimand would be enough. The matter was argued on behalf of Mr. French by Mr. Willie Grant in the High Court. He pointed out that the Collector of the district claimed privilege and refused to answer whether he had instructed Mr. French to put the question, and that Mr. French was not at liberty to disclose his instructions. The Counsel for the petitioner argued that the question was improper and that the Collector could not claim the privilege. The High Court (the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Wilkinson) dismissed the reference, the Chief Justice remarking

"the Collector dare not disclose his instructions without the permission of the Secretary of State, and Mr. French could not divulge his instructions. If he did, the court would take notice of it. It seemed to their lordships that the sub-judge and the district judge did not study the Act. It was not shown by the petitioner that Mr. French was not instructed, and if instructed, he acted within privilege."

*The Advocate of India* reports that

"Mr. Nanu Mian, the present Municipal Secretary of Surat, was lately administrator of the Sachin State. On Sunday last (Sep. 1) the young Nawab of Sachin was passing by the Municipal Office in his carriage, and, taking fright at some obstacle on the road, rushed into the compound of the municipal office, where Mr. Nanu Mian was standing at the time. The Nawab appears to have become greatly incensed on seeing him, and to have greeted him with violent abuse. Mr. Nanu Mian, our correspondent says, retaliated in words. The altercation was, fortunately, brought to an end, by the Nawab's carriage being driven away. Since then the Nawab and Mr. Nanu Mian have laid complaints against each other before the Collector of Surat."

RAMSBOTHAM, a horse dealer, died at Bradford in December last. He was not married but had lived with a woman for 20 years who bore him nine children, five of whom are living. In November he had put his mark to a will, prepared at his instruction, bequeathing the whole of his property to the children. After his death, the will was not forthcoming, and the Crown, represented by the Duchy of Lancaster, was about to put in a claim as heir to an intestate. The will now turned up among the papers of the deceased and was propounded by the mother of the children. The probate was opposed by one Alfred Ramsbotham, on the ground that the will was a forgery. The attesting witnesses swore to the execution, but a number of witnesses were produced to shew that the deceased had died intestate. The Jury, however, found the will genuine. Witnesses have their price in England as in India.

A SENSATION has been announced for next Saturday—Horse Parachute Descent.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

TO-DAY is the last Saturday mail day, the next mail day being Tuesday September 14. From September 20, the mails leave Bombay every Friday, they closing in Calcutta on Tuesday.

THERE has been an extraordinary rise in the river, and a breach in the Laltakuni embankment in consequence, and the country is flooded. There is great and widespread distress throughout the populous Districts of Moorshedabad and Nuddea. The Nawab Bahadur of Moorshedabad and the Maharani of Cossim-Bazar have, with their usual liberality and promptness, come forward to the relief of the poor and the suffering.

THE Labor Revolt is not confined to London. Though still a bloodless struggle, it has descended to threats and intimidation. In Liverpool, the grain-carriers struck work and won their terms. The sinews of war are being supplied by Australia in the shape of funds for relief of the strikers. As a consequence of the strike, two thousand Engineers have been locked out—dismissed—at Lambeth, Vauxhall and Pimlico.

The Dock Directors refused permission to the shipowners to make their own arrangements for discharge of the vessels. All efforts failing, Lord Mayor Whitehead tried his good offices with the Directors and Laborers. Mr. Lafone, the head of a leading firm of Wharfingers, has given way to the demand of the laborers, the Strike Committee have allowed the men, excepting the lightermen, to resume work on Thursday, and 5,000 men went to work that day. They have started a Strike Fund to which each laborer contributes one day's pay and one penny daily.

The Royal Warrant is out reducing the number of Generals to ninety, after December.

Mrs. Maybrick has succeeded in securing enough sympathy for her self and children. She has been spared the gallows and her children adopted by some Londoners.

The news from St. Petersburg is that the special train carrying the Shah was derailed on September 1, at Bar, in the Podolia district. None was injured and His Persian Majesty was subsequently taken to Elisabethgrad. There have again been several arrests of Nihilist men and seizure of some printing presses at Kharkoff.

Prince Bismarck is suffering from inflamed veins.

At the Cutlers' Feast, on Sep. 5, Lord Cross repeated the assurance that the Government had no notion of annexation of any kind in Cashmere and that as soon as Maharaja Pratap Singh sees his mistake and can trust himself to govern his country for the benefit of the people, the Government will be willing to hand it back to the Maharaja. The policy is specifically propounded in the Viceroy's frank and excellent letter to His Highness, to be found in another column.

THE High Court Long Vacation commenced from Thursday the 5th, and will continue till Friday the 15th November, the Judges resuming regular work on Monday November 18. There will be an Insolvent Court on Thursday October 31. The offices of the Court will close for original business from Monday September 23 to Tuesday November 12 and for the Kartic Pooja on Thursday and Friday November 14 and 15. Mr. Justice Norris will sit on the Original Side on Monday September 9 and then Mr. Justice Beverley will dispose of urgent Original work on Mondays and Thursdays till the 19th. After the 19th by special appointment Mr. Justice Tottenham will take up any urgent work that may be placed before him. On the Appellate Side, excepting the close holidays, namely, September 24 and 30 to October 10, & 23, 24, 26, November 1, 2, 7, 14 and 15, Messrs. Justices Tottenham and Gurudas Banerjee will sit as Vacation Judges and will hear motions and cases on Mondays and Thursdays.

LORD LANSDOWNE leaves Simla on October 22, travels by rail from Umballa to Khusialgarh, then by tonga to Kohat halting there the same night. The next day he rides through the Pass. Stops at Peshawar four days. Back to Attock by rail and then by boat down the Indus to

Meerwalli. Thence to the Gumal Pass and back to Dehra Ismail Khan. Again by rail to Quetta, and up the Bolan and down the Harnai route. To Lahore by Sukkur. Stays there for 3 or 4 days and then comes direct to Calcutta reaching it in the afternoon of Saturday November 30.

Sir Mortimer Durand, Colonel Ardagh, Lord William Beresford, Surgeon-Major Fenn and Captains Streatfield and Harbord form the Viceregal party throughout the journey.

Lady Lansdowne has a separate programme of her own. Her Excellency parts company with the Viceroy at Rawal Pindi on October 24 and proceeds to Peshawar. On November 3 again leaves the Viceroy at Kalabagh and proceeds to Lahore, rejoining the Lord at Sher Shah Junction on November 15.

The Commander-in-Chief meets the Viceroy at Peshawar on the 29th and then proceeds to Quetta.

The Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab bears the Viceroy company from Lahore, *via* Kohat, to Peshawar.

THE Law Member has introduced a Bill for breaking up, at the next vacancy in the office, the present jurisdiction of the Administrator-General of Bengal extending to the North-Western Provinces, the Panjab, the Central Provinces, Lower Burma, Ajmere and Merwara, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the dominions of Princes and States in India in alliance with Her Majesty—a much larger jurisdiction than that claimed by Mr. Justice Norris for the Calcutta High Court—into four centres, namely, at Calcutta, Allahabad, Lahore and Rangoon. To make the posts sufficiently remunerative, the Government takes the power to amalgamate the two offices of Official Trustee and Administrator-General at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay, the several High Courts giving up their patronage to appoint the Official Trustees. The Bill further provides for the administration of estates in the newly acquired territories of Upper Burma and British Baluchistan by an Administrator-General. It also declares, to the removal of an anomaly, that a receipt given by the executor or administrator in the country of domicile (other than British India) of a person leaving assets both in British India and in the country of his domicile, to the executor or administrator in British India for the surplus or residue of the estate in British India, is a valid discharge to the executor or administrator in British India.

IN deference to the wishes of the Calcutta, Madras, Rangoon and Kurrachee Chambers of Commerce, the Government have caused the amendment of the Indian Merchandise Marks Act, 1889. It had fixed August 1, 1889 as the date of its commencement. This threatened to prove an inconvenience and the several Chambers asked for the suspension of the Act for three months. The Supreme Government, in the Legislative Department, have accordingly empowered the Local Governments, in special cases, according to their discretion, either absolutely or subject to conditions, to permit piece-goods to be imported at any time before November 1 without having their length stamped thereon in standard yards, or, in standard yards and a fraction of such a yard.

COLONEL MOORE has filed his plaint against Mr. Norton. It consists of six paragraphs. Beginning with his name and description as a Lt.-Colonel of the Royal Artillery who has been President of the municipality from 1886, December 6, and setting forth in the 2nd the name and description of the defendant, he states in the 3rd that as such President he had the power, with the sanction of the Standing Committee of the corporation, of granting contracts for the right of cultivation on the farms of the municipality and did with such sanction grant such a contract from April 1, 1888 to March 21, 1891 to one P. Ellayalwar Naidoo. The next paragraph as containing the circumstances of the alleged libel, is the most important, so we give it entire:—

"Sometime in the early part of the present year 1889, and previous to the middle of the month of May 1889 and as the plaintiff believes, either in the early part of the said month of May or in the month of April preceding or thereabouts, the defendant at his own house, known as Dunmore House, the Luz, Madras, in the presence and hearing of divers persons including Mr. A. G. Bourne, the Professor of Biology in the Presidency College, Madras, falsely and maliciously, as plaintiff is informed, and believes to be true, spoke and published of, and concerning the plaintiff in respect of his office as President of the Municipal Commission for the City of Madras, the words following: that is to say 'that Ellayalwar Naidoo' (meaning thereby the said Sewage Farm Contractor in the last preceding paragraph mentioned) was 'his' (the plaintiff's) 'Sowcar' and 'he' (the plaintiff) 'was indebted to him and in his hands,' or words to the like tenor or effect, or which conveyed the



Asia. His Hungarian endurance was taxed to the utmost. He lived on the way in deserted outhouses, frail and leaky, with bats and owls, beetles and scorpions, on the charity of the poor, and on the rewards of writing out charms for the living and pronouncing mass on the dead. His persistence was noble. His privations must have been terrible. The richest harvest of knowledge would not tempt most minds to such a mission.

But Vambéry is no mere Pandit. With an equal aptitude for letters and affairs, he is as great in politics almost as in philology. We believe he is a born politician, most Magyars are born politicians, we suspect. The misfortunes of their native land make them so. Hungary is the Niobe of nations. Her sons learn in suffering what they teach in public questions. In going all the way to High Asia, Vambéry thoroughly explored the countries he passed through, in respect of their geography, their history, their sociology and their government. Unfortunately, he had not the means for taking notes; he would not have dared to take any, if he had. He was reduced to his memory alone and he observed all the more carefully. And, among other things, he observed well the facts bearing on the politics and prospects of that region. He has given the world his political observations as well as those on other subjects. His book of Travels is well-known. The precursor of Boulger, he has written the History of Bokhara. His contributions to linguistics are many. Above all, he has written largely on the politics of Central Asia. Ever since his return, he has never lost an opportunity of drawing attention to the subject. His rôle has been rather unlucky. His song is not the song of optimism. He is a prophet of evil—a sort of Jeremiah and Cassandra combined. He was the first in our generation to force the notice of Europe, and of England in especial, to the development of Russian dominion—the rapid strides by which Russia was advancing towards China on the one hand and India on the other. He was unheeded, but he is long-suffering and he did not mind. He simply stuck to it, never ceasing his strain. There were those who derided him—sleek critics vain of knowledge acquired in the ease and quiet of the library—but the laugh was soon turned against them. The rapid progress of the great Northern Bear overtook the wits sooner than they were prepared for. But, whatever controversy there may subsist about his views, he is universally recognised as the best friend of Great Britain.

As such, he is, of course, the foe of Russia. And he is even more formidable in opposition than useful in alliance. He is a thorn on the side of the Czar. It is all very well to despise the puny attacks of literary men on the fabric of substantial power—to talk loftily of the insignificance of the pen before the sword and the bullet. But Napoleon the First knew better. He thought a single newspaper worth as much as a battalion. According to that standard, this Professor of Pesth is equal to half a Russian *corps d'armée*.

Of course, sympathising as he does with the rivals of Russia, he feels for her victims. As he warns England against the approach of the Russians to the Indian Empire, he mourns over the gradual and unavoidable dwindling of Turkey.

When such a man appears to speak to Mahomedans, they cannot choose but hear. We are sure our Mussulman brethren of India will not fail to listen to him with respectful attention. We only hope they will

listen to some purpose. He discourses upon a good text. He recalls to them their past greatness, and invites them to recover their former glory. His ideal of greatness is not one of brute force. He knows that the era of that—at least for the Indian—has passed away, but he knows also that the opportunities for science are open to all in this age who care to seek it. He knows that, under the liberal sway of England in especial, the Mahomedans are as free to master the mysteries of Nature as any other section of the Queen-Empress' subjects. As a philosophical student of history, he cannot ignore the part that war and conquest, like colonization, has played in the divine scheme of the education of the human race. But if he names the rather ominous name of the Arab who won the title of the Sword of God, it is only to tickle the pride of our Islamite fellow-subjects as the race that carried with it wherever it went the eternal and glorious, but by no means obvious, doctrine of the unity of the godhead. He reminds them of the services of the Mahomedans in maintaining the torch of knowledge during all that long hybernation of Europe in the Middle Ages of Darkness. Having once given the light to Christendom, it can be no humiliation in receiving it back. Accordingly, he supports the movement set on foot by Nawab Abdool Luteef for Mussulman education through the medium of the English language. The educational backwardness of the Mussulmans is at once a political inconvenience to Government and a social difficulty to the more advanced sects. The Government and the entire community, no less than the Mahomedans in general, have reason to be thankful to his correspondent for drawing out the great Hungarian Professor.

#### ✓ THE LETTER.

To Nawab Abdool Luteef Bahadur, C. I. E., Calcutta.

BUDA PEST UNIVERSITY.

August the 12th 1889.

MY DEAR NAWAB,—I beg to acknowledge with many many thanks the receipt of the valuable and highly interesting pamphlets on the rise, growth and doings of the Mahomedan Literary Society of Calcutta, which you have been so kind to send me.

As one, who is deeply interested in the welfare and cultural development of the Mahomedan world, I have long time ago watched and paid the greatest attention to the activity of the Society created and led so admirably well by you, and I need scarcely say that I am much obliged to you for having afforded to me the opportunity of entering into relations with a man of your abilities, patriotism and true devotion to your nation.

Having devoted the greatest part of my life to the study of the Mahomedan nations and countries, I feel the keenest interest in the work of the Calcutta Literary Society of Mahomedans, who have furnished the most eloquent proof that, a nation, whose holy book contains the saying—

\* *اطلب العلم من المهد الى الممعد*

will not and cannot remain behind in cultural progress, and that Islam is still able and willing to revive the glories of middle age, when the followers of the Koran were the torch-bearers of civilisation to mankind.

It is also from a political point of view, that I must congratulate you of your doings, for you have shown to your fellow-believers the superiority of Western culture presented in English garb to the dim and false light, which might come from elsewhere. I am not an Englishman and I do not ignore the shortcomings and mistakes of English rule in India, but as one, who has lived in many countries of Europe and Asia and who took great trouble to look deeply into matters—I can assure you that England is by far in

\* *Utubul ilma min-al-Mahd-i-Ilal Lahd, i. e., Seek knowledge from cradle to grave.*

advance to the rest of European nations in point of view of justice, humanity, liberty and fair-dealing with those, who are entrusted to her care. You the Indian Mahomedans, who, as the successors of Khalid, can justly pride of having introduced monotheism in India, you are called upon to give to the rest of the people of Hindustan the best advice and example in choosing the appropriate means for modernising your matchless but antiquated culture. I wished that Turkey, who is fairly advancing in modern science, could take the lead in the Mahomedan world as an instructor and as a civilising agent, but poor Turkey, surrounded by enemies and weakened by continual warfare, must hardly struggle for her existence, and cannot look to her fellow-believers in the distance, in spite of the noble qualities and patriotism of her present ruler, whom I am proud to call my friend.

In default of a Moslem guide, you are on the best way in India in having adopted English tutorship, and you Sir, who leads that movement, you do certainly the best service to your nation and religion in encouraging the Mahomedans on the path of Western culture and sciences. I wished my age would permit me a visit to India, for I have not yet given up the idea of delivering a few lectures in Persian, which I speak like my mother language, to the Mahomedans of India, and if I come to India, I shall appear there under the patronage of your Society, trying to contribute a small stone to the noble building raised by your efforts.

I beg your pardon for having ventured to intrude with my long letter, which I conclude with the hope of your favoring me with the opportunity to continue our correspondence and of your forwarding also in future the publications of your Society to

Yours faithfully,  
A. VAMBERY.

#### MOORSIEDABAD.

*Azinganj, 2nd September, 1889.*

The whole of Azinganj is under water. Old men say that they never witnessed such an extraordinary rise of the River Bhagirathi before. Miles and miles all round are under water. The Lalbag Sub-Divisional Court is also submerged. The sufferings of the people, the loss of property and cattle are very great and may better be imagined than described. Our worthy townsman Rai Setab Chaud Bahadur is very kindly distributing rice, and grain for men and fodder for cattle. Other leading men ought to follow his example in relieving the distressed. The Laltakori embankment gave way last night at 10 P. M. Seven arrests in connection therewith have been made. The distress is becoming general and assuming alarming aspect..

#### THE MUTTIABROOJ GRIEVANCE.

SIR,—The Mohurram festival has commenced here since the evening of Wednesday the 28th instant, when the new moon was first seen, and Rs. 3,000 has been granted by Government for the expenses of this year's ceremonies at the King of Oudh's Imambarrah at Muttiaboorj. The celebration of the festival is chiefly superintended by Prince Mirza Jahan Kadar, although with him are associated Princes Mirza Kamar Kadar and Mirza Mahomed Jogee.

The Imambarrah is under the special charge of Mr. Upton, the Government Solicitor. He has issued a notice to the following effect: "Notice is hereby given to the Princes that in future requests for special services at, or for the loan of articles from, the Imambarrah should be made direct to this office."

The Imambarrah is a place of religious worship according to the tenets of the Shi'ah, and on various occasions, throughout the year, Mahomedan gentlemen and ladies repair to it for purposes of worship. Mr. Upton prohibits them from holding special services there, without making a formal application on each and every occasion at his office, which is about six miles distant from this place. This leads only to enhance the importance of his Tehsildar, Monmoth Mookerjee, the son of Kedarnath Mookerjee, the Head Assistant of the Superintendent of Political Pensions. The practice that has been introduced in this connection is, that whenever any Prince or Begum makes application to Mr. Upton's office, for holding a special service at the Imambarrah, he deposes Monmoth to superintend the giving out of the sacred articles from the store-room of the Imambarrah, and the Baboo brings them out, handles them (much to the disgust and chagrin of the priests and others), and makes them over to the applicant, and again receives them back after the ceremony is over, and puts them back in the store-room. Now, in the name of common decency, cannot this duty be entrusted to a Mahomedan official instead of a Hindu? Has it never occurred to Mr. Upton or to the Government, that such a procedure places undue power and influence in the hands of a common Hindu clerk, over the ignorant Begums (who have great regard for their religious services),

and unnecessarily offends the religious feelings of the entire Mahomedan community? Cannot this simple duty be delegated to some one of the Princes living close to the Imambarrah, and he be held responsible for the safe custody of the sacred articles?

As, you, Mr. Editor, have evinced some interest in the affairs of the Mahomedans, I appeal to you on behalf of the numerous Princes, Begums and other Shiah residents of this neighbourhood, to give a prominent place in your worthy journal to this letter, and draw the attention of Government to it by a few lines in your editorial columns.

A HINDU-RIDDEN MAHOMEDAN.

Muttiaboorj, 30th August 1889.

#### A CHALLENGE

From---Captain Andrew William Hearsey, late of Her Majesty's Service,  
To---George McLagan Chesney, Esq., Editor-in-Chief of the *Pioneer*.

SIR,—Having perused the leading article which appeared in the *Pioneer* of the 26th instant, it would from it appear that that journal regards with feelings of extreme regret, that the prosecution for defamation should have come to such an unexpected and unforeseen termination, and thus have prevented you from justifying your conduct towards me in the eyes of the public.

It seems to me a most extraordinary fact, if the sentiments expressed in the article above referred to are genuine, that you should have allowed the prosecution to fail on such a technical point of law, viz., "your responsibility for the publication in Calcutta of the paper containing the article objected to," when you could, by admitting such responsibility, have removed all difficulties; nor does it redound to your credit or that of the paper of which you are admittedly the editor.

The failure of the prosecution cannot, under the circumstances, remove the stigma which the defamation complained of has placed upon your paper, and I shall be glad to know whether you are prepared to admit that the *Pioneer* of the 26th of January last was published in *Calcutta and its Suburbs*, about that period, with your knowledge, and likewise whether you hold yourself responsible for such publication.

I also ask of you, that you will forward to my Solicitors, Messrs. Remfry and Rose, No. 5, Fancy Lane, a declaration to that effect, signed by you, and your signature attested by two respectable witnesses; likewise that you will undertake, in the same letter, that neither through yourself nor your Solicitors or Counsel, will you attempt, during the prosecution of any further proceedings against you for the said defamation of the 26th of January this year, in any other Court in *Calcutta or its Suburbs*, to prevent the said case for defamation from being committed to the Sessions; that you, your Solicitors or your Counsel, will, on the committal of the case to the Sessions, petition for the removal of the said case for hearing before the High Court, Calcutta, to be heard before a jury—in fact allow and act, as far as lies in your power, that the case shall stand *in statu quo ante* Mr. Justice Norris's direction to the jury on the 23rd of August—"and from that point be so proceeded with in its regular course as if nothing had interrupted it on that date. And let God defend the right.

I am not actuated in this by any malice or vindictiveness, but my prosecution is simply to settle if the statements made by you, in the issue of the *Pioneer* in question, were justifiable, or whether they are defamatory. In this I can honestly state I am actuated by *mens conscia recti*, and feel as Shakespere so aptly puts it:—

Thrice is he armed that hath his quarrel just!  
And he but naked—though locked up in steel—  
Whose conscience with injustice is corrupted!

If you agree to the points I have mentioned above, I will, on my part, consent not to prosecute anywhere else but in *Calcutta and its Suburbs*.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient servant,  
ANDREW HEARSEY, CAPTAIN,  
late of Her Majesty's Service.

P. S.—May I beg the favour of your giving this Challenge an insertion in your columns?

A. H.

#### THE REPLY.

Calcutta, 3rd September 1889.

No. 6342.

Dear Sirs,—Mr. Chesney has requested us to acknowledge, which we do through you, the receipt of an undated document headed "A challenge" and signed Andrew Hearsey.

We need hardly say that Mr. Chesney will not accede to the extraordinary proposition which Mr. Hearsey makes.

Yours Faithfully,  
Messrs. Remfry & Rose.

substance or meaning of such words, the defendant by his language meaning and imputing that the plaintiff was indebted to the said Ellyalwar Naidoo and that in consequence of such indebtedness he had acted as such President of the Municipality in a manner which was unjustifiable and discreditable to him, and had not been neutral, impartial, and without respect of person or property, in the discharge of his duties, but had been actuated by improper, partial, interested, and corrupt motives therein, and was therefore not worthy of the position he held as President of the said Municipal Commission, Madras, and of the respect, confidence, and support of the said Municipal Commissioners and of the public whose servant he is."

The Plaintiff thus concludes :—

"By reason of these premises the plaintiff has been injured in mind, character and reputation, and has suffered damage.

The plaintiff claims Rs. 50,000 damages, and prays judgment for Rs. 50,000 and costs of suit."

WE have heard from Hyderabad, that the strained relation between the Nizam and Sir Asnan Jah is the principal topic of conversation at that place at the present moment. The rumour is very strong that the Minister will soon resign.

It had been expected by everybody that Rajah Kishen Pershad, the grandson of the late Peshkar, would receive the Khillut of the office of Peshkar at the Grand Durbar held on the late Bukreed festival, but it was not so. It seems the Rajah's succession to the post occupied by his distinguished grand-father, is against the wish and policy of Moulvi Mushtak Hosain, the factotum and right-hand man of the Minister, hence he is being kept out of his hereditary office, for which he is in every way fully qualified. Perhaps the lucky Moulvi is thinking of having that high office filled by a Mahomedan gentleman, but it would be a crying injustice were the only one office in the administration, which has always been held by a Hindoo nobleman, snatched away from the people. For Hyderabad is Hindu, though governed by a Sultan and Pashas all Mussulman.

THE Pindi assault case has ended in the conviction of all and sundry concerned. Lieutenant Murray, of the 34th Pioneers, has been fined by the Deputy Commissioner Mr. Thorburn Rs. 50 for the violent hands he laid on a Bengali boy. The boy too has been fined Rs. 10 for assaulting the military gentleman, and, we suspect lowering British Prestige. We wonder whether the lawyers in the case also got a slap a piece—to complete the farce of even-handed justice. In any case, it is satisfactory to know for the credit of the Army that its representative proved his heroism in a fight with a frail but plucky Bengali lad. With such *material*, we may go to war with the Lushais with confidence.

THE Burdwan jewellery case has been postponed till after the Vacation and the award referred to the Commissioner of the Burdwan Division. There is a difference about the identity of some of the more costly jewellery and the Maharanee has agreed to abide by the decision of the Commissioner to avoid further costs and delay. But this matter and the main cause are being protracted beyond reasonable lengths to serve some purpose or other. Two Commissions have been issued for examination of witnesses in the North-West Provinces on behalf of both the parties. The Defendants' commission is returnable by 31st January 1890 and the Plaintiff's six weeks after. There will be breaks in the commission between the 2nd and 13th November and from the 20th December to 5th January 1890. The lawyers engaged will have thus both business and pleasure during the vacation. The Commission collects evidence at Lahore to shew whether the Burdwan Raj family are Punjabi Khetries or whether their law and custom allows adoption of an only son and a sister's son. Has the affidavit for possession of documents been filed by the defendants? The matter was being delayed on this plea and that and allowed by those entrusted to see it filed as ordered by the Court.

DR. HOERNLE, though one of the minor deities, is an exceptionally liberal one. At any rate, if he can be moved to listen to any prayer he more than grants it, not only giving what is wanted but something more besides, out of the abundance of his own grace. We confess we are much amused to find that the Principal of the Calcutta Medresseh, smarting under indignation at the dissatisfaction of the Mahomedan community with his Continental methods of administration, has, after all, allowed on the occasion of the Mohurram, 11 days' vacation from Aug. 28, instead of 9 days only, from the 29th. As a result, the students have got one day's holiday before the Mohurram, which was

not required at all by the Mahomedans. This shews that he is quite independent of any rule or principle, and allows or stops holidays just as his godship pleases.

HERE is an educational hint. A friend of ours writes :—"I expect my sons from St. Xavier's College to-morrow (August 31.) They are on leave in that institution. They may teach well, but the Revd. Fathers go in for too many Saints' Days. They might have extra prayers on their account, but the boys should have their lessons. Fancy they have about 6 months' leave in the year, and we pay for the whole year!" We hope the authorities of St. Xavier's might come to some rational, though strictly orthodox, solution of the difficulty, as they mean to make their college popular. We may as well tell them that the complaint comes not from a poor Heathen. Catholicism cannot, any more than Hinduism, disregard the necessities of the age.

GODOWNS and barracks are to be built for the Lushai Expedition in the village of Madarbatree, thana Town, zillah Chittagong. For the purpose, 6 bigahs, 11 cottahs, and 14 chittacks of land of standard measurement have been declared under the Act.

If the reader should ask what or whereabouts is thana Town, we must confess, not having ever eaten Government salt, we are not learned enough in administrative geography to be able to say. We are not even sure that there is no misprint in the matter. We transcribe the word or words from the Gazette official as we find it or them. If thana Town had been Thana Town one might suppose it to be something like Camden Town. If this unitalicised "thana" without an initial capital stands for a Police station, "thana Town" is a queer development of official Anglo-Indianese.

MR. SMITH made over charge of his office of Presidency Commissioner to Mr. Westmacott in the afternoon of Saturday Aug. 31. Mr. Smith passes his leave at Darjeeling. Baboo Annodapiasad Ghose, from Burdwan, joins the office by the middle of this month, when Baboo Aubinash Chunder Mullick goes back to Baraset in charge of the Sub-division. The first order Mr. Westmacott made was to make the Bhuttacharjee down to Balaki the orderly to be in attendance from 10½ in the morning to 7 in the evening. The Bhuttacharjee is at his tricks again. The new Commissioner had better keep a sharp eye on his Assistant, or he might find himself compromised.

A CORRESPONDENT of an upcountry paper writes :—

"As a stranger visiting the Bombay Presidency, but ignorant of any of the local dialects, I wished to go to Church yesterday, but my coachman did not comprehend English. After a long palaver, I got angry and told him most un-Christially to 'drive to the deoul,' and I was taken straight to the Church! I find that 'deoul' is the vernacular for a place of worship."

The writer is evidently proud of his ignorance and is only surprised at the cabman's prompt interpretation of his testy, if profane, description of his destination. But the kindness of the Almighty is the wisdom of the unsophisticated. What a hit was that! the more so if the place which the swearing Briton was driven to was a refuge of Dissent! Or, is Jehu a Bombay Babooling who, having graduated at the University, or, possibly, been plucked, had, in consequence of the glut of educational qualifications in the market, been driven to seek a living on the dicky? Such a being—the necessary outcome of our system—must in any occupation be still dominated by the memories and influence of the studies he had so long and so sedulously been prosecuting from childhood upwards. It would seem as if our learned cabby had paraphrased into action the opening lines of Daniel Defoe's Satire,

Wherever God erects a house of prayer,  
The devil always builds a chapel there  
And 'twill be found, upon examination,  
The latter has the largest congregation

This traveller's tale reminds us of the story of school examination at which the Right Reverend Visitor asking Who is your chief spiritual enemy, the boy answered "The Bishop."

THE Mohurram has come and gone. This is the last day of the grand festival. The Police arrangements, for the prevention of collision between various parties, always bent upon creating disturbance in this festival, were excellent and complete. The whole of the Police force behaved exceedingly well in regulating the numerous processions, and in watching the immense gatherings inside and outside the different Imambarahs, in this Town, at great personal

labor and inconvenience to themselves. We have heard of no disturbance, no quarrel, and no accident. The residents of the Town are thankful to Mr. Lambert for this agreeable result.

The grand processions of the Moghul merchants came out on the afternoons of Wednesday and Thursday, and were as splendid as ever. This morning's procession was even grander. There was a vast sea of heads from Fouzdary Balakhanah to Manicktollah, both in the streets and on the house tops on both sides of Chitpore Road, Bowbazar Street, and Circular Road.

WE publish elsewhere a letter from Garden Reach (Muttiaboory), which gives some idea of the petty tyranny which is being exercised by the office of Mr. Upton, over the relatives of the late King of Oudh, in connection with their religious ceremonies on the occasion of the present Mohurram festival.

We are informed that the sacred gold and silver articles, which had been made by the late King of Oudh at a considerable expenditure, chiefly for being displayed at his Imambarah on the occasion of the Mohurram, were not given out by Mr. Upton's people until the fourth day of the Mohurram, when they should have been made over to the Committee of the Imambarah long before. Mr. Upton should see that his Hindu clerk Monmoth does not find any pretext to interfere in religious matters connected with the Imambarah. Unless this is done, the Muttiaboory people will have grave cause for dissatisfaction.

## • REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1889.

### PROFESSOR VAMBERY TO ISLAM IN HIND.

THE leading political event of the week in India is—a letter. And not an official or even public letter. We do not mean the elaborate despatch addressed by the Viceroy *in propria persona* to the Maharaja Pertab Singh of Cashmere, which we reproduce in another column, for it has for some weeks been before the public. That to which we refer emanates from no authoritative or at least official, personage, being but a poor, if eminent, European Pandit's communication, and it was given to the world only yesterday in the morning papers and appears for the first time in the weekly press only in to-day's *Reis & Rayyet*. We mean, of course, Professor Arminius Vambery's letter to Nawab Abdool Luteef Bahadoor. Although addressed by one private man to another in the ordinary course of private life, the letter is only nominally private, being what in Indian official parlance is called a demi-official letter, and it has very properly been given out. Nor will the writer himself, though there is no permission in that behalf on the face of his letter, object to its appearance, if he has not, in a suppressed postscript or otherwise, formally permitted such publication. There has been no breach of etiquette, we take it. Though neither is an official, the Indian having some time retired from service, both are public men and even distinguished public characters, and the letter treats of public matters. The pronounced egotism, or rather egoism, of the writer itself is not private as it would be in the case of another, but thoroughly relevant. Egotism or egoism, it comes to the same thing, after all, but we do not use the much abused words in any opprobrious sense. The personality of public men is of public interest—their autobiographic revelations always welcome. Even so is the information touching the views and movements of the Professor on a subject on which he is an acknowledged authority. Altogether, this publication is one of general utility.

• Mons. Vambery is a distinguished *savant*—a philo-

logical and geographical explorer. His knowledge of the languages of Islam is vast and ready; Semitic or Japhetic, Aryan or Turanian, he has all at his fingers' ends. When, about a generation back, he went out on his famous Argonautic Expedition in quest not of any golden fleece but of his philological Prester John, he set out of Constantinople an accomplished Arab, Turk and Persian in one, and by the time he left Teheran and European civilization, he had received his finishing touches, so as to be able with confidence to proceed as a Haji in the company of Hajis. That this was no forced or external assumption was proved, not only by his companions, during the whole of a long journey, never suspecting him, but also by his saving himself with his ready acquaintance with Mahomedan theology and his voluble indignation in Arabic, when the instinct of young genius in Yacoub Khan, then the boy Governor of Herat now a prisoner in India, did detect him. A mere colloquial Arabic—in the modern form—is no great matter, and there have been some like Burekhardt in the past and Palgrave and Badger in our times who have joined classic Arabic erudition to spoken fluency. Belonging to this rare band, Vambery exhibits a far wider linguistic range than any one of these extraordinary men. He is familiar with all the different forms and dialectical varieties of Persian and Turkish—the Persian of Firdousi, and the Persian of Saadi as well as the Persian of Nasiruddin Shah's Court—the bastard Turki of the Pashas of Constantinople as well as the pure well of Turkish undefiled of Turkistan both in the Arabicised speech of the *Olema* of Bokhara the Noble and the simple "Saxon" vigour of the common tongue. He is probably the greatest Turanian or at least Visi-Turanian linguist in Europe, for he has made a comparative study of his native Magyar with all its affinities and been to the fountainhead on purpose. He is one of the heroes of letters, besides. He has made such sacrifices and incurred such risks in the cause of philology as have never been surpassed,—nay, not even by the mythical Fiezi in his pursuit of Sanskrit. This fact is usually not realized. It is now very different since the last Russian war with Khiva. Just now, the whole of the mysterious and dreaded region beyond Persia and Afghanistan Proper is now a European dependency traversed by the railway. Not so when poor Vambery penetrated it. It was then indeed the Land of the wild Turkoman and of anarchy and bloodshed. It is true that some had before been there, but there was a significant difference in the manner of the doing. They did not go as he did. They went as envoys or as European gentlemen. If any of them was constrained to adopt the habits of the country, they still allowed themselves the conveniences of Asiatic gentlemen—of Mirzas and Effendis. But Vambery made a sheer plunge into Asiatic life—at once a clean and a dirty plunge—a clean plunge into the dirtiest bottom of the Central Asiatic pool. It was not only the renunciation of the comforts of civilised being but a straying far beyond the ordinary shabbiness and untidiness of backward primitive communities. The horrors of Mr. Greenwood's bath as an Amateur Casual was a joke to the baptism of dirt Vambery underwent. The Pathan commercial traveller who sleeps with his camel in the field and changes his linen once a year in the Eed Festival is an extravagantly nice person before the Khivan or Kokandi pilgrim to Mecca, and it was as such a pilgrim that Vambery explored the heart of

## CASHMERE.

## LORD LANSDOWNE TO MAHARAJA PROTAP SINGH.

My Honoured and Valued Friend,—I have received your Highness's letter of the 14th May. It is satisfactory to me to learn from your Highness that you are loyally disposed towards the Paramount Power, and it is your desire to be guided by my advice. I shall give it to you frankly, and without any attempt to conceal my thoughts.

Your Highness has stated in your letter that your conduct has lately been completely misrepresented by your secret enemies; that Colonel Parry Nisbet, the British Resident in Cashmere, has dealt unjustly with you, and that your chief enemy has been your youngest brother, Raja Amar Singh. You suggest that the letter to Raja Amar Singh, signed and sealed by your Highness on the 8th March of this year, was written without due consideration, and in consequence of pressure put upon you by the Resident; you urge that that you have never enjoyed sufficient independence of action in regard to the affairs of your State to enable you to give satisfactory evidence of your ability as a ruler; you beg that you may now be given a further trial, and, with this object, you virtually recede from the proposals contained in the letter to Raja Amar Singh, of which I have just spoken; and, in conclusion, you express, in the strongest language, your inability to submit patiently to the position in which you now find yourself.

I must point out to your Highness that the decision of the Government of India to relieve you of an active share in the Government of your State was arrived at not only in consequence of recent events, but of circumstances which must be within your Highness's recollection, and which occurred some time before my arrival in this country. During the last years of the administration of my predecessor, the Marquess of Dufferin and Ava, extremely unfavourable reports had been received by the Government of India of the manner in which the affairs of Cashmere were administered by your Highness. The finances of the State were in disorder, a disorder which, there could be little doubt, was increased by your own extravagance, while your Highness had surrounded yourself by persons of the worst reputation, whose influence over you had produced the most unfortunate results. These complaints, which were made not only by the then Resident, but also by certain of the Princes and Sardars of the Cashmere State, were borne out by papers which were placed in the hands of the Government of India. These contained, amongst other matters, ample evidence to show that you were squandering the resources of your State in a most reckless and improvident manner, and in the encouragement of the most unworthy persons.

At this time the Government of India anxiously considered the course which it should adopt in reference to your Highness, and its decision was conveyed to you in the Kharita of the Marquess of Dufferin and Ava, dated the 25th July of last year. In this letter Lord Dufferin pointed out to you the impropriety of your dismissal of your Prime Minister, Dewan Luchman Das, who had been appointed after consultation with the Government of India, without reference to that Government. He strongly urged upon your Highness the necessity of a careful investigation of the condition of the finances of Cashmere, and of the Executive and Judicial Services, and he intimated to you that he was prepared to accept, with certain modifications, a scheme which had been proposed on behalf of your Highness for the formation of a reformed Council, of which you were to be the President. The constitution of this Council appeared to Lord Dufferin to be open to certain objections, but, in deference to your Highness's wishes, he determined not to press these. He, moreover, expressed his readiness to supply you with a certain number of trained native officials who might be of assistance to you in strengthening your administration.

About this time, in order to meet your Highness's wishes, advantage was taken of the appointment of Mr. Plowden to another post in order to appoint, as Resident in Cashmere, a gentleman well known to you, and regarded by you with feelings of friendship and confidence.

Looking back at these events, it is surely not too much to say that the result of the action of the Government of India in 1888 was to give your Highness, in the fullest sense of the term, a fair trial, such as that for which you now so earnestly ask. I am, however, constrained to tell your Highness distinctly that the result of that trial appears to have been of a most unsatisfactory kind. In the spring of this year my attention was called to the documents referred to in your Highness's letter: many of these had every appearance of being genuine, and they have, moreover, a striking resemblance to those other papers of which I have already spoken, and which came into the possession of the Government of India at a previous time. Your Highness is correct in expressing your belief that the action subsequently taken by my Government was not justified merely by the disclosures contained in these letters. Even if the whole of these had been unquestionably genuine, I could not bring myself to believe that they had been written deliberately or with a full appreciation of their meaning. There were, however, other circumstances which the Government of India could not do

otherwise than take into consideration. The reports from the new Resident of the manner in which your Highness had administered the State had been not less unfavourable than those submitted, from time to time, by Mr. Plowden. Notwithstanding the ample resources of your State, your Treasury was empty; corruption and disorder prevailed in every department and every office; your Highness was still surrounded by low and unworthy favourites, and the continued misgovernment of your State was becoming, every day, a more serious source of anxiety.

This, however, was not all. A meeting had taken place between your Highness and Colonel Parry Nisbet at Jammu on the 7th March, and upon that occasion your Highness had distinctly stated that it was your wish to have no more to do with public affairs, and had asked the Resident whether he was prepared to assume, in conjunction with a Council, the management of the State. You repeated several times to the Resident that you were tired of the trouble which had been occasioned to you by official affairs, and that you would prefer to go away and to live in peace privately. At the termination of the interview, you stated that you would send your brother, the Prime Minister, Raja Amar Singh, to discuss the matter further with Colonel Parry Nisbet; and Raja Amar Singh, on the following morning, assured the Resident that you had made up your mind to give up interference with public affairs during the next few years. A further conference between yourself and the Resident took place on the following day. You still adhered to the language which you had used on the previous day, only stipulating that the Council was not to interfere with your private affairs. In the afternoon the Prime Minister brought to Colonel Parry Nisbet your edict constituting a Council of State, which was to include an English member, and which was to have "full and sole powers in all the public Departments of the State for a period of five years," during which it was provided that "the Maharaja will not interfere and will have no voice in the administration of the public affairs of the State, but he will continue to enjoy the honorary rights and position of Maharaja." This proposal, emanating directly from your Highness, could not be treated by my Government otherwise than as embodying your deliberate intentions and wishes; nor can I admit that you are now justified in describing the edict, to which I have referred, as having been hurriedly written under pressure from Colonel Parry Nisbet, who, your Highness will remember, throughout these conversations, expressly pointed out to you that it would not be practicable for him to undertake the management of the State in the manner which you had suggested.

When your letter to Raja Amar Singh was laid before the Government of India, I felt that, in view of the circumstances which I have recapitulated, no other course was open to me than to accept in substance the proposal which you had made. In so doing, however, some important modifications were made in the original scheme. Amongst these I may mention my refusal to take advantage of your suggestion that an Englishman should be appointed to serve upon the new Council: such a step seemed to me to be unnecessary, and I determined not to take it. Again, instead of requiring that the new arrangement should last for at least five years, it was stipulated that it should continue for a time of which the length was not specified. I may also remind you of the consideration shown to your Highness by the stipulation that your Highness should receive a suitable income from the State revenues, and that your rank and dignity should be reserved to you. That this has been done has been amply proved by the respect shown to you by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief on the occasion of his recent visit to your State.

What I have written will show to your Highness how it has come to pass that the Government of India felt itself obliged to introduce these changes for a time into the Government of Cashmere. The arrangement was arrived at after careful consideration, and with a full knowledge of facts of which your Highness is well aware. I may add that by last week's mail from England I have received a letter from the Secretary of State for India informing me that Her Majesty's Government fully approve the measures taken by the Government of India in April last, and share their conviction that in the interests of the people of Cashmere, and of the ruling family itself, it has become impossible to leave the control of affairs in your Highness's hands.

*Holloway's Ointment and Pills.*—Rheumatism and Neuralgia.

Though the former disease remorselessly attacks persons of all ages, and the latter ruthlessly selects its victims from the weak and delicate, the persevering use of these remedies will infallibly cure both complaints. After the affected parts have been diligently fomented with hot brine, and the skin thoroughly dried, Holloway's Ointment must be rubbed in firmly and evenly for a few minutes twice a day, and his Pills taken according to the printed directions wrapped round each box of his medicine. Both Ointment and Pills are accompanied by instructions designed for the public at large, and no invalid, who attentively reads them, can now be at any loss how to doctor himself successfully.



It is idle to contend that all this has been the result of a conspiracy against you, in which the Resident, your brother, and the officials of the State, have all had a part. "In your letter to me you admit that you knew the Resident to be 'one of the sincere friends of my father and a good supporter of myself.' You had yourself designated your brother, Raja Amar Singh, towards whom you felt the greatest affection, for the office of Prime Minister. The officers lent to you by the Government of India were, you tell me, excellent men, and they were supplied to you at your own request. If, however, I am to accept the statement now made by your Highness, it would be necessary for me to believe that Colonel Parry Nisbet, Raja Amar Singh and the officers referred to must all of them have changed their nature as well as their disposition towards your Highness within a few months. All these men were, I believe, ready to be your friends, but they have found that your conduct in public and private life was such as to render it impossible for them to co-operate cordially with you.

What I have said has reference to the past. For the future, let me earnestly entreat your Highness to show to the people of Cashmere, as well as to the Government of India, by bearing in a dignified manner the loss of power which you have sustained, and, above all, by not associating yourself with local intrigues and conspiracies, or attempts to obstruct the Government, that you have not entirely lost the qualities of a wise and prudent ruler. The settlement announced in Colonel Parry Nisbet's letter of the 17th April to the Prime Minister is, as I have already pointed out to you, not necessarily a permanent one. Time will, however, be neces-

sary, if the finances of the State are to be restored to order, and the results of past maladministration effectually removed. Until this has been done, the present arrangement must certainly remain in force. When these good results have been achieved, it may be possible to give your Highness a larger share in the control of the public affairs of Cashmere. Much would, in such a case, depend upon your own conduct in the meanwhile. You cannot, therefore, govern yourself too cautiously, or be too careful in selecting your associates and confidants.

I would also ask you to inform Raja Ram Singh, who has, I understand, accompanied your Highness to Jammu, that the Government of India cannot regard with indifference his continued absence from the Council of State. He holds the important post of Commander-in-Chief in charge of the Military Department, and his failure to attend to the business of this cannot do otherwise than produce the most serious results. Unless, therefore, he returns shortly to Srinagar and resumes the discharge of his duties, it will be necessary to make some arrangement for the transfer of those duties to other hands.

I will add only one word to what I have said above. Should your Highness at any time desire to address me in connection with this, or other matters, it will always be agreeable to me to learn your wishes, or your opinions, and should you, at the present time, seek an opportunity of hearing from my own lips my views in regard to these questions, I shall at any convenient time be ready to receive you and to converse with you in a friendly and confidential spirit.

## CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

### LOAN NOTIFICATION.

1. The Commissioners of Calcutta are prepared, with the sanction of the Governor-General in Council, given under Sections 404 and 406 of Act II. (B. C.) of 1888, to open a Debenture Loan for Rs. 14,00,000 on the security of the rates, taxes and dues imposed and levied under the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act 1888.

2. The Debentures will have a currency of thirty years from the 1st January 1890, and will bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, payable on the 30th June and 31st December of each year.

3. The form of the Debenture-bonds will be that given in the twelfth schedule of Act II. (B. C.) of 1888.

4. No debenture will be issued for any sum less than Rs. 500, and above that amount debentures will be issued only for even sums of Rs. 100.

5. Tenders for the whole or any part of the above loan up to the amount of Rs. 11,15,000 will be received by the Secretary to the Corporation up to 2 o'clock P. M. of Friday, the 20th September 1889; the balance of Rs. 2,85,000 will be reserved for holders of debentures of the 6 per cent. loan of 1869 falling due on 1st January next, upon such terms as may hereafter be announced.

6. Each tender must be made out in the form annexed to this Notification, and enclosed in a sealed cover addressed to the Secretary to the Corporation, and superscribed "Tender for Municipal Loan of 1889-90."

7. Each tender must be accompanied by Government Promissory Notes, currency notes or cheques for not less than 3 per cent. of the amount tendered.

8. When a tender is accepted, the deposit, when made in currency notes or cheques, will be held as a payment in part of the amount tendered, and will bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum from the 20th September 1889, provided that the whole amount tendered is paid up in the manner hereinafter prescribed; but no debenture will issue for the sum so deposited so long as the entire amount of the tender is not paid.

9. The deposits on tenders which may not be accepted, will be returned on application, and no interest will be payable on such deposits. If an allotment after being made is not taken up, and the full amount allotted is not paid as hereinafter prescribed, the deposit will be forfeited.

10. The rate at which a tender is made, must be specified in rupees, or rupees and annas: a tender in which the rate is not so specified, will be rejected as null and void.

11. The rates stated in a tender must not contain any fraction of an anna. If a rate containing a fraction of an anna is inserted in

any tender, such fraction will be struck out, and the tender treated as if the rate did not contain such fraction of an anna.

12. The amount of the accepted tenders must be paid into the Bank of Bengal in the following instalments:—

One-third on 21st October 1889.

Do. on 21st November 1889.

Do. on 21st December 1889.

Parties whose tenders are accepted will have the option of paying all or any of the instalments before the dates specified above, and will receive interest from the date of such payment.

13. Anticipation interest will be paid on all instalments from the respective dates on which such instalments are paid into the Bank of Bengal to the 31st December 1889.

14. Tenders will be accepted in the order of rates tendered, beginning with the highest rate. In the case of two or more tenders at the same rate a *pro rata* allotment will be made (if the tenders are accepted), but no allotment will be issued if the amount distributed on any tender is less than Rs. 500.

15. Tenders will be opened by the Loan Committee of the Commissioners at 3 P. M., on Friday, the 20th September 1889.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

Municipal Office,

Calcutta, 31st August 1889.

### FORM OF APPLICATION FOR DEBENTURES.

I hereby tender for Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ of the Municipal \_\_\_\_\_ per cent. Loan for 1889-90, and agree to pay for the same subject to the conditions notified at the rate of Rupees \_\_\_\_\_ annas \_\_\_\_\_ for every Hundred Rupees allotted to me.

I enclose Government promissory notes, currency notes or a cheque for Rs. \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

### CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Sealed Tenders for supply of Miscellaneous Stores during the Quarter ending 31st December next, will be received by the Vice-Chairman and will be opened by him, in the presence of Tenderers who may wish to attend, at 2 P. M. on the 11th instant.

2. Forms of Tenders and lists of Stores required can be had on application to

UDOY NARAIN SINGHEE,

Superintendent of Stores.

3rd September 1889.

## CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY.

### NOTICE.

THE Senate will proceed, in the month of March 1890, to the election of a Tagore Professor of Law for the term of one year, to commence on the 1st of November 1890.

The salary of the Professorship is Rs. 10,000 per annum, and the Professor will be expected to deliver a course of not less than twelve lectures upon one of the following subjects:—

- (1) The Law relating to Damages.
- (2) The Law of Estoppel in British India.
- (3) The Mahomedan Law relating to Marriage, Dower, Divorce, Legitimacy and Guardianship of Minors according to the Sunnis.
- (4) The Mahomedan Law relating to Marriage, Dower, Divorce, Legitimacy and Guardianship of Minors according to the Shi'ahs.
- (5) The Hindu Law of Endowments.

Candidates for the Professorship are requested to forward their applications to the Registrar on or before the 1st of January 1890, and at the same time to state on which of the abovementioned five subjects they are prepared to lecture.

F. J. ROWE,

Offg. Registrar.

SENATE HOUSE, the 30th August 1889.

### CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Sealed tenders will be received by the Vice-Chairman and will be opened by him, in the presence of such tenderers as may wish to attend, at the Municipal Office, at 2 P. M., on the 16th September 1889, for the supply of about 210 sets, more or less, of Conservancy Pony Harness to be delivered at the South Gorkhanah within one month from the date of order, 100 sets to have long reins and the balance short or bearing reins, iron collar, harness to be half round, new iron, not less than 5-16 inches.

Tenders must be accompanied by sample of harness and Rs. 100 earnest money must accompany each tender.

The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

JOHN COWIE,  
Secretary to the Corporation.

### NOTICE.

The Vice-Chairman of the Corporation of Calcutta will receive offers up to noon of 10th September 1889, for the lease to the Corporation for a period of three years, of a house in the vicinity of the Municipal Office No. 4 Municipal Office Street, containing from 15 to 20 rooms.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

2nd September 1889.



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## TRAVELS &amp; VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,

BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

Nawab Faridoon Jah Bahadoor,

(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

Apply to Manager, "REIS &amp; RAYYET"

1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street, CALCUTTA.

## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From

the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract.]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA, ENGLAND.

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Rivers Steam Navigation Co.  
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This Company's Steamer "ORISSA" will leave Calcutta for Assam on Friday, the 6th instant.

All cargo for shipment by the above vessel should be sent to the Company's Godowns at Juggannauth Ghat, not later than Thursday, the 5th instant.

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The steamers of this line will run to Cachar as usual, for which cargo will be received until Tuesday evening.

## DHUBRI &amp; DEBROOGHUR SERVICE.

The Steamers of this Service leave Dhubri daily immediately on arrival of the Mails from Calcutta, and are connected with the E. B. S. Railway for booking of traffic through to river stations.

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A Daily service of steamers is maintained between Goalundo and Debrooghur, for passengers and light goods traffic, i. e., packages not weighing over a ton. The steamer leaves on arrival of the previous night's train from Calcutta.

All particulars as to rates of freight and passage by all the above mentioned Services to be had on application to—

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Calcutta, 4th September, 1889.

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By Capt. ANDREW HEARSEY.

Apply to *Reis & Rayyet* Office, Calcutta.

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It keeps a cowshed pure and sweet.

It improves the coat, destroy vermin, keeps fly off, stamps out all infectious diseases.

It is a specific for foot and mouth disease.

It kills all unpleasant smell without setting up another smell of its own.

It kills fleas, red lice and vermin of every kind in Poultry, Pigeons, Cattle, Horses, Dogs, Cats, &c. Effectually cures Gapes, Roup and Comb Disease in Poultry.

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It destroys moss and weeds on gravel paths and exterminates worms from lawns.

It is a valuable destroyer of all kinds of ants. It kills green fly, red spider, thrips mealy bug, removes worms from the soil in pots, &c.

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## Preparing for the Press THE FALL OF MANDALAY, BY ZITO.

With which is combined a complete and practical Guide to Upper and Lower Burma.

The Author accompanied the last Expedition under General Sir Harry Prendergast, in November 1885, and remained in Upper Burma after the conquest until June 1887.

The work will probably be ready for delivery on an early date; meantime subscribers may register their names with

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A limited space only will be reserved in the GUIDE for advertisement, for which early application is invited.

In consequence of the difficulty and delay in getting together reliable matter for the guide portion of the work and the preparation of numerous illustrations which must be executed in England, some delay necessarily will arise in the execution of the work. But intending subscribers should not delay in registering their names at the above address.

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OFFICE: 1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street, Calcutta.

of it as damages. The only way in which this is material in this case, in the view which I take of the matter, is that, if this really is an action by the plaintiffs for damages for conversion of the cheque, it is for them to show that it was their cheque which had been converted; and it is clear that the mere possession of a cheque under these circumstances by the Bank is in itself *prima facie* evidence that it has been paid and does not remain the property of the payees."

He also finds against Lall Chand on the facts, that is, disbelieves the Durwan on whose evidence the lower Court rested its verdict. Speaking of Sew Lall, Mr. Justice Pigot says:—

"There is nothing to show what he is, whether he is a man of experience or a man of judgment, of steadiness and sobriety of conduct, a man of good character. We know absolutely nothing about him save that he has been employed on some occasions to present cheques for the plaintiffs at the Bank, and this becomes, as it appears to me, of much importance when we have to consider what is the nature of the case which his evidence involves. If he had stated that he had absented himself from the Bank between the time of his handing in the cheque and the time of his demanding it, a different set of considerations might have arisen. In that case the question might, perhaps, have arisen whether or not the money had been paid to some third person by mistake. In that case the evidence of the Bank's servants might have been attacked either on the ground that it was only an honest persistence in a mistaken belief, or at the worst, was a story got up to cover an act of negligence. It would not have involved, as the case as it stands must do, a deliberate misappropriation of the money by the Bank servants and conspiracy to conceal that misappropriation by perjury."

He concludes thus:—

"It is not necessary, in order to decline to give effect to Sew Loll's evidence, to convict the man of appropriating the money. He may have been paid, and have lost or been robbed of the money, and may have then sought to avoid the consequences of this misfortune by a desperate attempt at persuading the Bank of a mistake as to the payment of the cheque. But there can be no mistake of what we must impute to the Bank officers if Sew Loll's story is to be accepted. Some of them must have appropriated the money. If Sew Loll's story be true, the absent poddar seen, or invented by him, would probably be the person to have done so. But in that case we have here persons, old servants of the Bank, who have come forward and charged themselves with the responsibility of having paid the money, who accept that responsibility and risk in support of a story which they must know to be false. I am bound to say that in a case of this sort we must measure the clashing improbabilities, we must estimate them and judge of them to the best of our judgment. We ought not, I think (and other Judges of this Court have said the same thing) in a case of this sort, though resting, as it does, solely upon a matter of fact deposed to by the testimony of witnesses we have not seen, and whose demeanour has been witnessed by the Judge sitting in the Original Court, we ought not nevertheless, beyond giving due weight to that circumstance, be prevented from dissenting from his decision even upon a question of mere fact, if we are decidedly of opinion that the burden of the case is against the conclusion at which he has arrived, and for my part I am quite clear in agreeing with the Chief Justice that that is so, and that upon the balance of the evidence as it stands before us, that for the defendants greatly preponderates. What the truth of a case of this sort is, it is sometimes not easy to be absolutely certain. Certainty derived from the testimony of witnesses in this country is a state of mind not easy to arrive at. We must deal with the reasonable probabilities, and I am quite satisfied that they are all in favour of setting aside this decree which I agree ought to be done."

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Madras Standard* notices that—

"The Sub-Collector of North Arcot in his report on 'Official Tyranny' makes use of the expression 'I and the Tahsilder, &c.' This is almost as bad as Wolsey's 'Ego et Rex.' Wolsey had grammar on his side. Has the Sub-Collector as much?"

THE Maharaja of Patiala has arrived at Simla.

THIS is a sample of the pastime of modern scientific research:—

"Mr. Paul Bert sewed the tip of the tail into the back of the rat. After it had taken root in its new position, he cut it off close to its original point of insertion. The rat now wore a tail reversed in position, the former tip being the root. After some time it was found that the new tail was sensitive. Conclusion, the nerves of sensation can carry impulses each way. Dr. Koch has recently performed this experiment on 40 rats. In 30 cases the tails united satisfactorily; but never, even eight months later, was any sensation present in the new appendage."

Conclusion, Mr. Bert had been torturing God's creatures, each perhaps as useful as himself, for nothing, and inviting other scientific butchers to do likewise.

"THE best hated man in London," who wanted to distinguish himself by the destruction of the Corporation of London, Mr. J. F. B. Firth, is dead.

MR. BALLARD having served out his time in the Police Force, has taken to training up young men for the same service from Headconstable upwards. He selects for his school men, eligible by physique, who know how to read and write. He has already 31 students, whom he expects

to pass his standard of training in six months instead of twelve which he at first proposed. If he can turn out good men, he will have done a service to the Police and the public. The Police needs weeding out, and here is an opportunity for Government to reform a Service which admittedly requires overhauling.

At the meeting on Aug. 19. of the French Academy of Sciences, the astronomer Janssen introduced Mr. Edison. In token of his personal acquaintance, the great electrician presented that learned body a perfected phonograph provided with a sufficient number of cylinders to enable it to preserve the record of the utterances of the very words of the great *savants* around him, for the benefit of future generations. M. des Cloiseaux, the President, on behalf of the Academy, gratefully accepted the present and warmly thanked the presenter.

THE Bengal Club will entertain Prince Albert Victor while in Calcutta.

To facilitate the discharge of vessels laden with Kerosine Oil, the Calcutta Port Trust have decided to erect at Budge Budge, four additional jetties with pontoon stages.

Two wealthy maiden sisters—Boggs—in Point Pleasant, Western Virginia, poisoned themselves to death because "they were tired of life, as there was nothing in it for old maids that was worth the living." Well done! *Fellees* (we really must have this handy feminine for fellows!) who could not make themselves acceptable with all their wealth, during such a length of time, don't deserve to live.

THE Eiffel Tower is the latest Parisian Fashion. At a fancy dress ball in Paris, a lady appeared with a miniature of that structure on her head. It was a yard high and set with diamonds.

WE read a complaint in the *Sakti* of Dacca that in the Karimganj and other post offices in the Maimensing district, they refuse to receive silver for money orders when not bearing the figure of the Queen-Empress with the imperial crown, and that persons are subjected to the loss of Rs. 7 to 8 for a Money Order for Rs. 25, of Rs. 10-12 for one of Rs. 30, of Rs. 30-35, for that of Rs. 100, and Rs. 50-60 for that of Rs. 200. We are sure, the Post Masters will be held responsible for this inconvenience and loss to the public.

BAROO PRASANNA KUMAR BOSE, Special Deputy Collector, on Income-tax duty, Calcutta, the *de facto* Income-tax Collector, has gone on six weeks' leave and Baboo Gunga Gobind Gupta, Special Assessor of Income-tax, Calcutta, has been Gazetted to officiate for the absent Baboo. Baboo Gupta is a lucky man indeed! In 1888, he was an Assessor on Rs. 150 at Dacca. In September of that year, a Special Assessor for Calcutta was sanctioned on a pay of Rs. 250, to examine the Khatta books and report on the enquiries made by the District officers. Opendar Chunder Mozoomdar, a Gazetted Sub-Deputy, holding the office of the Income-tax Assessor in the most populous and difficult Division of Calcutta, whose services are highly valued was marked for this new post. But now came an application from the Dacca Assessor to upset all arrangements. Mr. Kilby was charmed with the unknown stranger, and recommended him for the post. Mr. Smith too preferred a progressive Gupta to an orthodox Mozoomdar, and the Board had no hesitation in accepting the Conquering Hero from Dacca. The opportunity for a substantial return for services being thus lost, Mr. Smith recommended poor Mozoomdar for an increase of Rs. 50 to his pay of Rs. 200, laying special stress on the lac of revenue that he had added to the Income-tax on the retirement of Mr. Goodricke, but the Government was unable to sanction the increase on the plea of the financial situation. If Gupta is lucky, Mozoomdar is truly unfortunate. On the present occasion too, Mr. Smith, while wishing him well, could not muster courage to recommend Mozoomdar in preference to Gupta for the temporary vacancy.

THE clerks in the Revenue and Agricultural Department remaining at Simla during the winter season, will be allowed half the allowances they draw in the hot month.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE London Labor Revolt is not at an end. The rebels continue out yet. They stick to their demand of six pence an hour from October. The Dock Directors have accepted the rate but not the date of enforcement. They would fix it in January next year. The Lord Mayor, the Bishop of London and Cardinal Manning, who have offered themselves to mediate between the contending parties, proposed, by way of compromise, December, but the strikers, backed by the Australian subsidy of £20,000, feel themselves too strong to go beyond October. Such long vacations in trade are too much of a good thing. The corn merchants have given notice to the Dock Directors holding them responsible for the damage done to their stock by delays owing to the strike.

The last night's news is more cheering. Cardinal Manning on Thursday had an interview with the Dock Directors, and proposed that the new terms should begin from the 4th of November. He afterwards conferred with the Strike Committee, and a mutual reconciliation was the result.

ANTWERP is laid low by fire—of her own coinage and commerce. On the morning of the 6th, in a dynamite factory near the city, two thousand tons of cartridges exploded, killing three hundred persons and injuring a thousand. The same night, there was a terrific explosion at the docks in the petroleum sheds. A hundred thousand barrels kept up the fire. Two hundred lives were lost and five hundred persons injured. The damage to property is estimated at millions.

THE news from America is of a cataclysm. Disastrous floods and storms have overtaken the North Atlantic coasts. Atlantic City in New Jersey is almost submerged.

THE Société Géographique of Brussels has received despatches reporting that Mr. Stanley has subdued the tribes he has come in contact with east of the Nile, and founded stations of the British East Africa Company everywhere, and that he is now well and marching towards Mombassa.

GENERAL Boulanger and M. Rouchéfort have offered themselves for Paris for the forthcoming elections, but the Prefect of the Seine would not accept notice of their candidature.

THE Paris Exhibition closes on October 31.

BOMBAY is up in arms against the proposal to fix Sunday for departure of the mails. The Bishop leads the crusade. The Corporation has Resolved to memorialize the Secretary of State, for Sunday mail means the abolition of Saturday half-holiday as also of the day of rest, while it is calculated to damage trade. The Volunteers have added their mite to the movement, as they apprehend the breaking up of the corps, for Saturday half-holiday is devoted to drill. The Sheriff has been asked to call a public meeting.

THEY are preparing to bombard mosquitoes. A little army has been told off for the Chin and Lushai Expeditions. Colonel Symons commands the former and Colonel Tregear the latter, with full political and military control. The Chin Column consists of Bengal Mountain Battery, two guns; one Company, Queen's Own Sappers and Miners; First battalion, Cheshire Regiment; First battalion, King's Own Scottish Borderers; 42nd Goorkhas; 10th, 33rd and 38th Bengal Infantry; and such Madras Infantry as may be detailed by the Madras Commander-in-Chief! The Lushai Column comprises 3rd Bengal Infantry; Second battalion, 2nd Goorkhas; a Company of Bengal Sappers and Miners and 28th Bombay Pioneers.

What formidable armaments for such small deer!

The Cachar Column has been countermanded.

A LITERARY Bengal Secretary once astonished the country by dubbing the Calcutta Corporators "an arsenal of delays." A European Civil Servant in India, specially one wielding the mysterious powers of the Secretariat, need not be particular about his figures, either of arithmetic

or of rhetoric, and our literary gentleman might have called the Commissioners an allegory on the banks of the Nile, without compromising in the least his chances of promotion. As for the poor damned Commissioners, they survived the blast of bathos. But in India a Civilian's word never goes all for nothing. It usually justifies itself—by law or no law, fate or fortune. Such is Prestige! and such the will of Jove! Thus, after very near a decade, Mr. Mackenzie's absurd epigram has come true—in some measure, in some sense.

At their last sitting, the Commissioners in their chropological computations and views showed a distinct *penchant* for antique precedents, however ill suited to the active quick-paced short-lived modern man. The City Conscript Fathers are more than classical. They have applied to Conservancy a more strict rule than the Horatian precept in regard to literary publication. They have decided not to allow huts to be built upon filled up tanks till after a lapse of ten years. Hitherto the prohibition was limited to three. The present Health Officer, who is nothing if not sensational, was for locking up the sites for the full term of an Indian generation—twenty years. The General Committee, consisting of men with a stake in the property of the town, recommended five years. At the suggestion of the Chairman, the Corporation, at its meeting of Thursday, has been induced to fix the limit to ten years.

The present sanitary opinion seems to be that a foul tank is much less injurious than the site obtained by filling up that tank with town sweepings and refuse. How do the Commissioners propose to reclaim foul tanks?

WHILE the Maharaja of Travancore purposes, in the coming cold season, to make a pilgrimage to Northern India, in the course of which he will visit our city, his brother, the Eliah Raja, known as the First Prince of Travancore, who is the Heir Apparent, has applied to His Highness for permission to travel to Europe. We shall not be sorry if, without any mutual misunderstanding, the reigning Maharaja succeed in dissuading the Prince from his projected tour. We would rather his Eliaship accompanied his elder brother. We have been quite disappointed with the fruits of our native Chiefs' visits to Europe.

MR. E. J. WHITE—District Munsiff of Kurnool and nephew of President White—is no wordy reformer. He is prepared to try his reform on himself. He has applied to Government for permission to change his name to E. J. Wayoob Khan. The Government will probably smile at the Quixotism of their servant, and there may be more than sentimental difficulties in the way of humouring him. But Mr. White could not have given a more unmistakable proof of sincerity or of courage. We doubt whether his Eurasian brethren will follow suit.

THE author of Thanatophedia is alarmed at the loss of life in India from destructive wild animals and venomous snakes. In an article in the *Nineteenth Century*, Sir Joseph Fayrer points out that the natives are willing victims. They are in superstitious awe of the tiger and the panther as incarnations of mischief, and would not kill them for fear of drawing upon themselves their diabolic vengeance. The Doctor recommends a special department—like that of the Thaggi and Dacoity—for extermination of Nature's Thugs, until the natives have been taught to give up their worship of the brutes and the reptiles. A very British off-hand and official disposal of a difficult question!

NEW professorships in the Japanese, Korean and Hindustani languages have been founded at the St. Petersburg University. England may well learn from the example of a Power she scarcely makes a secret of deriding as barbarian. Here, in British India, where the Anglo-Indians, official and non-official, are ever and anon frightening themselves with the spectre of a grinning and greedy Northern Bear advancing to rip open their bowels, there is at least one scholar versed in the principal Asiatic and European languages, ancient and modern, including Russian, whose services are not, during these several years, utilised by the Government, simply because, though absolutely loyal, Dr. Nishi Kanta Chattopadhyaya (Chatterjee)—the gentleman in question—happens to be a native of the soil. Was ever such insanity and illiberality?

THE Joint Family has come to be looked upon as an evil. The law courts have greatly contributed to instil and perpetuate the feeling, and have been trying to break up the system. Be it so! We need not

make ourselves inconsolable. There is no good crying over inevitable oxidation, any more than over spilt milk. When an institution, however necessary in origin or excellent in its original integrity, has lost its bright qualities by flux of time and actually decayed, to bolster it up artificially is Love's Labour Lost. Times are altered and with them manners. So let it go, as it must. The pity is that, in so breaking up joint families, the courts are apt to impoverish them. The process of division of property swallows up all but giant estates. The partition proceedings are simply ruinous. The country is being impoverished through them, to the delight of the hangers-on of the courts and the Zemindari servants--the landlords' stewards and manorial agents. We are glad, therefore, that the Home Department is engaged on the consideration of a plan for facilitating partition of joint estates. The remedy proposed is at once simple and thoroughly practical. It cuts the Gordian Knot by providing for sale of the property and partition of the proceeds.

HISTORY repeats itself—even in its exceptionally dark features. Jephthah's sacrifice has often enough been enacted in ancient times, in Europe as in Asia. In all such cases, the cause was a misguided religious sentiment or an equally vain chivalry of a false morality. In India, in almost contemporary times a similar unnatural sacrifice was made by way of political expediency. And now the same offering has been made in private life, to a poorer, absolutely vulgar convenience. The following is going the round:—

"At the village of Phillour, in the Punjab, a low caste Hindu married his daughter to one of his own relatives recently. The mother of the girl was averse to the union and, therefore, unawares to her husband, had the daughter re-married to a man, who was one of her own relatives. On the day of the *barrat*, however, both parties came to claim the girl as their bride, and a serious quarrel ensued, resulting in broken heads, etc. The father of the girl was threatened the next day with prosecution by the bridegrooms, and not knowing what to do he killed the girl, thinking that the dispute would end there. The parties then took the earliest opportunity of retracing their way back to their homes, while the unfortunate father has been arrested for murder."

The vagaries of human nature are beyond calculation. And there is no knowing how far fanaticism of distraction will lead an ill-regulated soul. It was bad enough when poor Krishna Kumari was murdered by her parents, at Ameer Khan's advice, to save her fatherland from the horrors of war. But here is a girl deliberately killed by her unfeeling father for a comparatively trifling pretence. The guilt lies on all the parties in any way concerned or present in that marriage that did not take place. They should all be prosecuted for abetment.

We are afraid the crime of infanticide has not been rooted out in the Punjab. It is only a parent brought up in the habits and associations of that practice that could so lightly take the life of his daughter. The Punjab Government and Punjab society in general ought to make inquiry touching the prevalence of this crime.

MR. Norton has denied all the allegations in the plaint filed by Colonel Moore for Rs. 50,000 damages. The plaintiff has taken a week's time till the 17th to consider the written statement.

CAPTAIN CRAWFORD, chief British official in the Sulymah District, flogged a native servant to death for theft of a sum of money. He was tried at Freetown along with seven policemen. After a lengthy investigation, the policemen have been let off as having acted under their superior's order, and the Captain found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment.

THE Inspector-General of Police has called the attention of the Mysore Government to the large number of "banks" springing up in the Kolar district on the lines of Mutual Benefit Societies. The people have been largely taken in by large promises incapable of fulfilment. He suggests the appointment of a Commissioner to report on these firms.

UNDER the leadership of Dr. Emma B. Ryder, they have started at Bombay a ladies' literary society under the name of "The Sorosis Club."

ONE Jayasingrao Santujirao Powar started a journal called *Sarvajanik Vytha Paritran* and, after the fashion of the present day, offered liberal prizes and books to the subscribers who paid in advance. The bait took, and money came in. But soon the subscribers began to grumble for the prizes they expected were not forthcoming. A

plucky one among those wanted to bring the proprietor to book and he complained to the Sattara Magistracy. The accused pleaded not guilty. He relied on the evidence of the Governor and the Duke of Connaught to prove his innocence. The Magistrate, however, would not be taken in by such transparent "chaff" and found him guilty of cheating and sentenced him to two months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of twenty-five rupees. Both the Sessions Judge and the High Court have confirmed the conviction and sentence.

THE barbarity of imprisonment in execution of an order of a civil court has been painfully exemplified in Poona. A husband obtained a decree in 1886 against his wife for restitution of conjugal rights, and early in August sent her to jail for persistency in her refusal.

THE Madras High Court having refused to interfere in the prosecution of the Mohunt of Tripati, for having made away with the buried treasure of the temple and leaving copper and brass instead, the order for excavation under the flagstaff on Tripati Hill is being executed, under the watch of the Superintendent of Police, five inspectors, one hundred constables and the Head Assistant Magistrate. The Mohunt had applied for stoppage of the excavations, admitting for the purpose of the present prosecution, that the vessels buried under the flagstaff may be taken to contain worthless brass and copper instead of the gold coin which he was charged with having misappropriated. The application was opposed, as such admission was not receivable as evidence and not binding and that it was qualified. On its rejection by the Magistrate, it was then prayed that the opening of the ground be stayed till after the Big Car Festival of the 25th. The Magistrate would not make any such order.

MR. PORTER opened and concluded the enquiry into the charges preferred by Captain Hearsey against Dr. Hall, in the Mayo Hall, Allahabad, on September 4. It was a public one. And the Johnnies and the angels made a day of it. At any rate, the capital of Upper India, in the Lieutenant-Governor's absence, is such a dreary place that not only the Commissioner Mr. Harrington and Mr. Justice Tyrell but also many other European gentlemen and ladies were present, to make the most of any chances for fun. The representatives of the press were admitted. Mr. Porter first read the order of Government limiting the enquiry to specific charges and disallowing pleaders or attorneys. Captain Hearsey then formulated his charges thus:—

(1), Mischief, by destroying a letter written to me by my wife without my consent or sanction; (2), wrongful restraint by depriving me of my right of reading for 10½ hours during the day time; (3), wrongful restraint by preventing me from lying down to sleep during the day time on my cot; (4), wrongful restraint by preventing me from making use of my proper cell; (5), wrongful restraint by locking me up in my cell for 9½ hours during the day; (6), wrongful restraint and insult by compelling me to stand up whenever he (Dr. Hall) came into my cell; (7), wrongful restraint and insult by compelling me to take down my hand from the wall on the 6th February, and stand "at attention"; (8), insult by words and speech concerning the term "half caste"; (9), conduct liable to cause a breach of the peace by Dr. Hall's words and actions in the cell on the 6th February.

These items were taken up one by one, and the accuser cross-examined by the accused. The accused then made his statements and was cross-examined by the accuser. Dr. Hall admitted the charges but justified his conduct under the rules of the jail. He had the honour to admit the expression "half-caste," but he spoiled the effect of his admission by a lame explanation. As if regretting a hasty confession, he had the coolness to pretend that it was a mere slip of his glib tongue. He had the further assurance to claim having treated very kindly the prisoner who was so base as not to acknowledge the obligation. Two witnesses--Jailor Eurson and assistant Jailor Hobbs--were called by the Doctor to corroborate his statements. The Captain wanted to call as his witness the prison Warder, Brinn, but he had been sent away to Burma on the 22nd July--the date for which the enquiry was first fixed. The Doctor, not to be outdone, was anxious to have him also, only he had himself handed the man over to the military authorities, on the expiration of his term of imprisonment, when a word from him would have detained him at Allahabad, for the inquiry. It is said that Brinn has expired his time and goes home next trooping season and there was no absolute necessity to send him back to his regiment.

There was nothing very amusing. Once there seemed a prospect when the surgical Superintendent called Captain Hearsey "Mr.



Hearsey," and the Captain answered by calling his tormentor Mr. Hall. At this the gentlemen pricked up their ears and the ladies looked at each other, and Mrs. Hall coloured. But the Doctor did not show fight. The autocrat of the jail had apparently abdicated.

THE Doorga Pooja vacation recognized by Government commences from Monday the 30th September, the offices reopening on Friday the 11th October. But it is not to be an all round holiday, however. Every year the Chamber of Commerce is encroaching on it, and Government has begun to give way to its attacks. The Custom House is being kept open for the convenience of petty merchants. The Bengal Bank has followed suit. The other Banks have reduced the long vacation to five days. And\* this year the Paper Currency is not to be allowed the autumnal rest. A mysterious notice has been stuck up, unsigned and undated, warning the *employés* and the public that

"The Paper Currency office will be open to the public for exchange of Notes and Coin up to one O'clock P.M., on all days on which the Bank of Bengal is open for business."

Are the *employés* to be bound by it? Can the public legitimately expect the office to exchange their notes and coin under the terms of this trash of a notice? Supposing the office refused to exchange on any day during the Gazetted holidays, would an action lie against Government? Surely, if this notice is to be acted upon, there is anarchy in the land. Verily, the empire has passed away from the Crown not to the old Honorable Company of Merchants, but to a set of small hand to mouth speculators trading without any capital of their own and perhaps some busy-bodies who are neither fish, flesh, fowl nor red herring, good, bad or indifferent.

The Chamber of Commerce had notified the total holidays for the year limiting them to 12 days, including the Doorga and Lukshmi Pooja holidays for which they would not allow more than four days thus:—

"1889. Recognised by the Chamber under shipping orders and charter parties as holidays according to the custom of the port.

Date.	Holidays.	Number of days to be observed as holidays.
1st January ...	... New Year's Day...	... 1 day.
5th February ...	... Sripanchami ...	... 1 "
19th April ...	... Good Friday ...	... 1 "
24th May ...	... Empress's Birthday ...	... 1 "
1st, 3rd, 4th and 7th Oct. ...	... Durga and Lukhi Puja ...	... 4 days.
23rd October ...	... Kali Puja ...	... 1 day.
1st November ...	... Jagadhatri Puja...	... 1 "
25 and 26th December ...	... Christmas Day and the day following Christmas Day...	... 2 days.

In the Durga and Lukhi Puja the holidays for ships that have salt on board will be from 1st to 7th October inclusive."

Thus it would allow the holidays for the Doorga and Lukshmi Poojas on the 1st, 3rd, 4th and 7th October.

The Doorga Pooja commences on the 1st October which the Chamber recognizes, but it strangely and absurdly ignores the 2nd, which is the principal day. The local exchange banks will be closed all the four days of the Pooja. The Chamberwallahs having ignored the 2nd day, they coaxed and threatened these banks not to close on the 2nd. But to their honor the banks still hold out and stick to the old orthodox way—of four days for the Doorga and one day for the Lakshmi Poojas—1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 7th October. They have fixed the 7th October for the Lakshmi Pooja, but it comes off not on the 7th but on the next day, Tuesday the 8th.

THE Mohurram has been unlucky this year. It has been particularly bad in the Delhi country. At Rohtak, the Hindus and Mahomedans came to blows in bloody earnest. The *Civil and Military Gazette* of the 10th writes:—

"Serious rioting has broken out at Rohtak between the Hindus and Muhammadans in connection with the Muharram processions. Nine persons are reported to have been killed up to the present (Sep. 10), and a great number injured. The disturbances commenced on Sunday, and have not yet been put down owing to the local police being too weak to do so. Reinforcements have been called in from the adjoining districts, and Delhi has sent off 100 policemen in ekkas. The matter has become so serious, that two companies of the 31st Punjab Infantry are held in readiness to start for Rohtak at a moment's notice in ekkas, and the European troops have been warned in case they should be needed. The excitement has spread to Delhi, and it is fortunate perhaps that the Muharram is quite over there, or the old feelings might be revived. There has been a disturbance at Shahdara also on the other side of the Jumna; but it was promptly suppressed."

NEARER home in Behar, an unfortunate *contretemps* occurred. The consequences might have been serious, but the people showed wonderful patience under grave provocation. We are, however, not surprised to hear from Patna that serious offence has been taken by the Mahomedan community at the conduct of Inspector O'Connor of the city Police by his unnecessary interference with their religious procession and the violent hands he laid on men engaged in the peaceful exercise of their religion. It was the 7th instant, the last night of the Festival of mourning for the martyred family of the Prophet. All Patna was up. The streets were alive with men and even women, boys and girls, all more or less excited, for the chief Mahomedan Festival of the year in that Shiah City, then at its close. As the *Tazias* and *Akharahs* were proceeding towards the Durgah, this Irish bull of the Police got excited and unaccountably hurried up all the processions, and in doing so, threw down many people, beat a number of them, felled down some *Alams* and *Sipars* of different parties, and spoiled the order of march, to the annoyance and indignation of the whole people. The wonder is, that the people did not fall down on the Inspector. At the slightest signal of resistance, there would surely have been a good deal of bloodshed.

We further learn, that no Mahomedan Police officer, or Honorary Magistrate was asked to assist the Police Inspector, in keeping order on such an occasion.

Our correspondent says that several complaints have been preferred against Inspector O'Connor for his doings of that night, and the matter is under the investigation of the District Magistrate and Superintendent of Police.

Mr. Faulder, the Magistrate, is an officer of high reputation, and we are sure that he will deal with the cases in an impartial manner.

THE Mohurram was this year celebrated at the Imambarah of the late King of Oudh at Garden Reach, under the management of Prince Mirza Jahan Kadar Bahadr, assisted by Princes Mirza Kamar Kadar and Mirza Mahomed Jogee Bahadurs. The whole thing went off well, hundreds of people being fed every day during the festival. Much credit is due to the Princes for the excellent arrangements made. The only shortcoming was on the part of Mr. Upton's office, as the sacred articles were not given out till before the 3rd day.

WE are not at all surprised to learn that the old firm of the late Hajizakaria Mahomed, the Maimun merchant of this city, has failed, with liabilities extending to upwards of 10 lakhs. The chief manager of the firm, Haji Noor Mahomed, a son of the founder of the firm had been living for the last few years as a prince, emulating the scions of wealthy Zemindar families in style and magnificence. People were for sometime apprehending some unhappy result, and their worst fears have now been realized.

About three years ago, the firm was on the brink of ruin, and hearing of this, Haji Wahedana, the senior partner of the firm, who was then at Mecca, hurried down to Calcutta, and managed to ward off the impending calamity, by the sale of some buildings, horses, carriages, &c., and by limiting the monthly allowance of Haji Noor Mahomed to Rs. 200.

Haji Wahedana died some months ago, and the management again fell into a state of disorganization, until the firm had to be wound up.

We hear that the chief victims of this failure, are the European and Marwari banks, and that comparatively a small sum is due to individuals.

The deliberate and systematic manner in which the whole thing has been managed shews the great tact and foresight of the manager.

FOR sometime past, we have been hearing of disagreements between the majority of the members of the Managing Committee of the Aligurh Anglo-Oriental College, headed by Moulvie Samcoollah Khan, C. M. G., Civil Judge of Roy Bareilly in Oudh, and Sir Syud Ahmud Khan, K. C. S. I. We now find that the quarrel has assumed a serious aspect, and resolutions have been passed in opposition to the Aligurh Knight, to whose action in certain matters exception has been taken by the Committee. It is said that the Syud has betrayed an inclination of securing for his family a hereditary right in the leadership of the governing body of the institution; but the rest of that body see no reason to make this



concession, and hence this squabble. Sameenollah Khan claims to succeed the Syud, in the leadership of that body, but the Syud objects to such transfer.

WHAT we have for years been apprehending has come to pass. All is up with the Maharaja of Tipperah. Like his greater brother of Cashmere, he has signed his abdication and goes into private life—for a season at any rate. Such at least is the rumour in town.

#### NOTES AND QUERIES.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR, -Will you kindly do me the favour to explain a difficulty which I have come across in course of reading "The Rivals" of Sheridan? In the latter part of the first scene of the fifth Act—in the amusing conversation between Mrs. Malaprop, Miss Lydia Languish and David, who brings the news of Sir Lucius O'Trigger's getting into a scrape to the first mentioned lady—occurs the line, 'Why how you stand girl, you have no more feeling than one of the *Derbyshire petrifications*!' quoted in Brewer's "Handbook of Allusions, References, &c.," as *putrefactions*, under the head of *malapropisms*. I can make nothing of this 'nice derangement of epitaphs.' I should esteem it a great favour if you would kindly explain it in the next issue of your much esteemed literary journal. Hoping you will be good enough to excuse me for encroaching upon your precious time.

JYOTISH CHANDRA BANERJEE.

\* \* There is evidently a misprint in your copy, which we believe is Leigh Hunt's edition of 1851, published by William Tegg & Co. *Petrifications* should be *putrefactions*.—ED. R. & R.

### REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1889.

#### THE SIN OF GREAT CITIES.

IN my last on this subject, I ventured to assert that the authorities do not exert themselves sufficiently to suppress this great and growing evil. I did so knowing that there is no law prohibiting any woman from leading the miserable and wretched life of a common prostitute if she is so minded. But can no law be enforced by which any such person can be so kept under police surveillance so as to act as a deterrent in the spreading of disease? The Englishman's idea of freedom of action is so wildly interpreted, that the moment it is supposed the liberty of the subject is interfered with there is at once a hue and cry raised. There is a system on the Continent which there should be no reasonable objection raised against enforcing in India if worked under proper control. But before going further into the matter, I will give an instance of a discussion raised against what I intend suggesting. If the danger of catching the disease is placed beyond possibility, those who have hitherto resisted the temptation through fear of the disease, would be tempted to venture upon the vice they had through no other than fear of disease resisted. Such argument is absurd. It is not just to accuse all human nature of depravity to such a degree. Neither is it right or just that the many should be made to suffer to preserve the lesser number. It will not be necessary for my purpose to name more than one city on the Continent, where, under strict police supervision, the evil under reference exists to a greater extent than in any other city of the same population, *i. e.*, Hamburg. I have already said in my last that every house of ill fame in Hamburg is licensed for such purpose, and every female who plies the life of prostitution is also licensed. However repulsive it may seem to an Englishman to hear it, the tax collected from such houses

and females is more than sufficient to keep up the entire police establishment of the city. If we but once admit the evil as a necessary existence and cannot wholly suppress it there can be nothing repulsive as to the manner in which the tax so collected is utilized by Government, whether in paying a police or any other establishment absolutely required to supervise such traffic. It is only by a strict supervision the evil which is now growing out of all proportions in Calcutta can be even moderately checked. If I am not wrong in my assumption, any Englishman or Englishwoman is allowed to earn his or her own bread and butter as may best suit his or her wishes, the latter, if she wishes, may even elect to lead the life of a fast lady. In Hamburg it is not so with this latter class. She may not in open defiance of law and decency lead such a life before appearing at the Stadt Haus, (Police Court) in Neuer Wahl before the Prefect of Police and so declare her intentions to lead a life of prostitution. At this stage persuasive measures are adopted to prevail upon the female to give up such intention. If however she persists in her desire, she is sent in custody to Straff Arbeits Haus, (Work House) for a term of three months' hard labor. While undergoing this punishment which very many unhesitatingly accept, every means that can possibly be adopted to induce her to see the sin and error of so infamous a career, is laid before her. But if at the expiration of the term of confinement, she is still determined on her downward career, she is again in custody brought before the Prefect of Police and again questioned as to her desire. If the three months' hard labor has any beneficial effect and she shows signs of relenting and abandoning her first declaration, she is retained in custody until her friends or relatives are communicated with, when she is liberated upon the condition that the friends or relatives are responsible for her good conduct. I have known instances of more than one female having gone to Straff Arbeits Haus two or three different times, before their evil intentions could be broken of, on each occasion for three months. If at the expiration of the first three months' imprisonment she asserts her determination to become a prostitute, she is retained in custody, until the keeper of a house of ill fame is obtained to take her in, unless she knows of any such house herself, when the person is sent for, and on the production of his register, if he and she come to terms, he pays her license for one year, has her medically examined, registers her as a resident and inmate of his house, and becomes responsible for her good conduct, and debts as well, if she can manage to get credit. While I resided in Hamburg there was very little risk attached to this arrangement, as most of the females were natives of the Provinces and were then provided with passports, and the passports were lodged with the police, so that she could neither leave the city nor change her place of residence, without the fact being made known to the police. Few, very few females born in Hamburg, resort to this life in Hamburg. They move to Bremen, Antwerp, or Rotterdam, and then pass through the ordeal before becoming licensed prostitutes.

The brothel keeper having satisfied the police carries his prize off to his residence and for the nonce we will say to Damther Wahl 66 B. On arrival, being without wardrobe of any kind—this a matter of great importance—she is at once fitted out, much to her own taste. If she has a liking for

jewelry she gets a moderate supply of pinchbeck, is supplied with a memo book of which she is herself the custodian. This memo book contains a debit and credit account between the brothel keeper and herself, her board she is debited with and all articles of clothing, jewelry or cash supplied, and is credited with her own earnings. She pays in addition to her license a certain amount as medical fees, paid of course by the brothel keeper and debited to her. In her own room in perfect privacy, she is medically examined every Tuesday and Friday. If the slightest symptom of disease is discernible she is packed off to the Kranken Haus, hospital, and there detained until perfectly cured. The hospital charges are moderate, but they are paid by the brothel keeper and debited to the girl.

ZITO.

### OUR ANGLO-INDIAN EXEMPLARS IN JOURNALISM.

THE *Bengal Times* is unquestionably an interesting little journal. Provided always you know how to read it—between the lines as well as between the title and the imprimatur. It does not care to be one of your colourless representative journals. It is thoroughly personal. And its personality is not exhausted in the editorial columns. Its "locals" are as personal as its editorials. Then, again, the bold Roman fist appears in the Correspondence, and is most of all conspicuous in the Notices to Correspondents. All the several departments of the paper are characteristic—the last not the least formidable. Our contemporary is not to be trifled with even by its correspondents. Indeed, it is a hazardous thing to write to the *Bengal Times*. The space above the editorial columns is raided off and reserved—not for the summary execution but for the baiting of correspondents and other minor malefactors—to give our contemporary's constituents a holiday diversion. Being personal, our contemporary is, of course, human, exhibiting the faults and foibles as well as the virtues of our common nature. In the last number to hand, dated the 7th, the Dacca amphitheatre opens with "Sadoo" who, however, is easily let off. Not so some person about whom this correspondent appears to have written. This nameless unfortunate is hacked to pieces with a bowie knife—the armoury of Cisatlantic English speech being apparently considered too respectable for drawing the blood and carving the liver and heart of this disreputable victim. Thus:—

"If you address a hog, you need expect nothing more edifying from him than a grunt. Although a schoolmaster, he to whom you refer is a very ignorant, illiterate person; untruthful, unprincipled and generally contemptible; just about what Yankees would term a skunk. Do not expose him—he is lost to shame. We regret our blunt honesty of terms, but we cannot describe him without employing them."

After this sufficiently Roman—or for that matter British—sport, a truce is sounded in the next Notice—to "M. M." But it is a truce in the bloody field, amid the neighing of chargers and clash of arms, with a disposition to resume the fray any moment. The poor fellow is offered peace with a reminder of his impertinence in having risked war with such a power:—

"M. M. Let bye-gones be bye-gones. We have no desire to triumph over you. It was only fair that, as you resolved upon braying, we should prove it was a suitable vocation for you; and it cost us no effort."

Having fixed M. M.'s place in the Animated Kingdom, our contemporary proceeds to gravely lecture its ass on the theory and principles of public criticism, in strange obliviousness of practice. Having *skunked* a school-master and "assified" a correspondent, the writer goes on:—

"You appear to think criticism and abuse are convertible terms; they are not. No true critic ever abuses; he is much too wide awake thus to weaken the value of his decision. What would a jury think if a Judge charged thus; Gentlemen—You have to adjudicate in reference to the most infamous scoundrel that ever disgraced humanity: the most diabolical, blood-thirsty reprobate that creation ever beheld; a miscreant dead to every humane instinct, &c., &c.? You ask us, however, who occupy a Judge's place, to do something very similar. Slay, if you like, with a sharp-edged sword, but let its sharpness be polished metal. Bear in mind:

'As in smooth oil a razor best is whet,'

So wit is by politeness sharpest set.'

Be incisive, but not insulting; firm, but not tyrannical and arbitrary."

That may be unexceptional doctrine, but how oddly it is exemplified in the same breath by the preacher! Or, are we to learn that it is no abuse to call a man an ass or a hog? That it is "incisive, but not insulting" to tell you that you brayed and that that is your proper cry? That to tell a professor that he is "a very ignorant, illiterate person, untruthful, unprincipled, and generally contemptible"—in fact "a skunk," is the perfection of refined satire—of delicate execution?

In the Notices to Correspondents, the editor is in *mufti*. Soon, however, he enters his Dewan-i-Khas—the public hall of audience—and mounts his throne. But the personality remains. The lofty ideal of journalism is reduced to practice from the very outset. Here is the first editorial, to wit:—

"Boredom. Mr. Bradlaugh has lately given notice that, next Session, he will bring in 'a Bill to amend the law relating to the Council and Government of India and for the better government of India.' If this wretched caricaturist would only apply his energy to a final effort at law-making and bring in a bill for abolishing bores, with special personal application, he might deserve well of his country and devote the balance of his energy to blacking boots, or some other equally useful occupation. He might, between February and November, find profitable employment in India as a punkah coolie."

What a contrast this note and the Notice—editorial both! Between this paragraph and the one immediately preceding it! What a nice balance between dogma and conduct! No sooner the pastor descends from the pulpit than he is like the rest—and indeed the worst—of us all—of the earth, earthy. It seems inconceivable that the same writer who has been laying down the most unexceptionable principles of public discussion, differentiating criticism from scurrility, and loftily asserting that "no true critic ever abuses," can in the next breath descend to such writing. Were the internal evidence of identity not so irresistible as it is, we should certainly suppose the two writings to emanate from different pen, though of course any properly edited journal would avoid such an exhibition in the same issue, which might be easily done by withdrawing either of the pieces, the more so as neither was of any urgency whatever. Consistency be blowed! we can fancy our Anglo-Indian cotemporary crying. No doubt, we are all sinners; the best of us have their weak moments. But there is such a thing as the preserving of appearances. The Dacca writer has such a name for *galee*—we will spare him the word in his own vernacular—that it is expected he should instinctively avoid the lofty tone of unsophisticated innocence. Instead, he is always moralising on the sacred duties of journalism and always admonishing other journals on the sins, the innate viciousness of the Native Press being of course a favorite topic with him. Perhaps, he has a right to treat of sins.

But jesting apart, it would be impossible to find the like of that paragraph on Mr. Bradlaugh in the whole range of the Indian Press, native or European, whether published in the English language or in the numerous dialects of the country. It is not to be matched in any publication, in any land. The most reckless vituperation in the obscurest Indian lingo lithographed or printed from a wooden machine in the backwoods, is courtly amenity before this British example of "true criticism." And yet it is these writers who turn up their noses at the degradation of the Native Press, who see nothing but scurrility and sedition in native writings, and who would forge fetters for the native mind! At a time when the proposal for suppressing the liberty of the Native Press is again on the carpet, when old Mr. Seton-Karr, who ought to know better, is shrieking against the misdeeds of Bengali writers, it may be useful to the British public at Home to have means for comparing the journalism of the two races in India, British and native. It will be seen at any rate that if the natives are bad, their enlightened fellow-subjects do not offer them the best models of conduct.

This is not the first time that the *Bengal Times* has foully vilipended the Junior Member for Northampton. He has always been the object of our contemporary's direst wrath and coarsest vituperation. But the comments are usually wild and off the mark. The writer's hate overpowers his judgment until he simply rants. But what shall be said of a journalist who speaks of a man of singular capacity as well as sincerity and courage, who has been steadily gaining on the country and is now listened to with attention by his enemies in Parliament who long and earnestly refused to have anything to do with him, as no better than a *punka coolie*—the most mechanical of day-labourers?

### THE BLOCK IN THE SUBORDINATE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE.

A Correspondent supplies us with the following note :—

The undermentioned Gazetted officers of the Subordinate Educational Service have been over thirty years in the service, and it is desirable in the interests of the Service itself as well as of young and deserving men therein that some at least of these old fossils or fogies should be made to retire, as speedily as possible. The departmental Grade List does not give the ages of these gentlemen ; but there can be no doubt that some of them are past fifty-five, and some though not 55 in the records of the Accountant-General, are without doubt about or over that age.

The rule ought to be that no one after he has served 33 years ought to be retained in the Service :—

Class I.—Baboo Chandi Churn Banerjee, 35 years.

Class II.—Moulvie Abdul Hai, 37 years.

Class III.—Baboo Taraknath Sen, 31 years.

Baboo Raj Krishna Roy, 34 years.

Baboo Gobindo Chunder Mitter, 37 years.

Baboo Ramgati Nyaratna, 33 years.

Class IV.—Baboo Bir Narain Mookerjee, 39 years.

Baboo Braja Nath Lahiri, 32 years.

Baboo Sib Persad Singh, 32 years.

Baboo Kanty Chunder Chatterjee, 33 years.

### THE POLITICS OF SOUTH WESTERN BENGAL.

THE COMMISSIONER MR. STEVENS OF THE CHOTA NAGPORE DIVISION TO THE RAJA OF KOREA.

[Mr. Stevens has left behind him an interesting account of his cold-weather tour, in the course of which he visited the Jushpur, Sirgooja, Udaipur, Gangpur, and Bonai States, and while at Sirgooja he dealt with the affairs of the Korea and Changbhakar Sates.—*Calcutta Gazette*, August 28, 1889.]

My dear Raja,—I have now enquired, so far as I could, into the numerous petitions of complaint made to me both by you and against you, and I have had long conversations with you, with Bai Saheb, with your Dewan, with your Zemindars, with several of your neighbours and with other persons, regarding the affairs of the Korea Raj. All, without exception, say that the condition of the State has been of late rapidly growing worse. So much worse has it become that large numbers of the rayyets, unable any longer to endure the oppressions of their ruler in Korea, are leaving it and seeking refuge in other better-governed States.

The fault lies partly with some of your Zemindars and partly with yourself. So far as the Khargoon Zemindar and his family are concerned, there is now, I am happy to find, but little to be said. The younger Zemindar and his family are well affected towards you and wish to maintain your dignity. I advise you most strongly to remain on good terms with this family, and to do nothing to diminish their good feelings towards you. Be careful not to be unduly harsh or suspicious in your relations with them, and specially avoid harrassing them or their rayyets by undue and unusual exactions either of money or of services. As I have said, the other Zemindars deserve blame. By their recklessness and extravagance they have lost all or nearly all their property, and have nothing or next to nothing left except their influence over the rayyets and this influence I have no doubt they have sometimes abused to exact money for themselves. I now desire that if in future any of them should be proved guilty of extortion or other crime of a similar nature, you will commit the case to me for trial. If I find the evidence of such misconduct satisfactory, I will inflict a sentence of imprisonment, which will be carried out in the Ranchi jail or in some still severer place of punishment.

So far as you personally are concerned, I think you do not give your rayyets sufficient reason to think that you care about them and will protect them. I fear that you look upon them too much as a mere source of income or as serving your own convenience. But this is wrong besides being unwise. The Government has placed you and retained you in charge of the State not only for your own profit and advantage, but for the sake of the rayyets, so that they may be well-governed and live in happiness. It is also not prudent to exact too much from the rayyets, because as you see now, they will not bear it, but will go to some other country where they will be treated with more justice and consideration. It ought to be the pride of the ruler of a State to deserve the title of a "cherisher of the poor." The King should be to his subjects as the father is to his children.

But unfortunately you have allowed other people to come between you and your rayyets. Your servants have no permanent interest in the State. They come to Korea to get what they can and to go away when they have collected all that there is to be had. They have no love for you or for your rayyets and they look only to themselves. It is no matter to them if your people are disgusted and leave your raj.

I hear on all sides bad accounts of the Mohurir Thakoor Persad and of the two brothers Khirodhur Lal and Jai Prakash Lal. It is right for me to say that the complaint of bribery which I en-

quired into against Khirodhur Lal was in my opinion false, but still where there is smoke there is fire, and when one hears no good, but only harm of a man, it is pretty certain that there is some foundation for bad reports. Again you should never employ two near relatives in such position that they can assist each other and work together. I advise you to get rid of all three of these men. They are not your brothers that you should keep them when it is injurious to both you and your rayyets to do so. Your servants, by getting themselves a bad name, get you bad name. Unless you wish the servants to be the masters, you must overlook them in whatever work they do. You should sometimes go about without them and should make it easy for any rayyets to come to you and make complaints.

I hear that your servants sometimes go about the country, making exactions in your name and trying to buy things at the privileged prices at which only the Rajas themselves are allowed by the custom of the country to buy. All this you should stop. You should call the Zemindars and gountyas together, and should tell them not to obey requisitions of these kinds for which your own express orders have not been given. I have made over to you for enquiry several complaints of this sort. You should investigate with care these as well as any others which may be laid before you and if proved, punish the offenders well. Let your rayyets see that you protect them and have not made them over to your servants to plunder and harrass.

Another thing which I wish to say is this. Both you and the Dewan are young men. I desire that in all matters relating to the State you should consult with the Bai Saheb. She is a very important person, is very clever, excepting one or two trifling matters, her interests are the same as yours. If your Raj flourishes, her affairs will go prosperously ; if your Raj is ruined, she will be ruined also. I hope therefore that you, the Dewan and the Bai Saheb will consult, and you will not work with advice of mere foreigners.

In order to uphold your dignity, I have determined not to allow Balmokund Roy to resume charge of the Putna thana until he has submitted himself to you ; but I hope that you will dispose of his case quickly and I hope you will do the same with all your other business. One of the complaints which are made against you is that you are slow in disposing of your work and keep defendants a very long time in hajut. If you reflect in all your work and think how you yourself would like to be treated by other people, I think you will do better.

I trust that you will now think carefully over what I have said to you. I wish to be your friend and to see your State flourishing. If I am still Commissioner of Chota Nagpore next year, it is probable that I shall again visit Korea and ascertain the condition of affairs. I hope to find them much improved.

### THE LATE BABOO RAJINDER DUTT.

"F. H." contributes the following notice of the deceased to the *New York Nation* of August 28, 1889.

Out of the host of Americans who, during the last half-century, have visited Calcutta, there must be a good number, among the living, to whom mention of the name of Baboo Rajinder Dutt will revive the memory of a man that no one knew but to esteem. At the time when I made his acquaintance, as long ago as 1846, the fame which he enjoyed to the close of his career was already established. To be equally respected by his own countrymen and by foreigners is seldom the fortune of a native of India ; but such was his fortune, and on the most unquestionable grounds. Nor were his efforts in behalf of his fellow-men confined to the limit of so few years as were allotted to those other memorable Hindoos of this century, Rammohun Roy, Dwarkanath Tagore, Dr. Bhau Daji, and Keshub Chunder Sen, inasmuch as he had reached the age of seventy-one, when he died on the 5th of last June.

Very few, comparatively, among Bengalees, were the coevals of Rajinder Dutt who, like him, were carefully instructed in our language in childhood, and, as the result of acquiring a taste for English literature and science, ended with becoming virtually deorientalized. Born to opulence, and with leisure at will, he devoted himself indefatigably to study while still a youth, and also began to accumulate books of almost every description. Even before he was thirty, his library was by far the largest and the most valuable of any private person in Calcutta ; and it went on growing to the last. And he added nothing to it merely for display. Every volume that he purchased he dipped into for at least an hour or two, before consigning it to his shelves, in preliteration, generally, if it was not a work of reference, of early deliberate perusal. And very deliberate was that perusal, as well as critical.

To give an illustration, some six months after he had received the first collective edition of Landor's works, the arrival of which he hailed with the warmth of an enthusiast, we agreed to discuss it, as we had both read it in the meantime. Without exaggeration, he seemed to have it all but by heart. Many were the long sittings which our discussion occupied ; and I was thus afforded ample opportunity for observing his familiarity with biography and history. Its range and its exactness were surprising.

But his chief title to admiration is still behind. In every fibre

of his soul he was a philanthropist. Creed or social position was to him indifferent; it was enough that he knew of the existence of suffering, and he was ready with brain and purse. And his helpfulness, in countless instances, was manifested not only by his personal attendance in the character of a physician, but by his relieving need of every kind. His bearing, in doing good, was not so much that of one conferring, as that of one receiving, an obligation. The thought of any sort of return for his benefactions seemed never to enter his mind. That his boundless generosity impaired his fortune most materially was inevitable; but it caused him no disquiet to be no longer wealthy. His single aim was, at whatever self-sacrifice, to be of service to his fellow-men. In fact, he was an avatar of altruism.

Physically he was in no way remarkable. He was of medium height, lithe of figure, purely Caucasian as to features, and rather dark for a Bengalee of good family. His expression was one of marked intelligence; yet, what with his vivacity, his abruptness of manner, and his entire freedom from solemnity of aspect, he altogether belied the notions which are ordinarily associated with an Asiatic. For the rest, depressed by no adversity, fertile of resource, perpetually alert, strenuous in endeavour, and good-natured, he would, but for his complexion and dress, have been indistinguishable in most essentials, from the typical American.

Considering his antecedents, seconded by a keen appreciation of evidence, and fearlessness as a logician, it is no wonder that he sat loose to the religion of his forefathers. Having once clearly defined the inscrutable to himself, he calmly set it on one side, and devoted himself thenceforward to matters indisputably intelligible, the offices of humanity. Righteous in all his instincts, he translated them into practice to the best of his power. His, through long years, were the actions that alone "smell sweet, and blossom in the dust." Never can the Ganges have borne in its bosom, to their ocean tomb, the ashes of a man richer in every virtue that merits to be recorded with reverence.

## MONGHYR.

Jamulpore, September 19.

Cholera has assumed an epidemic form in the Native quarters of the town, specially in Noyagong and Kessabpore of Jamalpur. In the former, in the course of 36 hours, in a Bengalee family the father, and three sons were victimized by the fell disease, leaving only three young orphans in a destitute condition.

There was a narrow escape from a fatal accident the other day. An employé (Nativ Beharee) attached to the Railway Co's works, whilst crossing the line in the Round shed yard in order to join his duty in time, a shunting Engine happened to be passing and ran over the poor fellow's leg and crushed it badly. He is now out of danger, undergoing treatment in the Company's Hospital.

An ex-employé (Bengalee Clerk) attached to the Railway Office, was arrested and criminally prosecuted by the Company on a charge of theft for doing away with blank free pass books bearing the signatures of officers of the Locomotive Department. The trial lasted for some days in the Monghyr Court and subsequently the case was dismissed evidently for want of evidence.

A new Punkah pulling machine has been fitted up and is working in the Locomotive Offices. The machine—a small one with a cylinder and piston rod and lever, &c.—is worked by compressed air. This is the latest design of machinery for punkah pulling introduced in this part of the province. This invention if adopted universally, will most decidedly do away with the services of several Punkah coolies and be a great saving of expenditure.

The river has risen unusually high this year and in consequence has told seriously on the local crop Bhoota, the low lands containing the said crop being untimely submerged under water.

The cloth shops, tailoring shops, &c., are now in full swing for holiday dresses, and the Hindu Home-sticking public are awaiting the auspicious festival the grand *Doorga Poojah* to welcome the goddess, and to pay a visit to their dear homes and sweet darlings.

## CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Sealed Tenders for supply of bricks at the Municipal *Dhops*, during one year ending the 30th September 1890, will be received by the Vice-Chairman and will be opened by him in the presence of tenderers who may wish to attend at 2 P. M., on the 23rd instant.

2. The number of bricks required will be approximately 25 lacs.

3. Each tender must be accompanied by samples of bricks and Rs. 1,000 earnest money to be enclosed with each tender.

4. Forms of Tender can be had at the Municipal Office on payment of Re. 1 for each Form.

5. The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

UDOY NARAIN SINGHEE,

Superintendent of Stores.

11th September 1889.

Form E.

## ASSESSOR'S DEPARTMENT.

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 132 OF ACT II. (B.C.) OF 1888.

Notice is hereby given that the valuation of the portions of

North by Beadon Street, Calcutta noted in the margin, south by Machooa Bazar Street, east by Cornwallis Street and West by Chitpore Road, Upper.

North by River Hooghly, East by Tolly's Nalla and Diamond Harbour Road, South by Ward No. 24, West by Neemak Mehal Ghat Road and Taratolla Road.

ers, No. 4 Municipal Office Street, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 4 P. M.

Any person, desiring to object to the said valuations must, within fifteen days from this date, deliver at the Office of the Commissioners a notice in writing, stating the grounds of his objection.

The Chairman or Vice-Chairman will proceed to hear the objections under Clause a of Section 136.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

MUNICIPAL OFFICE, }  
11th September 1889. }

## CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

### LOAN NOTIFICATION.

1. The Commissioners of Calcutta are prepared, with the sanction of the Governor-General in Council, given under Sections 404 and 406 of Act II. (B. C.) of 1888, to open a Debenture Loan for Rs. 14,00,000 on the security of the rates, taxes and dues imposed and levied under the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act 1888.

2. The Debentures will have a currency of thirty years from the 1st January 1890, and will bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, payable on the 30th June and 31st December of each year.

3. The form of the Debenture-bonds will be that given in the twelfth schedule of Act II. (B. C.) of 1888.

4. No debenture will be issued for any sum less than Rs. 500, and above that amount debentures will be issued only for even sums of Rs. 100.

5. Tenders for the whole or any part of the above loan up to the amount of Rs. 11,15,000 will be received by the Secretary to the Corporation up to 2 o'clock P. M. of Friday, the 20th September 1889; the balance or Rs. 2,85,000 will be reserved for holders of debentures of the 6 per cent. loan of 1869 falling due on 1st January next, upon such terms as may hereafter be announced.

6. Each tender must be made out in the form annexed to this Notification, and enclosed in a sealed cover addressed to the Secretary to the Corporation, and superscribed "Tender for Municipal Loan of 1889-90."

7. Each tender must be accompanied by Government Promissory Notes, currency notes or cheques for not less than 3 per cent. of the amount tendered.

8. When a tender is accepted, the deposit, when made in currency notes or cheques, will be held as a payment in part of the amount tendered, and will bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum from the 20th September 1889, provided that the whole amount tendered is paid up in the manner hereinafter prescribed; but no debenture will issue for the sum so deposited so long as the entire amount of the tender is not paid.

9. The deposits on tenders which may not be accepted, will be returned on application, and no interest will be payable on such deposits. If an allotment after being made is

not taken up, and the full amount allotted is not paid as hereinafter prescribed, the deposit will be forfeited.

10. The rate at which a tender is made, must be specified in rupees, or rupees and annas: a tender in which the rate is not so specified, will be rejected as null and void.

11. The rates stated in a tender must not contain any fraction of an anna. If a rate containing a fraction of an anna is inserted in any tender, such fraction will be struck out, and the tender treated as if the rate did not contain such fraction of an anna.

12. The amount of the accepted tenders must be paid into the Bank of Bengal in the following instalments:—

One-third on 21st October 1889.

Do. on 21st November 1889.

Do. on 21st December 1889.

Parties whose tenders are accepted will have the option of paying all or any of the instalments before the dates specified above, and will receive interest from the date of such payment.

13. Anticipation interest will be paid on all instalments from the respective dates on which such instalments are paid into the Bank of Bengal to the 31st December 1889.

14. Tenders will be accepted in the order of rates tendered, beginning with the highest rate. In the case of two or more tenders at the same rate a *pro rata* allotment will be made (if the tenders are accepted), but no allotment will be issued if the amount distributable on any tender is less than Rs. 500.

15. Tenders will be opened by the Loan Committee of the Commissioners at 3 P. M., on Friday, the 20th September 1889.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

Municipal Office,  
Calcutta, 31st August 1889.

## FORM OF APPLICATION FOR DEBENTURES.

I hereby tender for Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ of the Municipal \_\_\_\_\_ per cent. Loan for 1889-90, and agree to pay for the same subject to the conditions notified at the rate of Rupees \_\_\_\_\_ annas \_\_\_\_\_ for every Hundred Rupees allotted to me.

I enclose Government promissory notes, currency notes or a cheque for Rs. \_\_\_\_\_

Signed

Dated

# Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1889.

No. 392

## CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

[From Mr. Alfred Austin's new volume.]

### WHY ENGLAND IS CONSERVATIVE.

I.

Because of our dear Mother, the fair Past,  
On whom twin Hope and Memory safely lean,  
And from whose fostering wisdom none shall wean  
Their love and faith, while love and faith shall last :  
Mother of happy homes and Empire vast,  
Of hamlet snug, and many a proud demesne,  
Blue spires of cottage smoke 'mong woodlands green,  
And comely altars where no stone is cast.  
And shall we batter these for gaping Throne,  
Dismantled towers, mean plots without a tree,  
A herd of hinds too equal to be free,  
Greedy of others, jealous of their own,  
And, where sweet Order now breathes cadenced tone,  
Envy, and hate, and all uncharity ?

II.

Banish the fear ! 'Twere infamy to yield  
To folly what to force had been denied,  
Or in the Senate quail before the tide  
We should have stemmed and routed in the field.  
What though no more we brandish sword and shield,  
Reason's keen blade is ready at our side,  
And manly brains, in wisdom panoplied,  
Can foil the shafts that treacherous sophists wield.  
The spirit of our fathers is not quelled.  
With weapons valid even as those they bore,  
Domain, Throne, Altar, still may be upheld,  
So we disdain, as they disdained of yore,  
The foreign froth that foams against our shore,  
Only by its white cliffs to be repelled !

III.

Therefore chime sweet and safely, village bells,  
And, rustic tinklers, woo to reverent prayer,  
And, wise and simple, to the porch repair  
Round which Death, slumbering, dreamlike heaves and swells.  
Let hound and horn in wintry woods and dells  
Make jocund music though the boughs be bare,  
And whistling yokel guide his gleaming share  
Hard by the homes where gentle lordship dwells.  
Therefore sit high enthroned on every hill,  
Authority ! and loved in every vale ;  
Nor, old Tradition, falter in the tale  
Of lowly valour led by lofty will :  
And, though the throats of envy rage and rail,  
Be fair proud England proud fair England still !

## A MARCH MINSTREL.

Hail ! once again, that sweet strong note !  
Loud on my loftiest larch,  
Thou quaverest with thy mottled throat,  
Brave minstrel of bleak March !

Hearing thee flute, who pines or grieves  
For vernal smiles and showers ?  
Thy voice is greener than the leaves,  
And fresher than the flowers.

Scorning to wait for tuneful May  
When every throat can sing,  
Thou floutest Winter with thy lay,  
And art thyself the Spring !

While daffodils, half mournful still,  
Muffle their golden bells,  
Thy silvery peal o'er landscape chill  
Surges, and sinks, and swells.

Across the unsheltered pasture floats  
The young lamb's shivering bleat,  
There is no trembling in thy notes,  
For all the snow and sleet.

Let the bullace bide till forsts have ceased,  
The blackthorn loiter long ;  
Undaunted by the blustering east,  
Thou burgeonest into song.

Yet who can wonder thou dost dare  
Confront what others flee ?  
Thy carol cuts the keen March air  
Keener than it cuts Thee.

The selfish cuckoo tarrieth till  
April repays his boast.  
Thou, thou art lavish of thy trill,  
Now when we need it most.

The nightingale, while buds are coy,  
Delays to chant its grief.  
Brave thristle ! thou dost pipe for joy,  
With never a bough in leaf.

Even fond turtle-doves forbear  
To coo till woods are warm :  
Thou hast the heart to love and pair  
Ere the cherry blossoms swarm.

The skylark, fluttering to be heard  
In realms beyond his birth,  
Soars vainly heavenward. Thou, wise bird !  
Art satisfied with earth.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.



Thy home is not upon the ground,  
Thy hope not in the sky :  
Near to thy nest thy notes resound,  
Neither too low nor high.

Blow what wind will, thou dost rejoice  
To carol, and build, and woo.  
Thro' the ! to me impart thy voice ;  
Impart thy wisdom too.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE Government of India has requested the Bengal Government that "the acknowledgments of the Government of India may be conveyed to His Highness the Maharaja of Durbhunga and the other landholders who have accorded their continued and zealous co-operation with the Government in mitigating the sufferings of the people during the period of scarcity in the Patna Division."

MR. LAMBERT informs the public by an advertisement that the Parachute Descent this afternoon will be without any animal, dead or alive. After the wind is thus taken out of their sails, the Company will hardly take much by their venture.

"A PARSEE" who has strayed to England, has been warmed by smoky old Babylon into an altruistic feat. He has indited a long epistle in which, "as a humble mark of thanksgiving for the blessings which we enjoy under this (British) rule, and as a humble token of thanksgiving to the Almighty God for enabling me to realize a long-dreamt dream of visiting this great city (London), whose admirable institutions—in spite of several blemishes which sometimes accompany even an advanced state of civilization and education—have struck me with wonder and admiration"—he pays over to the Lord Mayor £1 "to be given in any charity for the good of the poor." A bad specimen of a race that gives away thousands without fuss, to be guilty of so much rodomontade in giving a pound in charity. The man's self-consciousness is shocking. At that rate, he would inflict on the public a volume in making a gift of a hundred guineas. The Petits and Camas and Jeejeebhys would have whole libraries to themselves.

THE noble steam man of war, *Sultan*, which lately got aground, has been got out safe. Messrs. Baghins & Co. offered to lift her up for £50,000. As the vessel had cost £374,777 and there were on board guns and ordnance stores amounting to £44,700, besides marine stores in general of the value of £10,000, bringing up the total to the enormous figure of £4,29,477! the authorities agreed. It is satisfactory to all sides that the contractors have succeeded in their venture. As the *Army and Navy Gazette* remarks, "To raise a vessel of 9,290 tons displacement is an accomplishment that the contractors may well be proud of."

THERE is a language of flowers. And now we have a vocabulary of affixing postage stamps.

"When a postage stamp has been placed upside down on the left corner of the letter, it means 'I love you'; on the same cross-wise, 'My heart is another's'; straight up and down, 'Good-bye, sweet-heart, good-bye'; upside down in the right hand corner, 'Write no more'; in the centre at the top, 'Yes'; opposite at the bottom, 'No'; on the right hand corner at a right angle, 'Do you love me?'; in the left hand corner, 'I hate you'; top corner on the right, 'I wish your friendship'; bottom corner on the left, 'I seek your acquaintance'; on a line with the surname, 'Accept my love'; the same upside down, 'I am engaged'; at a right angle in the same place, 'I long to see you'; in the middle at the right hand edge, 'Write immediately.'"

These idle hands seem to have been given up by poor Satan in despair as too "soft" for his purpose.

THE recent Paris Exhibition banquet, on Aug. 18, was probably the greatest function of the kind in Western Europe in modern times. It would have befitted the *shradh* of a Kaiser.

"The culinary work for the banquet commenced on Aug. 16, when the cooks proceeded to the delicate operation of making the mayonnaise sauce. In its confection 2,000 yolks of eggs were employed. The twelve hundred fowls, which were to be served cold, were cooked,

as were also the fifteen hundred ducks, which were to be made into pies. As for the galantine, the fillets of beef, and the fish, which constituted the *pièces de résistance* of the menu, they were prepared on the 17th. Sixteen thousand bottles of claret, 4,000 of Pomar, 3,000 of Madeira, and 3,000 of champagne were conveyed to the Palais de l'Industrie. A couple of hours before the banquet, the 30,000 French rolls deemed necessary were brought to the Champs Elysées. Eighty thousand plates, 20,000 forks, 20,000 knives, 16,000 tablespoons, 15,000 coffee spoons, and 52,000 glasses were provided for the banquet, to prepare and serve which there were 1,000 waiters, 75 cooks, 90 assistant-cooks, 50 cellarmen, and 150 scullions."

In India, private liberality not unoften exceeds that measure. The late Maharaja of Gwalior repeatedly fed a hundred thousand Brahmans at a time.

GENERAL BOULANGER having, in his absence, been found guilty of looting the treasury as War Minister and condemned, has been reduced to try his sheet-anchor—his popularity with the nation. He has appealed to the country. His language and statements are truly French—absolutely Frank. On Aug. 16, a manifesto was published addressed "to honest men," and signed by General Boulanger, Count Dillon, and M. Rochefort, in these choice terms:—

"The summary execution which the adversaries of the National Republican party describe as the judgment of the High Court is, every one knows, the result of a contract concluded between the majority of a dishonoured Chamber and the majority of a Senate condemned for ever by the country. The former has said to the latter, 'Rid us of the men who threaten our re-election, and for that we will let you live.' And the fiery Revisionists who at the head of their electoral programmes had placed the suppression of the Senate now declare that this body has saved the Republic. The people will not be deceived as to the motives which have dictated this disgraceful bargain. Universal suffrage lying prostrate below limited suffrage, the security of citizens, and the honour of the nation in the hands of the accomplices of Ferry—such are the results of the monstrous iniquity perpetrated against us. The true heads of the Senatorial Republic are, at this moment, the false witness Alibert and the swindler Buret. But this orgie of Absolutism, calumny, and prevarication happily is near its end. In spite of the new *coups d'état* which are being elaborated in shady places, we have confidence in the firmness of the electoral body. We appeal to it, then, from falsehood to truth, from the dictatorship of mud to the honest Republic. *Vive la France! Vive la République!*"

LORD CONNEMARA left Ootacamund on the 5th. He is bound for Simla. He passes through Calcutta, pays a flying visit to Darjeeling, and then proceeds to Simla on State business. He moves on to the frontier before going back to Madras.

THE Foreign Secretary, Sir Mortimer Durand, was laid up with pleurisy. He has, we are glad to learn, been pronounced convalescent.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces has marked Bundelkhand for his next winter tour.

A TEST examination of private students—candidates from the districts of the Presidency and Chota Nagpore Divisions—for admission to the next Entrance Examination—will be held at No. 4, Dalhousie Square, office of the Inspector of Schools, Presidency Circle, on the 13th December next. Applications with the usual fee and necessary particulars, must be made at least ten days before the examination day.

THE High Court has revised the Jury Rules. These Rules to be known as "The Jury Rules, 1889" supersede all existing rules regarding the qualification, summoning, empanelling, and serving of jurors. We transcribe Rules III and IV. about qualifications and disqualifications of Jurors.

"Every male person between the ages of twenty-one and sixty, who is not the subject of any Foreign State, and who resides or personally works for gain within the local limits of the High Court in its Ordinary Original Criminal Jurisdiction, shall be qualified and liable, subject to the provisos and conditions hereinafter contained, to serve as a juror at any criminal sittings of the High Court, other than sittings held under the provisions of section 335 of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1882, and upon any inquest before the Coroner of Calcutta; provided he be the resident occupier of a house within the said local limits of the annual value of not less than four hundred rupees; or has property, or an interest in lands, tenements, or goods within the Province of Bengal of the value of not less than three thousand rupees; or is in receipt of an income of not less than one hundred rupees a month.

America is not "a Foreign State" within the meaning of this rule. "Annual value" in this rule means annual value as defined by Section 122 of the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act, 1888.

No person shall be eligible to serve as a juror as aforesaid, who holds any office in or under the High Court; or who receives any pay or emolument for any employment in any office or under any officer thereof; or for executing any duties of Police; or who is the subject of any



Foreign State; or who is under the age of twenty-one years; or who having been convicted of a non-bailable offence under the Indian Penal Code, or of a similar offence in British India or elsewhere, shall not have obtained a free pardon in respect thereof, or have obtained a reversal of such conviction upon the merits; or who is a lunatic or an idiot; or who does not understand English when spoken."

There is a long list of exemptions from the Viceroy and Lieutenant-Governor down to all domestic servants. The only person excused by name is Kazi Syed Ahmed Khan Bahadoor, Attaché in the Foreign Department. The rules reserve to the presiding Judge the power to "order the name of any person who has actually served as a Juror in the preceding year, and of any person known or believed to be dead, absent from Calcutta, or likely to be unable from illness or otherwise to attend, or known or believed not to be qualified or liable to serve as a Juror under these rules, to be set aside." The dead are above all law and the High Court, the absent are without its jurisdiction. How can the Judge enforce their attendance or punish them for neglect?

THE Behar National School, Bankipore, has been affiliated to the Calcutta University in Arts up to the F. A. Standard.

THE Governor-General in Council has been pleased to make certain reductions and remissions in the fees mentioned in the First and Second Schedules of the Court-fees Act, VII. of 1870. The notification will be found in the *Gazette of India* Part I. of the 4th September 1889.

FROM the 1st October next, tolls will be levied on all boats, steamers, rafts, &c., at Khoolna on the route known as the "Eastern Canal" or "Inner Boat Route," the toll limits being to the South, the junction of the Bhyrub and Roopsha rivers, and to the north a line drawn from the village of Bungapara on the right bank to the village of Solepore on the left bank of the Bhyrub river. The rates are:

On all boats, steamers and other vessels, except those laden with wood, per 100 maunds tonnage	...	...	As. 14
On same laden with wood, per 100 maunds tonnage	...	...	12
On floats of roughly squared timbers, each timber	...	...	6
On floats of unwrought timbers, each timber	...	...	3
On rafts of bamboos, for each hundred or portion of each hundred	...	...	3
Minimum toll on all boats, floats or rafts	...	...	4

Monthly tickets, at six times the ordinary tolls as calculated by the above rates, will, at the option of the payers, be issued to boats used exclusively for fishing purposes. Dingheys accompanying large boats will not be charged any toll. Vessels unloading within toll limits and leaving with cargo will not be subject to toll on leaving.

THE Collector of Customs has "declared that the provisions of Section 18 of the Sea Customs Act, 1878, as amended by Section 10, Sub-section (2) of the Indian Merchandise Marks Act, 1889, shall, as regards all piece-goods therein indicated, be deemed to be in abeyance up to and inclusive of the 31st day of October 1889, absolutely."

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE London Labour Revolt has ended. The strikers accepted November as the commencement of the increased wages and returned to work on the 15th. To bury past differences, they held a feast at the Mansion House. Cardinal Manning and the Lord Mayor, who were present, expressed their satisfaction at the bloodlessness of the revolt. There was a demonstration, too, in Hyde Park, in which the strikers congratulated themselves on their success against the Dock Directors. The "Blacklegs" in the Albert Docks who had been taken in during the height of the strike and continued to work, caused some irritation to the labourers, which resulted in fight between the two parties. The labourers threatened repetition of the strike unless the "Blacklegs" were turned out. The Directors refused to part with the Blacklegs who had stood by them in their hour of need. The last report is that the friction is over.

THE Executive of Cotton manufacturers have passed a resolution to run short time. In consequence, six of the largest mills in Blackburn have been closed for a time, throwing out three thousand operatives.

THE Scotch papers charge a Scottish peer with impropriety and assault upon a child.

IT is reported from Quebec that a mass of rock from the Dufferin Terrace rolled down a distance of two hundred feet, burying houses and fifty persons, killing thirteen more, besides injuring another twenty.

THE *Times* has information that Servia and Montenegro are for a mutual offensive and defensive alliance.

SURGEON APTHORP, of gunnery-ship *Cambridge*, while a guest at Surgeon Hayes', of Devenport, rewarded his hospitality by "conveying" some bank-notes. For that act of bravery, he has been awarded removal from service.

A EUROPEAN paper thus piles up the sagavery of the Shah in Austria:—

"At a Court dinner he omitted to give his arm to the archduchess, who was his hostess, and she had to run after him. At another Court function he coolly kept the Emperor waiting a quarter of an hour. At the Zoological Gardens he borrowed a stick to goad the animals and make them savage. At some public baths he and his valet played pranks with the watercocks and flooded the bathroom. In another place having wetted his hands he wiped them on the coat-tails of the nearest gentleman present. His little boy Aziz appears to have followed pretty faithfully in the footsteps of his royal master. We are told that the little fellow is remarkable not only for his pranks but for his domineering ways towards the persons in the Shah's suite, who have to grin and bear it as they may, and for his impudence towards the rest of mankind. Being taken to some public baths in Vienna he retained twelve rooms for his own use, had a dozen baths filled, and amused himself by pumping the water in and out of them."

The man cannot walk straight whom we do not like, says the Bengali proverb. The Shah being an Oriental prince of no great power, is of course always blundering and bungling and boring the precious princes and princelings and courtiers of the West. He is a mere savage, whose gems are his best part. But are the royalty of Europe always the pink of perfection? Are even English kings and queens of the nineteenth century such paragons of excellence that they may look down on their Eastern brethren? Take the Prince who was esteemed "the first gentleman in Europe" and his wife, the Princess Caroline. We will call witness the great *Ghatak Raj*—match-maker—Harris, Lord Malmesbury, who brought the latter over from Brunswick to be wedded to the heir of George III. His memoirs, which are most interesting reading, give a curious picture of the wretchedness of court life. They certainly take away all the glamour out of it. Even as regards princes and princesses, there is little to choose between Eastern and Western ones. Not only in essential meanness, but even in personal cleanliness, they are often at par. At all events, it is not Eastern potentates and grandees alone that cover soiled linen with rich brocades. Hear what Malmesbury, in his *Diary and Correspondence*, says of the bride of the Heir to England's Throne:—

"Argument with the princess about her toilette. She piques herself on dressing quick; I disapprove this. She maintains her point. I, however, desire Madame Busche to explain to her that the prince is very delicate, and that he expects a long and very careful *toilette de propreté*; of which she has no idea. On the contrary, she neglects it sadly, and is offensive from this neglect. Madame Busche executes her commission well, and the princess comes out the next day well washed all over."

Again:—

"I had two conversations with the Princess Caroline. One on the toilette, on cleanliness, and on delicacy of speaking. On these points I endeavored, as far as was possible for a man, to inculcate the necessity of great and nice attention to every part of dress, as well as to what was hid as to what was seen. (I knew she wore coarse petticoats, coarse shifts, and thread stockings; and these never well washed or changed often enough.) I observed that a long toilette was necessary, and gave her no credit for boasting that hers was a 'short' one. What I could not say myself on this point I got said through women; I through Madame Busche, and afterwards through Mrs. Harcourt. It is remarkable how amazingly on this point her education has been neglected, and how much her mother, although an English woman, was inattentive to it."

And what of her betrothed husband, the Prince? He was not a more savoury being. If personally clean, he was mentally and morally a mass of sores. But surely he never failed in the ordinary requirements of a gentleman—not to say the first of gentlemen!

Let us see how he behaved to his affianced at their first meeting. Lord Harris has brought the Princess over to London, and now goes on:—

"I immediately notified the arrival to the King and Prince of Wales: the last came immediately. According to the established etiquette

introduced (no one else being in the room) the Princess Caroline to him. She very properly, in consequence of my saying to her it was the right mode of proceeding, attempted to kneel to him. He raised her, (gracefully enough), and embraced her; said barely one word, turned round, retired to a distant part of the apartment, and calling me to him, said, 'Harris, I am not well; pray get me a glass of brandy!' I said, 'Sir, had you not better have a glass of water?'—upon which he, much out of humor, said, *with an oath*, 'No; I will go directly to the queen, and away he went. The princess, left during this short moment alone, was in a state of astonishment; and, on my joining her, said, 'Mon Dieu! est-ce que le prince est toujours comme cela? *Je le trouve très-gros, et nullement aussi beau que son portrait.*' I said, his royal highness was naturally a good deal affected and flurried at this first interview, but she certainly would find him different at dinner. She was disposed to further criticisms on this occasion, which would have embarrassed me very much to answer, if luckily the king had not ordered me to attend him."

Nasiruddin Shah is not powerful enough to be deliberately rude to European royalty and nobility, as he is represented to be. In point of fact, he is a polished Persian and travelled gentleman. But we doubt whether the irresistible Scourge of God Nadir Shah himself would have behaved so truculently to a woman in the way that our English Prince did towards his bride at their first meeting.

THE vernacular paper *Kattywari* was charged with attempting by threats to extort money from a Native State. The editor was tried by the Resident's Court at Rajkote. Major W. B. Ferris has convicted the accused and sentenced him to eighteen months' hard labour and a fine of Rs. 1,000, with alternative of another six months. The Political Courts of Kattywar have evidently scant sympathy for journalists. Major Ferris probably cannot boast of Judge Norris's intimate personal knowledge of the Press. In any case, the punishment inflicted by him on the miserable editor is frightful.

THE Sessions Judge has upheld the conviction of the editor of the *Dacca Prakash*. The Magistrate had ordered one month's simple imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 500 to be paid, when realized, to the complainant Ruptal, by way of satisfaction to his wounded *Shao* susceptibilities. The Judge, with a desperate effort to temper justice with mercy, has upheld the order for imprisonment and remitted the fine.

MEANWHILE, the High Court—Beverley and Gurudas Banerjee, J. J.,—have issued a rule upon the District Magistrate of Dacca to shew cause why the conviction of Guru Govind Aich, editor of the *Dacca Prakash*, should not be set aside. They have also ordered that the editor be admitted to bail to the satisfaction of the Magistrate, pending the hearing of the rule. The rule will be heard after the vacation.

FOR cutting off the nose of his wife Revi and inflicting a severe wound on her neck, which kept her in the hospital for more than a month, the Sessions Judge of Belgaum, Dr. A. D. Pollen, on the verdict of the Jury, sentenced Ningia *bin* Rayapa to transportation for nine years. The accused had admitted the infliction of the wound but pleaded insanity, for he had not been on good terms with his wife for a long time past. The Bombay High Court has refused to interfere with the order of the lower Court.

IN the Madras libel suit—Moore *versus* Norton, the issues have been framed. They are (1) Were the words complained of in the plaint, or words to that substance or effect, spoken by the defendant, and concerning the plaintiff as in plaint alleged? (2) What damage, if any, is Plaintiff entitled to?

THE indigo planter Sims, charged with causing the death of Laton Meah, has been acquitted by the Sessions Judge of Mozufferpore Mr. Brett. He pointed out to the jury that Section 304A of the Penal Code did not apply, and that Section 325 applied if they believed the uncorroborated evidence of the grass cutter Chuttoo, and were convinced of the intention of the accused to cause grievous hurt. None of the Jurors would accept Chuttoo's evidence.

THE war of five years—between Raja Hurronath Roy of Dubalhati and his tenants—is over. The Settlement Officer deputed by Government to make a record of rights has succeeded in persuading both the parties to come to terms and accept a compromise. In another

two months, he hopes to complete the negotiations and set free the estate from the harassment and troubles occasioned by the withholding of rents by the tenants.

ON August 24, we commented on the decoration of Baboo Prankristo Chowdry with the Palm Leaf of the French Republic. To commemorate the occasion, the Baboo has made over to the French Government at Chandernagore Rs. 500, for an annual silver medal to the student passing first in French from the Chandernagore Government School.

THE elections for the French Chamber of Deputies will be held tomorrow. The Indian Settlements—Pondicherry, Karikal, Chandernagore, Mahe and Yunan—return one member. Their present representative is Mons. Pierre Alype, a native of Bourbon. He has served out his first term of six years, and expects to be returned this time also. He has a staunch friend in M. R. Ry. Chanemouga Valouydan, the first Native in Pondicherry, member of the Conseil Generale. This gentleman has won his way to the Legion of Honor. Many may know him better as the uncle of Sir Savalay Ramaswamy Moodliar of Madras.

WE have never met with so touching a romance of real life as the incident recorded below:—

"A Tobolsk journal briefly describes the marriage ceremony between a former Russian officer condemned to 10 years' hard labour in the mines and life-long banishment, and a young and beautiful girl, possessing an ample fortune in her own right, who had faithfully and wearily followed the footsteps of her lover. The bridegroom was brought to the altar of the prison chapel in the soiled grey clothes of a miner, his ankles bound by chains rivetted to the iron waistband. The marriage ceremony over, husband and wife bade each other a sad but hopeful farewell; he to return to his gloomy toilsome life, and she to wait wearily until her husband obtained the freedom of a colonist."

That Russian convict certainly is no disguised Tartar barbarian, or else he could not create and, what is more, maintain, under absolutely prohibitive conditions, such tender interest in so noble a soul. The girl is, of course, an angel. And not by a figure of speech. The angels themselves are honoured by calling her one.

THE offence of assaulting the judiciary on the execution of their duty is getting rather common. Here is a record of one of the recent attempts, happily unsuccessful:—

"Mr. H. W. Pike, Joint-Magistrate of Allahabad, sentenced two tupkawallas, men who beguile innocent travellers on the road-side into buying brummagem articles at exorbitant prices, to two years' rigorous imprisonment each on charges of cheating. One of the men, on being led out of the Court, extracted a slipper from his nether garments and flung it at the Magistrate. A constable, however, intercepted the missile, which fell into the prisoner's box. The assailant was taken before Mr. C. S. Elloy, Deputy Magistrate, who sentenced him to a further term of two years' imprisonment, three months of which are to be spent in solitude."

As a rule, we confess, we have little sympathy with the dishonoured dispensers of justice—that is, where no deadlier instrument than the slipper, or, at the worst, a worn out Delhi pump is used. We have a notion that in nine cases out of ten, they deserve the attention. That is the popular form of expressing the indignation of the victim of law and Court. For instance, in the case under notice, without knowing anything more of it than is contained in the above paragraph, it seems to us that the tupkawallah was more sinned against by the Court than he could have sinned against any complainant or society in general. The sentence was atrocious in its severity. The Penal Code is a Draconian law, and if Magistrates will not apply it with sufficient discretion and some humanity, they will render themselves liable to be slipped and pelted with stones.

We must make an exception in favour of that obliging Deputy. He deserves a pretty elaborate course of leathering. He seems to have a truly loyal idea of the sacredness of the magisterial person, specially the Civilian magisterial person. For an unperpetrated battery on a Joint of magistracy, he awarded a sentence of hard labour for one year and nine months—and of the horrible solitary confinement for three months besides. What would he have done had the slipper taken effect? What, if the great Magistrate of the District himself had been aimed at? What, if the Magistrate Bahadoor had been struck? And what, if a High Court Judge? or, the Chief Justice himself? His sliding scale would have been exhausted to find a punishment meet. If a Governor had been assaulted, he would probably have given up a whole Province to be sacked.

BOMBAY, in public meeting assembled, has protested against a Sunday mail day. The Government of India has taken up the cry, and has suggested Saturday, as an alternate day, throughout the year. To preserve the Saturday half-holiday, it has been proposed that the mail bags should be closed at two in the afternoon.

THE Post Office takes no holiday during the Poojas, only on three days of the Pooja Proper, namely, October 1, 2 and 3, the deliveries from the Calcutta General Post Office and its Town sub-offices will be, as on Sundays, two times a day. The other departments will be open as usual. They will receive registered and insured articles and parcels and pay money orders and transact Savings Bank business.

THE Custom House will observe the Doorga and Lukhi Pooja holidays thus. On September 30, October 5, 9 and 10, it will be open during the usual hours for transaction of all business. On these days, the treasury will remain open. On October 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8, the House will be opened on notice being given, free of charge, from 11 A. M. to 12 noon, for entering or clearing any vessel that it may be required so to enter or clear, and for the issue of bills of entry or shipping bills covering free goods from or to the same. The treasury on these days will be closed.

The Bengal Bonded Warehouse will be closed on October 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 8 and will be opened on September 30, October 5, 9 and 10.

The Officiating Comptroller-General, Mr. E. T. Atkinson, has accepted the responsibility of the mysterious notice commented upon by us in our last against closing the Paper Currency Office. He thus notifies :—

"Notice is hereby given that the Public Debt Office and the Government Savings Bank at the Bank of Bengal will be closed from the 30th September to the 10th October, both days inclusive, but the Bank of Bengal will receive and pay money on Government account on all days on which the Bank is open for business.

The Paper Currency Office will also be open to the public for exchange of notes and coin up to one o'clock P. M. on the 30th September, 8th and following days in October."

Only one counter will be kept open for the public—not the Bank of Bengal or the Government. Eight or nine *employés* of both the upper and lower grades will be detained for this work, who will receive an equivalent in casual leave, but no allowance.

YESTERDAY we received this urgent telegram from Simla :—

"Instructions have been issued to close Currency Office during Pooja Holidays with reservation that arrangements may be made for attendance of a small number of clerks on certain days in order to meet convenience of mercantile community."

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## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1889.

### LAW- AND SUB-LAW-MAKING AND LAW ADMINISTRATION IN INDIA.

THE Bills of neither the Imperial Council nor the Local Chambers are worded with sufficient approach to either comprehensiveness or accuracy. And the haphazard tinkering of the Select Committees and the Councils make confusion worse confounded in the Acts as they issue out with the final imprimatur of the legislatures. Thick as autumnal leaves that strow the brooks in Vallambrosa, are the flaws that often strike the careful student or the acute practitioner. This is the more extraordinary, considering the general character of many of our laws. There is a primitive simplicity about the methods of Indian legislation that ought to make the task of the draughtsman easy. The Chambers scarcely perform half their duty but pass it on to others. They shirk inconvenient questions and avoid complicated details by delegating their powers to the Executive. The several Governments are authorized to make all the rules and provisions required, as well as to introduce the law, the rules and provisions included, in any geographical area or particular town or municipality or group of villages, or to apply it to any class or section of the population. Under such terms, one would suppose, such initial and fractional share of work, as, being inalienable, the legislature necessarily retained, would be well done, and its draughting above reproach. Unfortunately, that is far from the fact. The forethought and skill devoted to the work, is evidenced by the frequency of tinkering it. The amending hand is never at rest. Laws are no sooner passed than the cry is heard that they must be altered. Everything is slipshod. The most elaborate Codes are tentative.

Nor is the share of the Executive Government any better performed. The Proteus Civilian is the hero in both spheres. The same men or their like are the law-givers and law-makers, in both the Legislature and the Secretariat. Of course, the same spirit governs—the same style prevails. The same inharmonious flabby inexactitude marks both. The Rules under the Act are framed in the same offhand manner as the Acts themselves.

But if laws and sublaws are negligently drafted, they are with equal perfunctoriness executed—by the Government itself. Such is the prevailing nonchalance and recklessness of irresponsible office, that the very mechanical conditions which make a piece of writing, law, are neglected. Of course, the administration of justice takes its example from the Government and makes a mess of the whole in the working.

A Correspondent of the *Statesman* notices a recent case in Krishnagur before a Deputy Magistrate to the point.

"Sir,—Lately a case came for hearing in the court of Baboo Annodaprosad Sen, deputy magistrate, in which ten persons were prosecuted under the Gaming Act (Act II of 1867 B. C.) The Act provides that there should be three consecutive publications in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the notification extending the Act to any locality. In the course of his defence of the accused persons, Baboo Sakti Kantha Bhattacharjy took a preliminary objection to the effect that as there was only one publication of the notification extending the Act to Krishnagur, it could have no operation there. This he pointed out from the Cal-

*cutta Gazette* of 1867, and in support of his contention he relied upon a ruling of the Calcutta High Court, reported in 8 W. R. cr. 41. The most regrettable part of the business is that since 1867 there have been many convictions under the same Act here, no one taking the trouble to point out the defect, and but for the skill of the learned pleader in the present case, these ten unfortunate persons would have come to grief, as the court thought that the evidence against them was sufficient for a conviction. I have reasons to believe that there exists a similar defect in the publication of notifications extending the Act to other places. The matter is of public importance, and the attention of the authorities ought to be directed to this point.

JUSTICE.

Krishnaghur, Sep. 12."

That letter embraces, within the smallest possible compass, an apt illustration of all the various evils of law and judicature in India which we have been noticing. We make a holiday present of it to the Government.

### THE LATE PIONEER LIBEL CASE.

THE Indian Press, Anglo-Indian as well as Native, has exhibited its usual weakness in the late *Pioneer* Libel Case. During the progress of the litigation, it maintained its self-respect by offering the old British superstition, about the horrible impropriety of commenting on cases *sub judice*, as a plea for meek silence, leaving this paper alone to perform, according to our lights, the sacred duty of setting the public right and dissipating prejudice and misconception. On the conclusion of the business in the High Court, by the unexpected and unprecedented mine sprung by Mr. Justice Norris, when they might be supposed to be at last freed from the terror of the *sub judice* ogre, the papers had still vastly little to say. With the sole exception of the *Statesman* perhaps, they all contented themselves with the expression in brief of surprise at the expected ending or untoward result. So far from any indignation, there was no adequate comment on the judicial game of ledgerdmain by which the case was nipped in the bud.

The Correspondents, no doubt, in some measure made up for the laches of the Editors. There have been some very good letters in the *Statesman*, written by public-spirited men of knowledge and experience and even by men of weight and influence. At the very outset, after Mr. Alston of the Allahabad's cross-examination by proxy of the prosecutor, a true citizen drew public attention to the fact that the Government, in violation of its own strict rules, had evidently assisted the defence, that its departments had been set in motion to collect information of the distant past, and exhume long-buried papers—information and papers which are not supplied even to the application of the parties immediately concerned in the matters—in order to arm the defence for demolishing the prosecution. The fact of the prosecuted journal being a Government organ whose Chief Editor—the principal defendant—is the son of the member of the Supreme Council in charge of the military department—equivalent to Minister of War—supplies the motive for such unprecedented favour.

Several writers wondered how the Magistrate came to disallow the case for want of territorial jurisdiction. One Correspondent, evidently a lawyer, who knows his business, scouted the plea as opposed to all precedents. For one, he cited as in point the recent trial of O'Brien *vs.* Salisbury, in which, although the alleged offence was committed at Watford, while both complainant and defendant were—temporarily,

at all events—residents in London, the case was all the same tried as far away as Manchester.

The same writer thoroughly exposed the extreme frivolity and utter irrelevancy of the laboured and tedious cross-examination of the plaintiff by Mr. M. P. Gasper, the counsel for the defence. So far from being worthy of a senior practitioner of even an Indian Old Bailey, the whole exhibition was beneath Bow Street. But, for once, there was no check from a bench not usually patient of nonsense. The good Magistrate looked on, while the unfortunate prosecutor was leisurely pursued by the enemy and led through Purgatory, as if he were the prisoner at the bar, brought up for sentence of Court. And all for what? For the veriest *bagatelles*. Thus,

"He was held up to the ridicule of the Court for allowing himself to be called by a title which he appears not to have formally received. The aim appeared to be to show him up as a man desirous of passing himself off as the holder of a dignity to which he was not entitled. A gentleman in the army, well-known to me whom we will call 'Captain W—,' told me that he hoped soon to obtain his captaincy, and he added—'The fact is, I am only a lieutenant, but it is usual in the army to speak of an officer as a degree higher in rank than he really is, and I have been for years past called Captain W—.' That such is the etiquette of the army is further shown by recent telegrams from Egypt in which Colonel Grenfell is said to be promoted to the rank of Major-General; and which now regularly speak of him as 'General-Grenfell' though his being so is at present only a pleasant fiction. The lamented Major-General Macpherson was regularly styled 'General Macpherson,' and Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson was always written of as 'Colonel Anderson.' These facts bear out the statement of my friend 'Captain W—,' and they not only exonerate Captain Hearsey from the imputation of affecting a higher title than that which is his due; but they actually prove him to have been 'in order' in allowing himself to be so called. To call him 'Captain Hearsey' is thus quite in keeping with the etiquette of the British army; and the matter need not have occupied the time of the Court a single moment, if the Counsel for Mr. Chesney had only been aware of the circumstance. If he *did* know it, then the bitter and spiteful way in which he 'sat upon' the complainant, shows that a point so small could only be found in two places,—in the head of the 'bully' of a boy's playground and under a barrister's wig. 'Everything is fair in war,' and everything is fair in our Indian law-courts, too, it seems: if it was not fair, then it is passing strange that the learned Magistrate who presided over the proceedings did not say so."

We confess we were struck with amazement at the ignorance displayed by the defending counsel. Native as we are and far from habitually moving in English society, we know enough from our college days not to address a Lieutenant as Lieutenant. Mr. Gasper had no idea of what an exhibition he was making of himself. This chip of the old—Bailey showed himself a social innocent of the first water. Great as he is in the bullying of the bar, he is certainly not great in the usages of society. He probably has had little time or opportunity for mixing in it. Perhaps, he despises the knowledge of such small things as may be learnt by the process. But even small things have their use in our day of small things and of small men. It was amusing to see the great man such an unsophisticated lamb. Had he cared betimes to extend his observation beyond his profitable acquaintance with briefs and *badmashes*, attorneys and *mooktears*, complainants and prisoners, he would have escaped the situation in which he voluntarily placed himself. All the gusto with which he pounced upon the prosecutor in the box only recoiled on the cross-examiner. In trying to show up Captain Hearsey as a military pretender, he simply exposed his own social pretensions.

As for the Magistrate, he had had enough of the business to have left any disposition to interfere, after the interference of the Superior Court. At the time he had little hope of being signally avenged on the Bench (Beverley and Trevelyan and J. J.) that virtually remanded the case to him, by the Sphinx of the same Court. Nonetheless, we suppose, did he enjoy how Mr. Gasper spoke himself down.

On the legal value of all the labour and ingenuity to prove what was neither here nor there, the writer says:—

"But it overlooked the real offence of which Captain Hearsey complained. This, no doubt, the Counsel had law enough in him to see. To have published the fact, after Lord Beaconsfield became a great public man that in his earlier years he was dragged before the Magistrate on repeated occasions for swindling his tradesmen, would undoubtedly have been adjudged 'defamation of character,' if he had chosen to put the law in motion, and no attempt to prove that it was 'all true,' would have shielded the defendant."

The whole thing, indeed, was absolutely beside the point. In an action for damages, it might have been all very well to expose the plaintiff's antecedents and detract from his status, with a view to reduce the pecuniary award. In a criminal matter, it was simply irrelevant. We are not given to platitudes, but when senior counsel conduct themselves in the way that Mr. Gasper of the Calcutta High Court bar, prompted by Mr. Alston of that of the Allahabad Court and, instructed by a respectable firm like Sanderson's, before an experienced lawyer-magistrate like Mr. Marsden, it is necessary to remind the profession as well as the press and the public of the commonest first principles. Criminal Judicature stands on a very different footing from civil actions. In fact, except in suits for damages, the principle is the same in all judicature that the character of the plaintiff gives the defendant no excuse for doing him out of his own—his property or any other rights—or doing him any injury whatsoever. Even the worst of us are protected by law—not in our wrongs against others, but in our rights as against the encroachments of the world. Captain Hearsey might be as bad as Mr. Chesney had instructed Mr. Gasper to represent him, without forfeiting his right to be unmolested. Supposing he were ten times worse, would that give the *Pioneer* any right to blackguard him? So all that mad effort to pile up the agony on his devoted head—all the toil of creeping through the bypaths and backslums of life, smelling here a rat, and picking there a soiled rag, to mass together all the indiscretions of a whole life-time, was vain—simply Hate's Labour Lost. The Counsel did not distinguish himself for either sense or knowledge—whether of Law or Society.

#### • THE IGNORANCE OF TRIFLES.

##### THE MULTIPLICATION OF SMALL MONIES.

THERE is always a knowledge beyond the ken of the most knowing. We mean not here the more things in Heaven and Earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy, or by the most learned and philosophical of mankind. We mean no sublime or recondite things at all, but refer to matters level to the meanest understanding and easily to be learnt by whoever cares to learn. We allude, in fact, to that knowledge of common things which is so common among uncommon men of all sorts and degrees. The unsophisticated parishioners of sweet Auburn might well wonder that the small head of their good pastor could carry all he knew. The educated man in our day has to carry a great deal more in his head than even the great scholar a hundred years back. Of course, he has to pay the price in inattention to many minor concerns. Even in former times, when the obligations of men of liberal pursuits were far less urgent and the very domains of human observation and study far more limited, the great knowers were very small knowers in many particulars. Thus, the greatest mathematician was a bad hand at home arithmetic. Again, men in the higher walks of life are necessarily deficient in the minor knowledges. Those who are placed above want are not likely to know all the ins and outs of the children of Poverty. As a rule, the so-called respectable classes are vastly unacquainted with all the little shifts, the escapes and triumphs, of the struggling masses. Hence, a necessary absence of

sympathy and failure of justice on the part of their superiors towards the poor.

A casual remark of a well known Judge in a late case in England, seems to us to illustrate this isolation of the well-to-do classes from their less fortunate brethren. There was no failure of justice in that case, because there could not be any under the circumstances. But the typical simplicity shown by the bench might, under another state of facts, or in another form of litigation, well lead to grave mistakes.

A maltster's labourer, by name Woodcock, died at Whittingham, in Norfolk, at the age of 70. He left five children, all under the age of 21, and a box of gold containing £1,970 to be divided equally among his children. Mr. Justice Chitty, in ordering the division, wondered how a labourer with about 15s a week could, say in 50 years, save that sum.

Mr. Chitty may be a good lawyer, but he must be an indifferent domestic economist. Nor is he much of an arithmetician. Has he never seen the speculations in figures shewing how trifling sums, by continually *interesting* accretions, swell to considerable fortunes? Interest never sleeps, whether in office—in matters of patronage,—or in borrowing transactions. It is a comparatively mild dose in High Finance, but the Compound Jelap of Low Finance—the form it usually assumes in microscopic dealings or on petty sums—is a terrible antiphlogistic, acting as a drastic purge on the poor patient, ruinous to his pecuniary constitution, if not actually killing to his substance. So much the better for the relentless physician—the aggrandising cynic! The secret of money-making is obvious enough, it is the temper that is rare. Perhaps, it is not to be acquired, any more than a good face. It is usually an inheritance—from the male or the female side. Economists have usually little in common with the Poets, but they are singularly identical at starting. The Chamberlains may make wooden screws or iron ones, but the tight specimens of flesh and blood—the close-grained, close-fisted representatives of abnormal thrift—are born, not made. In their case, more than in any others, Wordsworth's remark holds good—The child is father to the man. The miracle of Minerva's birth is daily repeated in theirs. This species of *lusus nature* almost always comes to the world in all the glory—and shame—of full development. There is scarcely a more revolting spectacle than one of these monsters of juvenile parsimony. (On the other hand, there are those that can never lay by. Money comes to them only to go away, as fast as it comes and can depart. In fact, it may be said that money never comes to them at all, properly speaking. It is a mere optical deception—an illusory visit—a pecuniary tantalization by a magician. Money comes to them *en route*, stopping just to take breath, as it were. These unfortunates are ever in want for all that they may earn.

Mr. Justice Chitty had better lay aside his ordinary studies for an occasional dip into something less august but perhaps more wise, certainly more prudent and to the point—for a professional man—than Coke upon Littleton or even his own family's treatises on Contract—say Poor Richard's Almanac. Certainly, that last famous work would have given him a better clue to the problem which puzzled him on the bench in the case under notice than all his special learning. Proverbial Philosophy is rich in suggestions on the point. Thus, A penny saved is a penny gained. And, generally speaking, Many a little makes a mickle.

The secret of fortune-making is just to cultivate betimes a reverence for the littles. It is far easier to make money than to keep it. Everybody earns, but how few accumulate! Almost every one might be rich if he seriously desired and had an adequate will. But few have the stern courage not to spend and the patience to wait. Poor Woodcock, who astonished Mr. Justice Chitty, had both.

#### RELEASE OF THE SIKH PRISONERS.

[Concluded from Page 444.]

TWO or three days after I had visited the Sikh prisoners, one afternoon Kurram Khan informed me that they wished to see me again. I went over. Sirdar Prem Singh began to relate to me all the circumstances of their incarceration. Although I was much interested, I stopped him and said, "Sirdar Sahib, it is of no use telling me your story like this, as, first of all, I cannot understand your Punjabi dialect well enough to follow you very closely, but what I will do is this. I will ask the Officer Commanding the Fort to give me per-



mission to allow you to visit my quarters, and then you three can sit down comfortably and relate to me all your troubles. Kurrum Khan understands your language, he will translate, and my wife understands Hindoostani better than I do, so she will prevent me from making any mistakes as to your true meaning. I will then take a pen and ink and write down whatever you may have to say." The Officer Commanding the Fort belonged to my own Regiment, so there was no difficulty in obtaining his consent. One afternoon, I placed a camp table with pens, ink and foolscap paper on it in the bay window of my room overhanging the Ganges, and round it I had five chairs arranged, *viz.*, one for each of the Sirdars, one for my wife to my left, and one at the foot of the table for myself. I then sent Kurrum Khan to the Sirdars' quarters to say that all was ready. In a few minutes after receiving my message, they were over, accompanied by the English sentry whom I told to stand at the doorway. As soon as they were seated, I took down Sirdar Prem Singh's statement which was published in the issue of the *Reis and Rayyet* of the 17th August. I knew it was useless and worse than useless to attempt anything for these unfortunates in India at that time, as Sir John Lawrence, the brother of Colonel Henry Lawrence, was Viceroy, but as I intended to go to France as soon as I could get leave on account of the ill health of my father Sir John Hearsay, I told them that they must wait patiently, and that when I went to England I would do my best for them, that I still had some influential friends both in Parliament and in the Council of the Secretary of State for India, and would see what I could do through them. They were satisfied. I went home in the beginning of 1866, and soon after I arrived I received a circular concerning the formation of the East India Association which I joined, as I believed it would take up political matters and wrongs, such as Mr. Digby and Mr. Bradlaugh are doing now. I drew up the Sirdars' case in a pamphlet form and also prepared a petition for Parliament. I sent the pamphlet to several Members of both the Upper and Lower Houses, and also to the members of the East India Association.

The pamphlet obtained some attention, and, after some correspondence with the Association which I destroyed long ago, I received the following letter from Lord Lyveden (Vernon Smith).

"Faning Woods.  
September 18, 1867.

Dear Sir,—In answer to your letter, I shall be happy to present the petition of the Prisoners at Allahabad to the House of Lords in the next Session, if it is thought advisable—but I cannot now pledge myself to promote its prayer until I have heard what is to be said on the other side. I send your correspondence.

I am, your obedient servant,  
(Sd.) LYVEDEN."

In the interim, enquiries had been instituted in India concerning the state of mind of Sirdar Lal Singh (the former Kotwal of Lahore), and a medical board, if I have not been misinformed, declared him to be both weak in mind and in body. So he was at once released. This was something, as it was in Lord Lawrence's time that this prisoner obtained his liberty. Notwithstanding that this man was let go free, it seems that the Secretary of State for India was unaware of the fact, for, in a letter which we will reproduce a little later on, they refused to release these men. Have we ever heard in any case of the Secretary of State for India listening to or paying any attention to petitions and complaints from India calling for enquiry or redress, if the Local Governments have been antagonistic to the petitioners? The only case I ever remember of such opposition is in the case of the Bombay Mamlatdars, and this is, I firmly believe, due to the fact that Lord Reay has brought one of the Heaven-born to grief for his misdeeds.

I returned to India in the end of 1867, and, as soon as I could put myself in correspondence with the Sikh Sirdars, I sent them a cheering letter enclosing a copy of Lord Lyveden's to me. At the same time, that is, on the 20th February 1868, I sent a petition on their behalf to the Secretary of State for India.

My letter to the Sikh prisoners was intercepted in the post, and I received a furious official threat from Lord Lawrence's Government asking how I dared to hold communication with Political prisoners. It was then that I found out that Sirdar Lal Singh had been released, but that Sirdars

Prem Singh and Mann Singh had been removed from the Fort of Allahabad to that of Chunar. I could not help feeling for the poor fellow having to part from all his tamed pets, the green parrots.

I replied to that communication to the effect that my letters to the Sikh prisoners contained no treasonable or improper matter but only an assurance that their interests and welfare were being properly looked after and exhorted them not to lose heart as their imprisonment now was only a matter of time. I also pointed out to Lord Lawrence's Government that it had no legal right to tamper with the public post and intercept my letters, and that if such was done again, I would take legal steps to insure the inviolability of the public post. The letters were published in the *Delhi Gazette* which was then the leading public journal of the North-West Provinces, conducted by the able and vigorous pen of Iltidus Pritchard. The *Pioneer* then was comparatively only a second rate periodical.

With regard to the petition of the 20th February to the Secretary of State, it met with the usual fate of all such applications. The following is the official correspondence.

"No. 777. Office Memorandum.

Simla, Foreign Department.

The 18th July 1868.

Political.

Read a despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, No. 100, dated 18th ultimo, communicating the orders of Her Majesty's Government on the Memorial forwarded by Captain Hearsay on behalf of certain Sikh State prisoners.

Ordered that extract para 3 of the above despatch be forwarded to Captain Hearsay for information, with reference to his letter of the 20th February 1868.

(Sd.) H. LE POER WYNNE,

Under-Secretary to the Government of India.

TO CAPTAIN A. W. HEARSEY.

Extract from a despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, No. 100. Political.

Dated the 18th June 1868.

Para 3: You will therefore inform Captain\* Hearsay that I can see no reason for recommending Her Majesty to comply with the prayer of his memorial.

True extract.

(Sd.) H. LE POER WYNNE,

Under-Secretary to the Govt. of India."

I saw at once the impossibility of obtaining any fair hearing for these poor devils under the Lawrence régime, so, as they say in Auld Reekie, "I bided my wee," and right glad was I in the end of 1868, to see the back of My Lord Lawrence and ultra Civilianism and Civil Service influence in India, and the appointment of the best, if not the best, truly the most gentlemanly and most chivalrous nobleman that India has ever had the luck of having sent out to rule this country as her Viceroy, I mean Lord Mayo. In the end of 1869 or perhaps it may have been in the beginning of 1870, Lord Mayo visited the Doon. I was well acquainted with his Military Secretary Major Owen Tudor Burne. I had known him on Sir Hugh Rose's Staff. I applied for an interview. Viceroys were more approachable in those days than they are now. It is only since Lord Ripon's time that I have ever had any difficulty in obtaining an interview. I hold that the Viceroy would be able to do the State much good if he could hear the honest and unvarnished opinion of unofficial gentlemen (not those selected by his Civilian Secretaries) on matters of public import and advantage. But I am wandering from my subject. As I said before, I applied for a private interview, and it was granted to me. Lord Mayo was living in a house which then belonged to the American Presbyterian Mission but which house is generally used by the Viceroys when they visit the Doon. Major Burne ushered me into the Presence and then left. His Excellency said in a kind tone of voice, "Take a chair, Captain Hearsay, and let me know what you have to say." I first told him of our family wrongs and how infamously the Government of the North-West Provinces was behaving with my uncle Captain William Hearsay, concerning the Bellary Pergunnah in Philabect and that, although he was a good and loyal soldier, the local authorities had forbidden

\* Throughout the whole of this correspondence, Captain Hearsay is addressed by that designation by the Secretary of State for India, in whose office only the previous year he had been making vigorous efforts to obtain his restoration to the service.



him to visit his estate of Belharrie or even hold communication with his rayyets there, and were in fact treating him as if he was a rebel. He told me to send him all the papers and that he would look into the matter himself. I then related to him the whole case of the Sikh prisoners and gave him a printed pamphlet relating all they had undergone. He replied, "It seems very bad. I will look into it." On that or the following day, a telegram was forwarded from Sealkote to the Maharaja of Cashmere asking him if he would take charge of Sirdar Prem Singh, (Prem Singh was properly a subject of the Cashmere Raj *vide* statement of case) and go security for his good behaviour. This was done and then a telegram was despatched to Chunar ordering that Sirdar Prem Singh should be conveyed to Jummoo and that Sirdar Mann Singh should be permitted to proceed to his home in the vicinity of Amritsar. These men, in my estimation, even if they had been guilty of the State offences with which they were charged, might easily have been enlarged on the final settlement of the Punjab, on substantial security for their good behaviour which would readily have been forthcoming. So their incarceration of fully twelve years was totally unnecessary, and, in fact, was a piece of barbarity on the part of the East India Company, continued by the Government of India, quite equal to the tyranny we read of in Russia and other countries where absolute power lies in the hands of the ruler and very different from what one would expect from a free and enlightened Government like England, especially when it is borne in mind that no proper enquiry had ever been made into the charge formulated against the Sikh Sirdars. I am glad to say that Prem Singh married again on his release, and had a family and died at a good old age at Jummoo, surrounded by his wife and little ones.

ANDREW HEARSEY.

## Public Paper.

### MR. STEVENS' COLD-WEATHER TOUR IN THE TRIBUTARY AND POLITICAL STATES OF CHOTA NAGPORE.

I left Ranchi on the 3rd December 1888, and, going by way of Lohardugga, which I had not been able to visit in the course of any previous tour, arrived within the boundary of the Jushpur State at Pondi, on the banks of the river Sunk, on the 12th. The Raja had gone to the Sonapore fair, and had taken ill on the return journey. He was therefore not in the State when I arrived, but his son "the Babua Sahab," met me a few miles within the Lohardugga boundary, and marched with me through the State. At my next halting-place (Patratoli), I visited a boundary which the Raja of Burway has for some time been disputing. The boundary line shown to me by the Jushpur people was clear, and was indicated by them without hesitation; while, on the other hand, the Burway representative led me through jungles and in very uncertain directions. I found, moreover, that possession of the disputed lands lay with the Jushpur rayyets, and that it was in accordance with the maps. Further, some trees which had been planted on the side of the road by the order of the Raja of Jushpur some 15 or 16 years ago, remained as witnesses whose evidence was not to be disputed. I have recently passed orders declining to re-open the question of the boundary. At Jushpurnuggar the offices and jail were inspected. The registers were neatly and carefully kept, and on the whole the work was creditably done. There was one case, however, in which property was stolen in Udaipur by inhabitants of Jushpur, and the Raja of each State claimed jurisdiction. Eventually I determined that the case should be tried by the Raja of Jushpur, who had begun his proceedings. The Raja of Udaipur was then requested to procure the attendance of the complainant and one accused person who lived in his State. No answer was returned, though several reminders were given, and the prisoners were in the meantime detained under trial for a period far in excess of any sentence which would have been passed. The Raja eventually, when he found that he was getting no reply from Udaipur, did what he should have done long before, and let the prisoners go on their own recognizances. I afterwards looked into this case at Rabcoob, and found that the delays in Udaipur apparently occurred through the fault of the police. I requested the Raja to enquire fully into the matter and punish the persons who had been dilatory. As I did so, I pointed out to him that his own character depended in no small degree on the work of his officers.

The Raja has recently constructed a new water-mill on a small stream at a short distance from his house. The work is in itself but a small matter; it is important as showing the Raja's willingness to adopt improvements, and if it is successful, the experiment will

probably be repeated both in Jushpur and in other States. The roads in and about Jushpurnuggar are good, and the Raja is now making a new road, with improved alignments, to Pondi. At this point I hope the Lohardugga road-cess committee will be able to improve the connection with the Lohardugga system of roads. This is a somewhat important matter, as large numbers of pack-bullocks take this route. I visited the patshala and found it to be not very flourishing.

From Jushpurnuggar I marched in a north-western direction over the high lands of the Khurria and was overtaken at Sanua by the Raja, who had recovered and returned from Sonapore. The Karwas, who inhabit this tract, are evidently gaining very fast in civilization. They are on excellent terms with the Dewan, who is their head, and with the Raja.

On the 22nd December I left Jushpur and entered Sirgooja, accompanied by the Dewan, Moulvi Mahomed Jaffar Ali Khan, and by the younger brothers of Raja Dharamjeet Singh of Protappur. The Maharaja of Sirgooja was himself absent on an elephant-catching expedition in Dhalbhum. I then proceeded along the usual route through Lema to Bistrampur, where I arrived on the 26th December. The crops appeared to me to have been, as in Jushpur, rather better than those in Lohardugga. The rubbi on the ground, though scanty in quantity, was looking well. I regretted to find that the Maharaja had not done more to provide himself with a good road to Ranchi: some parts were mere tracks across, or round the edges of, rice-fields.

At Bistrampur I inspected the offices, jail, dispensary and school. The offices were in good order, and an examination of some of the records of less important criminal cases showed me that they were dealt with promptly, and proportionately with as much care as the sessions cases which come before me in the ordinary course. I thought the prisoners in the jail were much underworked, and pointed out some useful work in the village which I thought they might be set to do. The dispensary I found for the first time being well cared for and efficiently worked by civil hospital assistant Baboo Bhola Nath Dey, of whom I formed a good opinion. The village of Bistrampur is increasing both in size and importance, and if only communications were better, the improvement would be doubtless much greater.

There were very few cases for my disposal in connection with the Sirgooja State, and in almost all respects the administration sets an excellent example to more than one of the minor States.

I regret to notice a very painful event which occurred during my stay at Bistrampur. On my arrival there I heard that the junior Maharani had been severely burned by accident, and soon afterwards she sent Mr. Stevens a message that she would like to see her. The request was complied with, and Mrs. Stevens found that the unfortunate young lady was being dealt with in a manner which was most adverse to her recovery. She was placed in a small room which was literally filled with women, relatives, and servants, none of whom (with a single exception) were giving any real help, and most of whom were creating a scene of noise and confusion such as would be unendurable even by a healthy person. All were lamenting the poor lady's condition, but simply through ignorance and want of organisation they were taking away what chance of recovery she had. On the other hand, the hospital assistant, who seemed a competent man, was only allowed to prescribe dressings from a distance, and not to see his patient. Mrs. Stevens at once assumed control, and had the room cleared as much as possible, and dressed the Maharani's wounds herself, much to the surprise of every one. In compliance with the sufferer's entreaties, she retained charge and paid frequent visits, and for a time there were indications of improvement. I consented to allow my camp to remain at Bistrampur for a day or two in excess of the allotted time, hoping that good might result, but eventually tetanus set in and the patient died. I have mentioned this case, because the necessity for attempts to give more medical help to women in India is occasionally disputed and very generally ignored. In this instance the sufferings of this poor young lady, though she was one of the highest personage in her country and was surrounded by people who were most anxious for her recovery, were such as to bring vividly home to us the importance of Lady Dufferin's work. There is much reason to believe that but for ignorance and well-meant mismanagement this valuable life need not have been lost.

From Bistrampur I travelled south-eastward to Sedam, and then along the valley of the Mand to Rabcoob, in Udaipur. During almost the whole of my stay in Sirgooja after I reached Bistrampur my time was occupied with matters relating to the Korca and Changbhakhar States. In Korca the difficulties arise from two main causes the weakness of the ruler and the impoverishment, through extravagance, of the Zemindars of Patua and Keshgaon. Arrangements have been made for the disposal of the financial affairs of these people, but they have not lost their influence so much as they have lost their property, and there is no doubt that they commit oppressions. Moreover, they do not willingly submit to the Raja, but bring, and incite others to bring, complaints against him. I had them before me, and severely threatened them. By no

means everything which is said against the Raja is true, but he shows some disposition to exact money and services from his subjects. He seems unable to do without the help of outsiders from Behar, who come to him and persuade him to mischief. They get small pay and must obtain their real remuneration in some other way. I do not think it necessary to load this report with details of the cases dealt with, but I append for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor a copy of the instructions which I had translated and given to the Raja. I think it would be well if the State were visited in the coming season. The Raja has, I think, been somewhat impressed by emigrations which have taken place from his State, and it is not impossible that he may try to amend; but it is not possible to trust to this. I may mention that I installed the young Zemindar of Khargoan, and brought about a reconciliation between him and his family and the Raja.

The Changbhakhar affairs which chiefly occupied my attention were the old disputes between the Bhya and his relatives regarding the rights to jungle and other dues. I found that the Bhya took a higher view of his rights than I had intended, and, under the circumstances, considered it best to reopen the case. I referred it to the Lal Sahab of Lakhanpur and the Bhya of Jhilmili for their opinions. The former of these gentlemen, I regret to say, has recently died, and I do not know what he has done in the matter. I have just received the report of the Bhya. This is a matter which will need further enquiry.

The registers of Korea and Changbhakhar were inspected. The former showed some dilatoriness on the Raja's part, which was duly noticed. In Changbhakhar it is satisfactory that the Bhya has now dispensed with outside assistance, and the clerical work is done by one of his brothers.

On the 7th January 1889 I reached Rabcob, having been met by the Raja of Udaipur at Rai, in Sirgooja, on the 1st. I had no complaints against the Raja on the part of his subjects; but there were some matters between him and certain servants of his, Kaisths from Behar. One man, against whom a charge of fraud had been made, which was awaiting my disposal, escaped from the *bajur* jurisdiction, but before measures could be taken for his apprehension he committed suicide. The case has been enquired into by the Bilaspur police. I found the servants generally in the wrong, but in certain instances in which they had been long in the Raja's service, he became reconciled to them. The Raja's house is now approaching completion, and it will be well when it is finished. He takes a great deal of interest in his State, and the excellence of the village roads, the attention paid to education, and other circumstances, give evidence of his energy; but he is absent too much at Pratabpur, and the result is that there are sometimes long delays in the disposal of work. This is the worst point in the Raja's administration. There was nothing calling for special notice in Udaipur. The crops, as everywhere else in Chota Nagpur, had been indifferent, but there were no indications of distress, and it seemed to me that the State showed signs of increasing cultivation.

To reach Gangpur it was necessary for me to cross a corner of the Raigurh State. I entered the Gangpur State, on the borders of which I was received by the Raja, on the 14th January. I noticed in more than one place in the way that jungle had been cleared since my previous visit in 1885-86. At Bandega I saw Mr. Mitchell, a contractor, who had some representation to make regarding certain timber supplied by the Zemindar of Hungir. I found that Mr. Hewitt's injunctions had been so far productive of good effect that the Zemindar would not allow the forests to pass completely out of his own hands, and that Mr. Mitchell was to be rewarded for his services by a percentage on the price paid for timber. At Suadih, which I reached on the 17th January, I also

met Mr. Prickett, the district engineer of the nearest part of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, to discuss the timber question above alluded to and other matters. I had to dispose of a few disputes and complaints, for the most part of minor importance. I succeeded in bringing about an amicable settlement of a quarrel between the Raja and a village headman, Padman Gountia, which had been giving trouble for a long time. I found no fewer than five sessions cases for trial: in some of these there had been long and excusable delays, of which I took serious notice. There were some other points, especially the jail, in which I was not satisfied; but in others, especially the roads, there had been improvements. The Raja seemed to me to be generally on better terms with his subjects, and on the whole he cannot be either very exacting or unpopular, for beyond any doubt there is considerable immigration into his State from Lohardugga. In reference to this matter I may here mention that there has been of late an influx of Christians connected with the German missions in Lohardugga, and that this has given a little trouble. In September last the heads of the mission at Ranchi made complaints to Mr. Hopkins, who was then officiating as Commissioner during my absence on privilege leave, to the effect that the Christians were being persecuted by the Nagra and Hathibari Zemindars. Explanations were called for, and counter-complaints made to the effect that the Christians were trying to dispossess other rayyets, and were endeavouring to procure converts by telling people that if they became Christians they would be cared for by the British Government and obtain jaghirs like the bhuinhari lands of Lohardugga. The persecutions were denied. I was visited by the Reverend C. Kampfenkel at Garjan, who reiterated the complaints. I warned the Mahapater's people, who were then with me, that on no account could they be allowed to give trouble to the Christians merely because they were Christians; on the other hand, I told Mr. Kampfenkel of the cross complaints which had been preferred, and pointed out that immigrants into the State, whether Christians or not, must not set up laws and customs of their own. I have heard nothing more on the subject, and hope therefore that both parties are now behaving in a more amicable spirit. While at Garjan I went over to Raghu-nathpali, and in the company of Mr. Bartlett, the district engineer, and his assistant, Mr. Thornhill, saw the works connected with the large bridge in course of erection over the river Brahmini.

I then went southwards to Bonai, the affairs of which State required urgent attention. A detailed report has been submitted to Government, and it is unnecessary for me to report here the information contained in it. Besides the matter specially dealt with in that report, there was little of interest or importance. The office records, both those in the Raja's own hands and those of which the Potait had charge, were in good order, and, generally speaking, showed that work is fairly well done. Both the Raja and the Potait are intelligent and energetic and they decide cases more promptly than most of the other Chiefs. The Raja's administration, however, on the whole has not been successful. He is uncompromising and wanting in tact. His mistakes, as well as the difficulties under which he labours, have all been detailed in the report above mentioned. I passed through the Koira pergunnah, which continues to be well managed in most particulars by Bhagwan Sirdar, and left the State on the 7th February. I then went on to Chyebassa, and thence to Kharsawan, which I entered on the 17th February. I there inspected the registers, and found the work satisfactorily and promptly done. I also visited the Gurh, and enquired into the nature of a piece of work which the Thakur desired to have done. The Gohendals, or holders of service tenures, came to me again for reconsideration of their claims; but there was nothing new in their representations, and I adhered to former orders. I then entered Lohardugga and returned to Ranchi.

### A SPECIAL MEETING

OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CALCUTTA,  
under Act II. (B. C.) of 1883,  
WILL BE HELD IN THE TOWN HALL,  
on Thursday, the 26th September 1889,  
at 4 P.M.

#### BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. To consider the proposal of the Refuse Burning Committee at a Meeting held on the 16th September to acquire the land north of the Municipal water Works Depot on Circular Road as a site for Mr. Harrington's incinerator.
2. To confirm the proceedings of the Central Road Committee at a Meeting held on the 13th September.
3. To receive the Report of the Loan Committee regarding the allotment of the loan of 14 lacs, tenders for which were invited up to the 20th instant.

4. To confirm the recommendation of the Loan Committee at a Meeting held on the 30th August 1889.

5. To receive the Report of the Committee appointed to consider the whole question of tank filling in Calcutta.

6. To receive the Report of the Committee appointed to consider the Bill for making provisions for the isolation of lepers and the amelioration of their condition.

7. To confirm the nomination of Mr. Dear as Superintendent of the Drainage Pumping Station, *vice* Mr. J. Forbes, retiring on pension as recommended by the General Committee of 14th September.

8. To receive the report of the Committee on weights and measures together with subsequent correspondence thereon.

9. To consider Memorandum by the Chairman, dated 9th September, regarding repayment of loans due to Government, and to adopt the recommendation of the General Committee that a communication be addressed to Government on the basis of that Memorandum.

10. To confirm the proceedings of the General Committee at Meetings held on the 26th August, 2nd and 14th September 1889.

11. To confirm the recommendations of the Salaries Committee at a Meeting held on the 24th August.

12. To confirm the proceedings of the Suburban Improvement Committee at Meetings held on the 27th August and 10th September 1889.

13. To confirm the proceedings of the Complaint Committee at Meetings held on the 28th August and 11th September 1889.

14. The Chairman to lay upon the table the Report of the Administration of the Municipality for the year 1888-89 as approved by the Special Committee appointed to consider the same.

15. Vital statistics for the month of July 1889.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

20th September 1889.

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OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoo Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From

the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract].—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. .... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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in which every phial of medicine that goes  
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against breakage will also be found very convenient and useful.

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Strong, accurate, pretty, open-faced Nickel  
silver *short winding* Keyless Railway Regulators,  
of small size, jewelled, enamelled dial, bold  
figures and hands, shewing *two* times with  
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for only Rs. 7-8 per V. 11 P. with spare  
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Have no appearance of cheapness about  
them. Others sell at double our rates. Mr.  
A. R. Mehta from Bandora says:—"The  
7-8 watch I purchased from you two years  
back, gives correct time as yet." Acting Superintendent,  
Government Farm, Khandesh,  
says:—"A watch maker has valued your  
Rs. 7-8 watch for Rs. 15." Mr. J. Sutcliffe, R.  
W. Fusi, Regt., Lucknow, says:—"Some valued  
it at Rs. 15 and were completely surprised when  
I told them it only costs Rs. 7-8." Pretty  
Canadian Gold Chains, Lockets, Pencils, complete  
shirt Studs and Rings set with chemical  
diamonds, rubies, &c., at Rs. 2 each. Mr. J.  
A. Yelsmore, Satur, says:—"The best goldsmith  
of this place values the chain for  
Rs. 7 and the locket for Rs. 10." Mr. G.  
Smith, Salt Inspector, Sanikutta, says:—"A  
German valued the diamond ring at Rs. 50 and  
the ruby at Rs. 30." WESTERN INDIA  
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Diseases; and is the best known Insecticide.  
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killing the very germs of contagious diseases.  
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by temporarily disguising them (as is often  
the case), but by chemical combination, substituting  
instantaneously for a poisonous a pure and healthy atmosphere, and thoroughly  
eradicating the evil.

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In consequence of the difficulty and delay in getting together reliable matter for the guide portion of the work and the preparation of numerous illustrations which must be executed in England, some delay necessarily will arise in the execution of the work. But intending subscribers should not delay in registering their names at the above address.

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DR.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1889.

} No. 393

## CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

### THE RAINS.

A translation of the *Varsha* in the Sanskrit *Ritu Samhara* or The Seasons attributed to Kālidāsa. By the late Horace Hayman Wilson, Boden Professor of Sanskrit, Oxford, &c. &c. &c.

FRIEND of desire, the Sovereign of the rain  
Approaches ! Dearest with his stately train,  
Like mighty elephants, the clouds on high  
Advance, and lightnings wave along the sky  
His flickering banner ; while the monarch's fame  
Deep rolling thunders, as his drum, proclaim,

Now spreads o'er all a dark and changing hue.  
Here like the water lily's deepest blue,  
And there like Surmā's fracture tints display  
Metallic lustre through the lowering day ;  
The thirsty Chataka impatient eyes  
The promised water of the labouring skies,  
Where heavy clouds, with low melodious song,  
In slow procession, murmuring, move along.

As soothing shades imagined bliss inspire,  
The lonely lover burns with vain desire.  
For like the tyrant of the youthful breast,  
The air of Indra's radiant bow possest,  
Strings it with lightning—points the rain-drop dart,  
And aims unerring at the heedless heart ;  
Now like a smiling fair, whose shapely neck  
Encircling rows of radiant jewels deck,  
The Earth with coral buds and blossoms gleams,  
And wears the glow-worm's diamond shining beams.  
In amorous sport the peacock train advance  
To frame, with spreading tails, the joyous dance,  
Whose graceful frolics pleasing thoughts impart,  
And whisper love to every youthful heart.  
Fast now the turbid torrents, as they sweep  
The shelving valleys to rejoin the deep,  
And, like the fair one, prodigal of charms,  
Who hastes to yield them to her lover's arms,  
Bound o'er each obstacle with headlong force,  
And banks and trees demolish in their course ;  
On every side, the eye delighted sees  
New shoots and foliage—verdant shrubs and trees,  
And o'er the renovated grass appear  
The favorite blossoms of the browsing deer ;  
And who can mark, unconscious of delight,  
The wavy forest freshening on the sight,  
Or, wandering fearlessly through the grove and lawn,  
The soft and lotus-eyed, and half-confiding fawn.

Thick, murky clouds, the cope of heaven pervade,  
And spread on earth impenetrable shade ;  
Above the lightning's momentary ray,  
Conducts the dauntless lover on his way,

Aroused from slumber by the awful sound,  
When midnight's thunders hoarsely roll around,  
Forgetting past offence and recent strife,  
Close to her husband clings the trembling wife ;  
Or should her lord be absent from her arms,  
For him she feels a thousand fond alarms,—  
Heedless of dress, a prey to tenderest fears,  
Breathless and sad she sits, with silent tears  
Fast from her lotus-eyes the torrents flow,  
And stain those lips that like the Bimba glow.

Borne with the falling current blades of grass,  
With dust distained, and insects speckled, pass,  
And whirling tortuously down the stream,  
To frightened frogs like snakes terrific seem ;  
The bee with busy and delighted song,  
To seek the blooming lotus speeds along ;  
But wandering giddily arrests his sail  
Where the pleased peacock spreads his gaudy tail :  
Wild roves the elephant, inflamed with love,  
And the deep sound reverberates from above,  
His tusks the bees in gathering clusters trace,  
And sip the moisture trickling o'er his face.  
Now dancing peacocks, and descending rills,  
Sprung from new sources, decorate the hills ;  
And bending clouds, their tardy progress stop  
To kiss the Lotus on the mountain-top :  
Who does not love the sweetly breathing breeze,  
With odours shaken from the trembling trees,  
Rich with the perfume of new budding flowers,  
And cooled with gelid drops and gentle showers.

The kindly season, with a husband's pride,  
Adorns the earth, his fresh and blooming bride,  
For her each perfume and each bud combines,  
Weaves the bright band, or vernal garland twines  
Around her neck the flowery knot is laced,  
And budding zones wind soft around her waist,  
Each charm's soft down refreshing moisture knows,  
And heaven's bright mantle graceful round her flows ;  
Cooled by soft rains, along the shaded skies,  
Diffusing peace and joy the zephyr flies,  
The clouds that fertilizing dews distend,  
Their course to Vind'hya's lofty summit bend,—  
'Twas there they gathered many a watery store,  
And there again their watery wealth they pour,  
With timely succour grateful showers distil,  
And quench the flames that parch the friendly hill.

Such is the season whose varying glow,  
Can brighter beauty on our fair bestow,  
Whose care the blossom and the branch protects,  
And winding creepers to support, directs,  
Who soothes the frame, re-animates the mind,  
And sheds new life—new vigour on mankind.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.



## GHAZEL OF HAFIZ.

(Ai bar shameem yâr dari.)

Translated from the Persian By E. B. Cowell.

YE bfeezes of spring !\* the rich perfumes ye bear,  
 Ye have stol'n, on your way, from my mistress's hair ;  
 Yet, oh ! steal not one lock of those tresses away,  
 Nor linger too long in your amorous play.  
 O rose ! how thy beauties and colours give place,  
 When compared with the charms of her exquisite face !  
 No fault in her houri-like form can be found,  
 But envious thorns encompass thee round.  
 Narcissus ! presum'st thou one moment to vie  
 With the soul-stealing look of her dark melting eye ?  
 Yon cypress, that waves with such beauty and grace,  
 While the breeze, as it flies, gives a passing embrace,  
 Though beauteous and graceful it now may appear,  
 Can boast of no charms when my mistress is near.  
 Could'st thou choose out of all things below and above,  
 My soul ! would aught please thee so much as her love ?  
 Then come ! my fair mistress, away with disdain,  
 Nor let thy sad Hafiz entreat thee in vain !

\* The Persian poets are very fond of describing the breeze as the bearer of tokens from lovers : thus Jami makes his heroine, Zuleika, say :

"The breeze that blows hither from Egypt, and brings  
 But one handful of dust on its frolicsome wings,  
 Is far dearer, I swear, to my sorrowful mind,  
 Than the musk-laden breezes of Khoten and Ind !"

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

GLORY to the Goddess ! Confusion to the enemy ! Blessed be the wise and righteous ruler who listens to the poor. Lord Lansdowne be thanked. The conspiracy has failed. The evil has been arrested. The attempt to undermine has ended in disappointment. The Gay circular has been withdrawn. The Acting Comptroller-General has published the following amended notice.

## "NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the Public Debt Office, and the Government Savings Bank by the Bank of Bengal, will be closed from the 30th September to the 10th October, both days inclusive, but the Bank of Bengal will receive and pay money on Government account on all days on which the Bank is open for business.

The Paper Currency Office will be closed for the entire Pooja Holidays.

E. T. ATKINSON,  
 Offg. Comptroller-General."

On the 25th, Mr. Atkinson issued orders to his Assistant to withdraw the previous notice—directing the keeping-open of the Currency Office to the public up to one o'clock P.M., on the 30th September, and 8th, 9th and 10th October—and to inform persons calling there that the office would be entirely closed during the holidays. Notices too were fixed at several parts of the office to that effect.

THE Officiating Accountant-General, Bengal, Mr. E. W. Kellner, has been considerate enough to issue to-day, Saturday, cheques dated 1st October 1889 for pensions exceeding Rs. 100 per mensem. Bills for these pensions were received up to noon of this day.

ACCORDING to the Chamber of Commerce's circular, the Bengal Bank will be closed only four days during the Doorga Pooja holidays—on the 1st, 3rd, 4th and 7th October. The Exchange Banks will not listen to the insinuations and threats of the Chamber to close on Wednesday the 2nd October, the second and principal day of the Pooja. On that day, the Bengal Bank will remain open till 1 P.M., and during the usual hours on Monday, September 30, and Saturday October 5, Tuesday the 8th, Wednesday the 9th, and Thursday the 10th October. The Bank was kept open on Tuesday the 24th, the day of the Mahalya.

THE Small Cause Court closed for the Long Vacation from Tuesday the 24th. It reopens on Monday the 28th October. Warrants will be executed during the holidays, but no summons or other process will be served on or warrants executed against any Hindû during the four days of the Doorga Pooja—the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th October.

THE Police Court will be entirely closed for five days, namely, Monday Sep. 30, Wednesday Oct. 2, Friday, Oct. 4, Tuesday Oct. 8 and Thursday Oct. 10. On Oct. 1 and 3, the Southern Division Magistrate will hold Court and on Oct. 5, 7 and 9, the other Court will be kept open.

LORD CONNEMARA landed at Calcutta on Wednesday last at four in the afternoon, and immediately drove to the Sealdah Station for the mail train leaving at 4.30 for Darjeeling. Sir Stuart Bayley had sent down Captain Currie, A. D. C., to escort His Excellency to Darjeeling. It was a private entry and exit. Only a few officials—such as the Chairman of the Corporation, the Commissioner of Police, the Presidency Commissioner, the Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Political Department—were told off to receive the Governor of Madras and to see him off.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of the N.-W. P. has recorded the following order on the Hearsey-Hall Enquiry :—

"Mr. A. W. Hearsey was in January last sentenced to undergo a term of simple imprisonment in the Central Prison at Allahabad. Some time after the expiry of his sentence, in the month of March, he forwarded to his Excellency the Viceroy an affidavit embodying certain charges against Dr. Hall, the Superintendent of the Prison. The Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner, to whom Mr. Hearsey was referred by the Government of India, directed that an administrative inquiry should be held into the alleged conduct of Dr. Hall. The charges, nine in number, were as follows :—

- 1st.—Mischief, by destroying a letter written by him to his wife, without his consent or sanction.
- 2nd.—Wrongful restraint by depriving him of his right of reading for 10½ hours during the day time.
- 3rd.—Wrongful restraint, by preventing him from lying down to sleep during the day time on his cot.
- 4th.—Wrongful restraint, by preventing him from making use of his proper cell.
- 5th.—Wrongful restraint, by locking him up in his cell for 9½ hours during the day.
- 6th.—Wrongful restraint and insult, by compelling him to stand up whenever he came into his cell.
- 7th.—Wrongful restraint and insult, by compelling him to take down his hand from the wall on the 6th of February, and stand at attention.
- 8th.—Insult by words and speech concerning the term 'half-caste.'
- 9th.—Conduct liable to cause a breach of the peace by his words and actions in his cell on the 6th February.

The inquiry held has been partially incomplete in respect of the fact that both parties desired to cite as a witness Private Brinn, of the 2nd Leicestershire Regiment, who, at the time of the occurrences, was a prisoner-warrior in the jail. Private Brinn had, however, been released from jail on the 27th of June 1889, several days prior to the date of the Government Order directing the inquiry to be held, and he had left Allahabad under the orders of the Military authorities, to join his regiment in Burma on the 4th of July, before the Magistrate was aware that an inquiry was to be held.

The record of the inquiry, which was conducted in public, and of which reports have appeared in the journals, has been considered by his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner. It is evident, from his own statements and admissions, that Mr. Hearsey singularly failed to understand that, as a prisoner undergoing a term of imprisonment, he was subject to jail disciplinary rules and to the authority of the Jail Superintendent. The allegation that Dr. Hall exercised his authority in a harsh and improper manner is contrary to the evidence. The record proves nothing more than that Dr. Hall insisted on Mr. Hearsey conducting himself with due deference in the presence of the Superintendent of the Jail, and that Mr. Hearsey, on his part, persisted in endeavouring to maintain the attitude of a person who was free to decide for himself what the limits of such deference should be.

In allowing himself, however, to be drawn into an argument with Mr. Hearsey, and in thus exposing himself to charges 8 and 9, Dr. Hall acted injudiciously. The Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner sees no ground whatever for supposing that Dr. Hall desired, on the occasion referred to in these charges, to insult his prisoner, to whom, on the other hand, he, on the contrary, from his written statement, which has passed unchallenged by Mr. Hearsey, appears to have behaved with much consideration ; exerting himself to obtain his release on bail, and informing him at the earliest moment of his success in doing so.

The complaints embodied in the affidavit are proved by the inquiry to have been in their nature trivial ; and, such as they are, they are in a great measure unsupported by the admissions and statements made at the inquiry by Mr. Hearsey himself, and are in important points shown by Dr. Hall to have been either true only in part, or untrue."

It is reported that—

"There was a terrific hailstorm on the 20th ultimo at Pohrlitz, near Grusbach, in Moravia. Many of the hailstones which fell were bigger than a man's fist, and weighed 3 lbs., the smallest were as large as hen's eggs. The downpour lasted 17 minutes, and during that time £100,000 worth of property was destroyed. After the storm, three men, two women, and three children were found dead in the fields. A considerable number of people received injuries."



WE read—

"At Chester Police-court recently Ellen Roberts, landlady of the White Bear Hotel, was charged with refusing to billet six men belonging to the 9th Lancers, *en route* to Wrexham to form part of the Queen's escort. The men were refused admission, and kept for an hour standing in the rain. The defence was that there were only two beds in the house. The magistrate said it was a serious offence, and inflicted a fine of 40s. and costs."

At out-of-the-way places, these lords and ladies do much as they like, receiving or refusing guests, to the serious inconvenience and even risk of their victims. To our knowledge, on one occasion, two valuable lives had nearly been sacrificed to the stupid prejudice and freakishness of one of these lords of the public house.

At their meeting of Wednesday, the shareholders of the Fort Gloster Jute Manufacturing Company, Limited, unanimously rejected the proposition to remove Messrs. Kettlewell, Bullen & Co., from the office of Managing Agents or of Secretaries of the Company. With Hajee Noor Mahomed laid low, the triumph was complete for Messrs. Kettlewell.

BABOO ANNODAPRASAD GHOSE, from Burdwan, joined on the 14th his place as a Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Presidency Division. We hope he will keep clear of Bhuttacharjism and Mahajanism in the office.

MR. W. R. LARMINE retired from the Bengal Civil Service from August last.

MR. JUSTICE J. Q. PIGOT has taken one month's leave and rejoins Court in the middle of December next.

THE new fishery law—Act II. (B. C.) of 1889 for the protection of the right of fishing in private waters—has been extended to Assam.

THE Governor-General in Council has passed order that so much of Act X. of 1886 (to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, and certain other Acts) as amends the Indian Penal Code and the Prisoners Act, 1871, shall be deemed to have applied to the Hyderabad Assigned Districts from the date of the Foreign Department notification No. 1657-I, of the 26th April 1889, to the extent and subject to the provisos specified therein. It is such retrospective orders that demoralize the whole system of law-making and administration of law in this country.

FOR purposes of Section 31, sub-Section (2) of the Prisoners Act, 1871, as amended by Act X. of 1886, the Nagpur Jail has been directed to be deemed a prison within the territories subject to the Resident at Hyderabad.

THE Secretary of State has sent out Mr. J. N. Pike as a Chief Builder in the Indian Marine. He has been posted to the Kidderpore Dockyard.

THE Public Works Department Resolution No. 19-A. E., dated 25th January 1889, has been further amended. Paragraph 6 of the Resolution has been cancelled, abolishing the competitive examination and going back to the examination prescribed in para. 18 of Appendix C. Vol. I., of the Public Works Code, and leaving the Examiners of Accounts to fill up vacancies as they may be advised with candidates who have passed the best examination.

The Laws are coming out. Baboo Shama Churn Law has offered the liberal sum of Rs. 60,000 for a new Eye-Hospital in the Medical College Hospital grounds. The proposed hospital will be built along the north front of the Medical College compound to the east of the Ezra Hospital. The Baboo has well earned the thanks of the Bengal Government for "his liberality and public spirit."

FOR cruelty to his poor child-wife—a girl of 9 years—by blistering her neck with some acid—Rakhal Das Roy, a compounder, has been sen-

tenced, by the Hon'ble Syed Ameer Hossein, to three months' imprisonment.

THE same Magistrate, for robbing a sleeping friend of Rs. 131, in a third-class hackney carriage, has sent Arthur Thompson, an engineer of the S. S. *Bucephalus*, to jail for six months.

THE *Army & Navy Gazette* is not only the leading professional journal but a very reliable authority withal in diplomatic and political intelligence, in every sense. Our contemporary thus summarises the situation in Sikkim:—

"The position of affairs in Sikkim is not encouraging. The negotiations with the Chinese Ampa have fallen through, the Chinese having refused to abandon their claim to suzerainty over Sikkim, notwithstanding their inability to keep the turbulent spirits of the people in check. We cannot very well embark upon war with China, so we have decided to grin and bear our diplomatic rebuff. We do not propose, however, to abandon our position entirely, nor would such a step be a wise one. It is proposed, therefore, that we should adopt a policy of watchful inactivity, hoping that by such means we may be able to stave over the difficulty. A small force will be maintained in readiness for further action, if necessary. It is earnestly to be hoped that the troublesome Sikkimese may have learnt a lesson by the experiences of the past. If they settle down quietly, we shall let them alone; but any renewal of hostilities will compel us to take the field again in support of British authority, which must be maintained. Colonel Graham did his work admirably, and deserves full credit for the punishment he inflicted on the offending tribesmen. It is difficult to deal with a nation like China, and if Indian diplomatists have failed to arrange matters, excuses must be made for them. The position is, nevertheless, an unfortunate one, and may, and we fear will, lead to complications."

It is usually hazardous to indulge in prophecy. But our London contemporary scarcely incurs any risk.

WITH regard to Egypt, the same paper writes:—

"The news which comes from Suakim to the effect that further fighting is expected at that place will not surprise any one. The Mahdists are evidently in a desperate plight. The stoppage of trade has produced starvation, and the terrible stories current of the destitution said to prevail at Khartoum and in the surrounding territory are probably correct. In addition to this, the Mahdi is being sorely pressed by the monastic movement, which emanates from Tripoli, and is headed by Wad-el-Senoussi. In all likelihood the activity which has recently been displayed by the Mahdi is due to that kind of spirit of desperation which prompts a supreme effort. It does not follow, however, that Suakim will be actually attacked. When the news to which we are referring left Khartoum, the recent annihilation of the dervish force in Egypt was unknown at that place, and it remains to be seen what effect it will have upon the Mahdi's supporters.... But, as we have urged over and over again, no effort ought to be spared to conciliate, so far as possible, the Soudan population, in order that trade may be reopened. We do not suppose that much can be done.... A Soudan Arab is not a promising subject for efforts of a conciliatory character at the best of times, and this is particularly the case when the chief vocation of the Soudan Arabs—namely, the slave trade—is threatened. But if any opportunity should occur to make known that we have no intention of attempting, or of permitting Egypt to attempt the reconquest of the Soudan, it ought to be made the most of, as ought also any opportunity that may be presented of promoting legitimate trade. We do not like the look of the raid upon Sinkat which has recently been effected by the so-called friendly tribes. It may have been necessary. We cannot say, because all the facts are not known. But such raids are apt to provoke retaliation, and retaliation and the spirit which prompts it are just the things we should like to see prevented."

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Morning Post* reports the hunting exploit of Raja Mohan Bikram Sha, of Ramnagar, in Champaran. He was out in his own forest and, after beating about for three hours, encountered its monarch and with one shot felled him. Old Stripes was, after all, found to be a vigorous youngster, and measured, from tip of nose to end of tail, 9 feet 9 inches.

*Holloway's Pills and Ointment.*—Whilst the inhabitants of our great cities suffer from the effects of overcrowding and all its attendant evils, both physical and moral, the more robust and energetic emigrant will in his turn be liable to suffer in his new home from the want of ready skill and the great medical resources of his native land always at command. The best advice a friend can give is for him to take a supply of these well known remedies as part of his outfit, for by attention to the easily understood and yet ample directions which accompany each box and pot he will never be at fault when taken ill or under any adverse sanitary conditions of life.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE French elections commenced on Sunday, the 21st September. Paris was tranquil, for the sky was overcast and it rained. Troops were stationed at different portions of the city but hid from view. In spite of the preparations against his return, General Boulanger was elected for Montmartre by a slight majority of votes. There was enough excitement and it increased when it was known that the General's rival M. Joffrin, the Socialist candidate, had been defeated. The Mounted Guards had to be called out to charge and disperse the crowd. The Commission of Scrutiny has since annulled the General's election and declared for his rival.

The Elections give a Republican Majority—not numerous but compact. Four of the ministers have been taken in, Mr. Jules and Ferry being thrown out.

The new Chamber of Deputies meets in November. The election of General Boulanger will be its first item of business.

THE Novelist Wilkie Collins and the Poetess Eliza Cook are dead.

TWO thousand London postmen met on Clekenwell Green on the 22nd, and in spite of an official prohibition by the Postal Authorities, passed a resolution in favor of a protective union.

THE difficulties of Turkey in Crete are assuming proportions. A conspiracy against the Government has been discovered and two hundred arrests, including many priests, have been made in the Heracleon district alone. On the other hand, it is said, the Christians are fleeing the island to escape the tyranny of the Turkish troops. On the representations of the Foreign Consuls, Chakir Pasha has released seventeen prisoners including two Deputies of the Chamber.

THE Labour Revolt suppressed in London has broken out in Rotterdam. The labourers demand an increase of twenty-five per cent. in their pay and have gone on strike to enforce the demand.

"It is against the rules of the trade to shave a coloured man" in Auburn, New York, and none of the barbershops, although recommended by the pastor of the Second Baptist Church in that city, offered a dollar for it, would shave the Revd. J. Francis Robinson, a Baptist preacher of good character. His sin was in the skin—the leprosy of colour, so hateful to the free and enlightened citizens of the Great Republic.

COLONEL TOMLINE, of Orwel Park, was a character indeed! He was ever at war with the War Office regarding the foreshore at Landguard Fort. For all his literary proclivity, he was no better than a 19th Century Goth. He had collected a valuable library into which he did not admit books over a certain size and none from the pen of a clergyman or a woman. A fine appreciation of the Church for a Christian! According to him, these latter had no business with literature and could never succeed in that line.

THE municipal 5 per cent. debenture loan of Rs. 11,15,000 drew offers of Rs. 28,10,600. Only tenders at Rs. 103 were, to the amount of Rs. 4,53,100, accepted, and the loan kept open for further offers at or above the accepted rate.

THE Municipal Commissioners would not exempt the Mayo Hospital and the Zoological Gardens from payment of the rates. They have, however, sanctioned an equivalent of Rs. 800 in the shape of an annual grant to the Gardens. That grant preserves the commission payable to the Collector for collection of the rates from the Gardens.

THE Committee appointed to report on the whole question of tank-filling have recommended to the Municipal Commissioners the utilization of the river silt—"so obviously marked out as the one provided by nature for raising low-lying alluvial lands." They have yet to know the cost and to bring it down to the capacity of the

poor. The Commissioners in meeting have not yet accepted the recommendation.

NOTHING strikes the Oriental observer of the ways of Europeans so much as their passion for foreign and maritime adventure and their aptitude for emigration. From their facility in leaving their country and from the large numbers in which, from year to year, for a long time past, they have gone out of Old England for her good and their own, and overspread the earth even to its remotest parts and obscurest corners, the unlocomotive, home-welded denizens of Asia may well suspect the enterprising spirits of the West to be labouring under a malady—perhaps, a mental infirmity—a genuine anti-home-sickness. The native unrest and dissatisfaction with their original surroundings soon takes practical shape in a desire for bettering their fortunes. Quickened by the social disrepute of poverty, it is chrystalised into a passion for pelf. Hence the prospect of easy plunder—meaning, without offence, the opportunities for becoming rich by a bound—becomes an irresistible allurements. To the popular mind, nothing offers this prospect as the search for actual gold—gold digging. This is, no doubt, often a difficult enterprise, beset with uncertainties and risks. The Californian and Australian fields have been the grave of not a few households and competencies and small fortunes and powerful frames and sound minds and good souls. In the first rush to uninhabited wilds, men die of hunger with gold in their wallets, or are killed for their very luck. The earliest flour millers and bakers and victuallers of all kinds of San Francisco quietly and easily drew to their coffers the hard-earned profits of early mining. Later on, when gold was more easily made, it was as easily lost at the gaming table. Nevertheless, the popular instinct is right in the main. If gold-mining is at best a lottery, it is the best lottery after all—a glorious game of hazard bristling with prizes. Hence the Gold-Fever—the Gold mania—which seizes the White men of Europe and America—the Exodus which takes place whenever there is any discovery of a rich mine, whether in the West of America or far down South in Africa, or at the Antipodes in Australasia. The yellow metal, everywhere and ever honoured, in civilised society in especial where it is so handy and essential as a symbol of value, has a peculiar attraction for the enlightened European. The very sound of gold draws. It is a very old foible of the Western man—this search after gold. In the dim past of heroic antiquity, in Hellas, a great expedition was fitted out for far Black Sea in quest of the Golden Fleece—so little was then understood of the nature of gold or known of its geographical distribution. That history has, on a smaller or larger scale, been ever since repeated—in the modern world with more knowledge and oftentimes with singular success. In our own day, men in nations have exiled themselves in pursuit of gold and precious minerals beyond the sea. The British Islanders have specially been foremost in this. Thus have they peopled the uninhabited parts of the globe and intruded into the preserves of savage races, raising states and erecting fair cities in Transatlantic wilds where the breezes at night

—Waft, across the wave's tumultuous roar,  
The wolf's long howl from Onalaska's shore,

or

In climes beyond the solar road  
Where shaggy forms o'er ice-built mountains roam,  
Or where the queer Kangaroo has her home.

And all for gold. With all their boasted patriotism, they have never hesitated to expatriate themselves, abandoning their poor home for a better prospect abroad: Though to their eternal glory they have, established a Greater Britain, which may yet be as glorious as the old Mother-country, at the Antipodes and ends of the earth! At length, a change has come over the spirit of the dream of the venerable lady, the Mother of Nations. She is at last in a position to reward the constancy of those loyal sons who, against glittering temptations, have clung to her and her exhausted soil. Gold has been found at her very door—in her womb as it were. Wales, so rich in minerals, had before announced gold, but on inquiry it turned out a nominal promise. This time it seems to be the veritable wolf and no mistake. Several prospectors have been in the field, with elaborate machinery, and more than one have had their perseverance rewarded with rich auriferous reefs.

Analysis has shown sufficient percentage of pure metal to the ton to make mining industry a most profitable one. Already, certain

barren rocks have risen to fabulous prices. Old England may well anticipate an Exodus back of many of her Prodigals toiling in South Africa or Australasia.

CAPTAIN HEARSEY is at it again. Failing in Calcutta, he has crossed over to Howrah. This morning Mr. Grant Rose applied to Mr. C. N. Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate of Howrah, for summonses against the editor and printer of the *Pioneer* for publishing and aiding and abetting the publication of, defamatory matters against his client the Captain. The Magistrate took time till the 11th October to consider the application and to consult the District Magistrate for such orders as he might be advised to make. Mr. Currie's courage will now be tried.

As from the accused, it will be better for the *Pioneer* to meet Captain Hearsey fairly at Howrah and make an end of it, than be compelled to go to Madras or to Jericho. Judge Norris is no legal Pope, and the English law makes a journalist liable to be hauled up at any part of the Queen's dominions where the offending copy of his journal may have travelled to, in the course of business from his office.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1889.

### THE GOVERNMENT PLEDGE IN PERIL.

#### THE MAMLATDARS' BILL IN COUNCIL.

THE sitting of the Council of the Governor-General for making Laws, at the Viceregal Lodge, Simla, on Thursday se'nnight, was a mournful meeting. It was a day of infinite sadness. Since its constitution by the Regulating Act of Parliament, the Government of India on the spot has been making Laws and Regulations. Since the Charter Act of 1833, a more regular legislature was constituted, which was further improved by the next similar Parliamentary enactment of 1853, until in 1861 the present constitution was granted. That is not a contemptible chronology for these times of political change. A legislature dating from before the French Revolution may well claim to be historical. What changes have occurred, at home and abroad, since its foundation! It has seen the British Power steadily spread from the Carnatic over the whole Peninsula to Hindostan, and extend from Benares to beyond the farthest Indus. It has seen the irresistible Giant struck down in a moment when least expected, over a trumpery question of the issue of ammunition cartridges of one kind instead of another and ruder kind. It has done most important and difficult work and passed some of the largest measures on record. It has abolished *suttee* and infanticide, and slavery; it has abolished and created tenures and reconstructed society as it were. Like other similar institutions, it has been subject to fluctuations of opinion. It has abolished and reenacted usury. It has passed through tremendous trials, from desolating famines, from commercial crises, from widespread agitations and social explosions, from civil war itself, not altogether unscathed, we must confess. But never, in all its vicissitudinous century of history, had it such a funeral day as the 19th September 1889. For, never before had it an uglier business in hand than in the matter of the Mamlatdars. Difficulties of a more formidable character it had before encountered, and more or less mastered. But a more disagreeable task was never before presented to it than the introduction of the Bill to indemnify certain witnesses.

The Sir Thomas Turton Bill was a flea-bite to this. A sadder measure was the abolition at one sitting

of the Liberty of the Press. It was with no ordinary feelings that the accomplished son of Canning the publicist, satirist and orator appeared before the Council with his proposal to take away, even for a year, the liberty of unlicensed printing granted by East India Company's Civil Servant Metcalfe. What must have been the feelings, then, of Lytton the Second, the Poet-Heir of a Poet ennobled for distinction in letters, when he came forward to suppress for all time the liberty of publication in their own languages to the people and races of India! The situation was indeed a trying one, as the noble Bard himself confessed. It was not without its alleviations, however. If he had not the *prima facie* justification of his predecessor the last Governor-General of the East India Company in an actual civil war of gigantic and threatening magnitude, Lord Lytton had at least been persuaded, however wrongly, that the times were out of joint, that the Empire was sleeping on an active volcano whose activity could be allayed and its bursting with destructive violence avoided only by gagging a few dozen vernacular editors. At the worst, he had to cheer him up by the tyrant's poor excuse of the safety of the State. Even this poor resource was wanting to the Conscript Fathers who assembled at Simla on the 19th instant. They pretended to no serious function. They were unable to conjure up the most miserable ghost of an incubus, present or prospective, on the Empire from which they essayed to free it. The managers of the House put on the boards their one act play—we mean the one section Bill—on the ostensible ground of performing a public duty. But it was the minor duty of officialism rather than the paramount obligation of statesmanship. It was discipline more than duty. They simply bowed to authority.

A truly shabby piece of work was that of the Government when, failing in their pretences before their own courts, unto the Privy Council, they "did" poor Rajkrishna Singh out of his demesne, through a subservient departmental legislature. That was "shocking bad." There was no question of State danger or safety involved, though some State need was, as usual, pleaded; mumbled rather than urged. There was, of course, a question of State revenue at bottom. It was, in other words, a case of aggrandisement, however small the scale; an instance of annexation petty. That belongs to the strictly political sphere. Call it Chauvinism, Caesarism, Bismarckism, or whatever you will, it is beyond the reach of argument. No such plea was there for the Council on Thursday before last. The Councillors were not, by hook or by crook, enlarging the boundaries of empire. Still less could they pretend to be saving it, or any way protecting it from present or future peril. Their action was far more humiliating and far less excusable. So far from strengthening, the Bill introduced is distinctly calculated to weaken the securities of the Empire. It makes for anarchy, inasmuch as it shakes that public credit which is at the root of this glorious fabric of order we owe to Britain. Could British statesmen and senators be placed in a more pitiable situation than that in which they are forced to find excuses for attenuating the paramountcy of the honour of the Empire and escaping from the rigid grip of accepted and ratified obligation?

The one-eyed one-sectioned Bill quibbles and whittles away the Government pledge to the Mamlatdars. These native Magistrates had been assured

that they would not be molested in any way, if they came forward to relate the truth frankly about Mr. Crawford's dealings at the Trial of the Commissioner of the Central Division. Their evidence was needed in the interest of the State, to bring to book a colossal offender who had poisoned the sources of justice and corrupted the administration of a great part of the country. A native lover of illicit gains might be easily disposed of. Even a poor uncovenanted East Indian or European peculator might be bullied out of service. Not so a great administrative chief of the Covenanted Civil Service, who is at the same time an able man and a favorite of society and ladies' man. To prostrate such a man, something more than mere general notoriety of his pecuniary relations with his subordinate agents and suitors, was required. An able man in high office and position, he had always doubtless not neglected precautions against detection. To abash and humble such a man and silence his numerous and powerful friends, specific and individual evidence of respectable parties was necessary. Such only the Mamlatdars could give who had paid Mr. Crawford. But they are men of position and character, nay, above all, magistrates, and they knew the risk of confession to themselves. Their honour would be dissipated in a moment, their offices would be taken from them, and their property and persons would be in jeopardy. Hence the necessity of offering them complete immunity from the consequences of their disclosures, however incriminatory these might be to themselves. The Mamlatdars' evidence was a condition *sine qua non* of the success of the Crawford Inquiry, and the Indemnity was a *sine qua non* of their coming forward to give evidence. It was in many quarters doubted whether, notwithstanding the Indemnity, they would freely speak the truth. In fact, that was the great reliance of the friends of the Commissioner whose official career was under investigation. They only smarted under the inevitable prejudice of Mr. Crawford's own display of the white feather—his virtual confession by flight from jurisdiction and office, under miserable circumstances. The sceptics were not without substantial warrant. After all, Governments cannot do the impossible, and not even the Government of India could insure the witnesses against humiliation in public regard as a consequence of their avowal of complicity in corruption. The Government could maintain the witnesses in their places in the public service, even without loss of prospects of regular promotion. They might in India even procure a law to protect them from public or private suits and prosecutions. So far and no farther! They surely could not save them from social disrepute. Loss of reputation must follow as a matter of course. Under the circumstances, it was a mercy to the body politic and society in general, and almost magnanimous in the Mamlatdars that they came forward to tell the truth about Mr. Crawford, at the expense of their own character and good name for ever. They were evidently heartily sick of the whole business of the Crawford régime and its peculiar ways. They were ashamed of themselves for their own part in it, and seemed to be looking out for the first opportunity of clearing themselves as much as remained to them in their circumstances by truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. They readily accepted the Government guarantee. Although it did not cover all the ground, as sensible men of the world, they knew that no earthly power could protect their whole interests—as regards character as well as substance—

and, recognising the good faith of Government, they accepted the promise of protection in property and person and office, and disclosed the circumstances. And now the Legislature is prepared to belie the Government.

#### 'CROSS COUNTRY IN BENGAL BY WATER.

FROM TIPPERAH TO NARAINGUNJE.

I TOOK my leave of the Maharaja late on the evening of Friday, the 6th October. His Highness repeatedly expressed his hope that I might not be allured by the joys of home and the attractions of Calcutta to make any avoidable delay in returning. He had estranged every party, including the British, in inviting me. He had seen enough, however, not to regret his choice. It would be a tantalising disappointment and almost a humiliation if I so soon gave him the slip. I had begun a great work and should not give it up. As the Maharaja was sitting in his *sanctum* in the upper story, with weapons, implements and instruments of all kinds around him, we naturally drifted to talk of his different occupations and accomplishments. Photography, Oil Painting, Music, Microscopy, Astronomy, were all rapidly passed in review. The conversation waxed tender as the moment for parting was approached. At length it came. With interchanges of good wishes and my most earnest blessings for his well-being, I left the Rajbari, and soon came to my flag-boat. After hastily bidding adieu to the numerous people waiting on the banks, we dropped down the Howrah as fast as we could for fear of a sudden message stopping us again at Agartala.

7th October Saturday.—Gokarna. Magnificent sunset! One of the grandest compositions of colors I have ever beheld! Turner at his wildest flight is but a poor approximation—a faint adumbration. "They have not such sunsets in their country!" I involuntarily exclaimed. As I write, the scene has already changed. It is a more mellow and melancholy effect, yet not without its own fascination—even its moral suggestion.

We passed on our right the village and bazaar of Gokarna, beautifully situated at the confluence of the Teetas and another lesser seasonal stream that flows by the right of the place. It is a noble view, the village curving into a crescent up to the bazaar which rounds off into a slight promontory stretching out into the unruffled water. Air and water were both inviting, and we rowed down the river in the cool cloudless atmosphere, without a pause, late into the evening, until we found a convenient anchorage, some five miles below, where we remained for the night. In the day, we had passed many hamlets, mostly of comparatively recent formation on the higher ground of churs; with *beels* stretching broad behind the narrow strips of huts. The river is a few feet below the habitations and rooms. It is interesting to see the women using the stream for the commonest domestic purposes, as if it were a jug or tumbler. At times, however, their proximity is threatening. Not long ago, the water rose, and doubtless filled the people with some anxiety, though, as a rule, they take it cool, as a matter of course. For the moment, it was no doubt a matter of uneasiness. The mark of the highest rise may still be clearly traced at the bottom of the houses, at the level of the floor of the rooms. They have a contrivance of saving themselves and their effects on raised platforms. Parts, say one half, of the rooms are raised higher by a few feet above the general level of the houses.

Chatterjee (one of my companions) passed an uneasy day and a painful evening, owing to a severe headache. Not to disturb him, I left him crying for distress in the boat to climb up to the top of the roof where I lounged for hours. Chaitanya Nath Naik, the Bengalicised Hindustani, followed me soon after. I tried an interesting conversation with the old bearer who accompanies me, enquiring into the state of agriculture in and about their village, Chaddogaon, to the south of Commillah, the home of all the bearers in Independent Tipperah. Formerly, these bearers were a powerful body in the State, being always about the Maharaja's person, and holding offices suited to them and receiving grants of jaghirs and talooks and farms, and commanding almost as much respect as the Dewans and sometimes a real influence to which the Dewans could not pretend. It was only the other day, that the late Mr. Campbell (the

Maharaja's European Manager, a fine old gentleman) having stopped a few candles and other trifles which were being carried away from the capital by boat, and arrested the men concerned and, obtaining His Highness' reluctant permission, enquired into and penetrated through the mysteries of the Toshakhana and similar departments and discovered the wholesale robbery that went on, the bearer Chief of the Toshakhana, Hárái Sirdar, was removed and the department made over to the mutsuddi class. The change was no better than a step from the frying pan into the fire, and so the Bengali Bachelor of Medicine who succeeded Dr. Stork as State Surgeon and soon became a favorite, was placed in charge of this and other departments. The medical treatment did not satisfy. One by one, they were again taken from the prudent management of the Doctor and given to the older favorite Panchanan Mitra (the famous gentleman master of the *tabla* drum), who still holds the place and has just shown at once his kindness for me and his taste and judgment and altogether his *dandi* (a word difficult to translate) by his manner of carrying the Maharaja's order to give me a pair of elephant tusks to show to Calcutta as a present from His Highness. One of the tusks is No. 43 (of the department) and marked as  $6\frac{1}{2}$  seers in weight, and the other, without number,  $8\frac{1}{4}$  seers. This couple is far from being a pair. The two are not even similar. They are long enough in appearance, but hollow all through, except a few inches at the end; and even there they are cracked all over and through and through. The tusks are evidently those of dead elephants rotting in the jungles and picked up by Tipperah backwoodsmen, without half a seer of sound solid ivory in each. Of course, the Maharaja has been told that I have got the pick of his collection. I don't know whether any other person is responsible for this choice, for the Calcutta Baboo, who has wasted his whole fortune, has presumably a better eye—as we say in India. I do not personally care for the tusks except as a gift from my royal master and a curiosity and a sight for Calcutta to glorify my master and enhance my importance under his shadow. But they are such that I shall have to lock them up from being seen.

These boatmen seem a lugubrious lot, unlike those who carried me up from Dacca, who were talking, singing and amusing all the way and getting up a respectable concert at night at our anchorage on churs amid the surrounding stillness. I descended down at 10 P. M. and finding Chatterjee still suffering, I prevailed upon him to take 3 globules of nuxvom. 30th, which immediately, like magic, sent him to sleep (after hours of vain effort to get rest previously). I too disposed myself within my mosquito curtains to follow his example, as our dinner was just commencing to cook, and there were several hours yet before it could be ready and the insect swarms prevented all reading and writing. I awoke at dead of night and found our cook alone up and engaged at his mystic art, the whole crew fast snoring and all others asleep. When dinner was ready, I woke up my valet Lakir, and next Chatterjee who was now all right except for weakness. There being no space for three to dine together, in consequence of the encroachment of the bedding, I did not disturb Chaitanya, who was called up after we had done. Before we went to bed again, I called up the escorting sepoy Bansibadan to mount guard for the little while of night, or rather darkness, that still remained. We were undisturbed, but it appears that two successive boats had come near. Our sepoy had called to them from a distance to enquire. They both pretended to be fishing boats. Who knows, they were the scouts of robber gangs? That is the way. Early this morning (Sunday, 8th) the boat left its temporary mooring for the journey, and when at 8 I rose we had left the windings of Gosainpur and were on the point of falling into the great Megna. It was a beautiful confluence and a wide prospect. Numbers of boats, great and small, were sailing up the great river towards Mymensing and Sylhet, most of them evidently bearing native officers and *amla* and *employés* going to their distant homes on leave for the holidays. Purchased fish on entering the Megna. We soon passed the notorious pirate village of Chorepára, with its high bank surmounted by rattan bush. There a venerable-looking *Badmash* on the Retired List usually sits in an old boat with a Persian book in hand who makes enquiries of passengers and boatmen for his wilder comrades. We pass the mouth of the *khal* which leads to

the port of Sonarampur. I espied the spire of a *mut* in a village to the left beyond the chur. There is a Police outpost on the south bank of the *khal*, on our left.

#### VISIT TO SONARGAON.

*Naraingunje Ghat*, Monday morning, the 9th October. Yesterday we took our mid-day meal in the midst of the Megna; and sailing down, we crossed over in the afternoon towards Baidyabazar. Without stopping there, we passed the Telegraph Jeinadar's house on our right and entered the *khal* which leads to the Brahmaputra. About two miles up we moored with the setting sun at a pucca ghat—the only one we have seen in all our journey—erected by a prosperous Gope, Ramkrishna Ghosh, at Mugra, a village two or three miles north east of the village of Kamarpur. As it was still day, and specially as the *khal* is safely navigable at night, (unlike the Megna or the Pudda) we would have gone farther down that evening, as soon as my servant Lakir and the "Sirdar" Shyam Sundar whom we had dropped at the entrance of the *khal* to fetch milk and provisions, returned. In the meantime, I jumped into the ghat for a change. There I learnt that this Mugra was the site of the ancient Sonargaon. I jumped at the idea of having come upon such historic ground, the more so as I have been looking for days in vain in the Surveyor-General's map for the far-famed spot—the map designating the whole tract of country about here on the west of the Megna as Sonargaon and Mohe-shurdee, much as in our part of Bengal we loosely talk of Sonargaon Bikrampur. I proposed to Chatterjee to have a short antiquarian walk. I returned to the boat, and, in the absence of my valet, rummaged my portmanteau and carpet bag. I dressed myself. Chatterjee did not care to put on his trousers or even socks, but found out his mistake late when, past the bazar on the strand, we penetrated into the jungle, all the more dangerous for the shades of evening which were fast enshrouding us. We took for pilot one of the boatmen, Chatterjee following me with difficulty and trepidation in that footpath scarcely discernible amid the surrounding shrubbery and wood. We soon came upon an old ruined structure which served for gateway through which we passed, not without fear of descending serpents curling round our persons from the numerous crevices in the decayed and fallen structures and the overhanging plants and shrubs. We next found an indubitable specimen of the genuine old Bengali architecture in tolerable preservation in the shape of conical tent-like domes. It is the Banglá roof, and rightly so termed by Fergusson. The style is not confined to Bengal. It is all over India; it is often met with in Benares, and may also be seen at other places upcountry. The *naobatkhana* over the gateway of the Bettiah temple at Allahabad in Mootteganj, where I passed some of the earlier months of the year, is in this style, adopted there probably at the instance of eastern architects. But as imitation of the rounded cones of bamboo roofs, it may well be supposed to have had its origin in Bengal, where it was most in vogue, as indeed the style is called Bengali by the people, from whom the Bengal Indigo Planter historian of Architecture, doubtless, obtained his nomenclature. All our midland temples of Siva are in this style, of which the most notable specimen in Calcutta was in the great temple erected in the first half of the last century at Bagbazar by Govindram Mitra, Mr. Holwell's Black Banian—the remains, indeed the ruins, of which fell down in the great cyclone of 1865. Strange to say, this style is not in vogue in East Bengal, where I everywhere saw the extra-Bengali style of *mut* architecture prevail. The beauty and dignity of the old Sonargaon structure have been dissipated by the very stupid efforts at preservation by a coat of whitewash. Immediately adjoining the Banglas, rises the noble dome of an ancient mosque. Luckily, the shabby white of the tinkering masons does not reach above the lower portion of the walls of the mosque. The dome is not the wellknown Saracenic roof of religious houses, which is certainly far more elegant in its proportions and its curves. This Bengali dome in its volume and height and simplicity, in its very contempt of beauty, has almost a Doric effect. We passed on in the dark, not having provided ourselves with a light, through deserted sheds and compounds of ruined houses, wishing to see as much as might be within the short time at our disposal, until we came upon a humble habitation of thatch. There was no way, or our path lay



through the yard of the house, but as there was a light peering through the bamboo chinks—evidence of humanity in the house—we ventured not, for fear of invading the zenana. We called to the men inside, who seemed afraid and unwilling to give us information as to the owner. They simply said there was no way. I took up the conversation begun by Chatterjee and Chaitanya and humoured the inmates down. My companions, however, had the address to call for seats for us, and, one after another, a couple of *morahs* was produced on which I and Chatterjee seated ourselves. There was no other raised seat for Chaitanya. We called for any other seat available and a mat was brought us. The chief inmate was one Magan, a village mandal, on the estate of a Mussulman landholder of Dacca, who offered us tobacco in a dry cocoanut apparatus with which he handed us two pieces of plain-tain leaf. I hesitated a moment to accept the proffered hospitality from caste prejudice or rather a class repugnance to touch a pipe used Heaven knows by what people, but Chatterjee easily overcame my scruple, telling me to put up with the arrangement as a travelling necessity. The wily boy wanted a smoke more urgently than I did, I suspect! However, I was glad to take his advice, as our condescension put the poor men in the best humour. We became soon thoroughly *en rapport* with them and entered into deep conversation, making not only antiquarian enquiries of them, but learning a deal about the locality and that part of the country. The agricultural rate (*nirik*) there is usually one Rupee per *katcha kuni*. The place is deserted, the people having, in their opinion, died out in course of ages. The usual crops were rice and *kalai* and *sursa*, I believe. I suggested jute. They said, no. I said I saw jute reaping on the chur at the entrance of the *khal*. Magan replied, that it was an insignificant culture, a biga or two per household, on the low lands. The land generally about there was unfit for jute. The rice is of the coarse kind, of the Aus or Bhadoi crop. They know no other agriculture. There were no respectable Hindus in the immediate neighbourhood, though there were lots of Goalas and Saus (*suris*), with a few Vaidyas, perhaps. The Kayasthas and Vaidyas and Brahmans mustered strong at Kamarpur, a few miles off. We stayed as long as three chhillams of tobacco could detain us, until my servant for whom we had sent, came with a light, and armed with a sword. Lakir had strayed into the jungle, separated from the boatman who carried the light, we had to raise a halloo to give him notice of our whereabouts by the direction of the sound. Sonargaon proper is now a Mussulman hamlet. The Islamites are all Sunnis, of course, and very poor and illiterate. The most that any one learnt was to read a little Bengali. Persian and Urdu were out of the question. The mosque was in charge of a young man of thirty, whose name I forget, who, of course, knows Persian and has as much reputation for learning as Dequincey had among his neighbours of the Lakes, for they talked glibly of his profound scholarship in Persian, Arabic, Urdu and Nagri! The Banglas beside the mosque were called the Dargas of Hazrat Mahammad Yusuf and his father. The buildings are said to be eight hundred years old. They were lately repaired and white-washed by Deputy Magistrate Moulvi Aniruddin Hyder of Dacca. The Dargas are mausoleums of the builder. We did not enter the mosque, but went within the Dargas, leaving our shoes behind, being accompanied by the good rayyets at whose house we had taken shelter, and by other Mussulmans who had joined them attracted by the noise which we could not fail to make in that wood. In the first *bangla* to the right as we enter, lies Mahamad Yusuf to the left and his wife to the right. In the adjoining room, lies his parents. There were three lights in the first mausoleum and probably as many in the second. We bade again good bye to our hospitable friends and threaded our way to the strand. In the compound of one of the deserted thatched houses, we saw a stone imbedded in the ground, which we learnt was used for a mortar for crushing tobacco.

Instead of entering the boat, we improvised a bed on the platform of the landing place and, I, having doffed my uniform, laid ourselves down, our heads on a common bolster, and lounged and gossiped for hours, including some Hindi songs that I condescended for the nonce to hear from the sepoy Bansibadan who is always airing his vocal powers, till late at night. When we found ourselves fairly drenched by the dews of Heaven, we reentered our dormitory on the water. There we took our meals and

went to bed, but not before waking up Bansibadan to watch over us and wake up the boatmen for a resumption of the journey, with particular directions to egg them on. It was no wonder, therefore, that, on waking this morning at 7½ O'clock, I heard that we were approaching Naraingunge, where we soon came.

## NOTES AND QUERIES

### MEANING OF SHERIDAN.

Sir,—I beg to thank you for your kindly taking the trouble to point out that Leigh Hunt's text is corrupt and that Derbyshire *petrifactions* should be *putrefactions*. But both *petrification* and *putrefaction* are equally puzzling to me. From the context I do not see what 'Derbyshire putrefaction' can possibly mean. I do not see why I should mince matters by hesitating to state that

I beat my pate, and fancy *sense* will come;

Knock as I please, there's no body at home.

I, therefore, request the favour of your kindly explaining my difficulty in your next.

JYOTISH CH. BANERJEE.

### ANSWER.

"Derbyshire putrefactions," correctly "petrifications," refer to the curious rocky formations of Derbyshire—the glittering spars among others, out of which, in Sheridan's days, cheap gems and jewellery used to be made. In other words, the girls were rebuked for being so unimpassioned—flinty-hearted.—ED. R. & R.

## Public Paper.

### INDEPENDENT TIPPERAH.

No 1249—XVI-38, dated Comillah, the 27th June 1889.  
From—A. H. Collins, Esq., Officiating Magistrate of Tipperah and *ex-officio* Political Agent of Hill Tipperah,  
To—The Commissioner of the Chittagong Division.

I have the honor to submit herewith the report of the Assistant Political Agent on the General Administration of Hill Tipperah for the year 1888-89.

2. The report has been carefully written, and contains all the information required. Having joined the district at the latter end of March last, I have not gained sufficient experience of Hill Tipperah to be able to say much on the several subjects treated in the report.

3. The Maharaja's affairs, both in Hill Tipperah and in the zemindaries, are not well managed are apparent. I am strongly of opinion that there should be a strong minister for the State and a manager for the zemindaries, the latter being subordinate to the former in important matters. I doubt if the Council now appointed by the Maharaja will ever succeed in introducing reforms likely to produce a satisfactory result.

4. During my short incumbency here, I have found it always difficult to obtain from the Durbar prompt information called for by higher authorities, which clearly indicates that the administration is not properly managed, and that an efficient administrator is absolutely necessary.

5. The Assistant Political Agent, Rai Umakanta Das Bahadoor, was invested with the title of Rai Bahadoor during the past year. He is thoroughly acquainted with all matters connected with Hill Tipperah, and it is a matter of satisfaction that such a deserving officer has been conferred an honorary title.

6. I received the report on the 25th current, and in order to save time, I submit it in original.

No. 567, dated Agartala, the 24th June 1889.  
From—The Assistant Political Agent of Hill Tipperah,  
To—The Officiating Magistrate of Tipperah and *ex-officio* Political Agent, Hill Tipperah.

I have the honor to submit the Annual Report on the General Administration of Hill Tipperah for the year 1888-89.

2. The preceding year saw the overthrow of the manager of His Highness the Maharaja's zemindaries in British territory, Mr. E. F. Sandys. The year under report similarly witnessed the downfall of the Minister Baboo Mohini Mohan Bardhan. The latter officer, indeed, had become unpopular and unsettled in his position from before the fate of the former was pronounced. But he held on as long as he could, until finding himself unable to continue any more, he left Agartala for good in November last. The Durbar for obvious reasons wanted him to come back, but finding that he was unwilling to return, dismissed him from service, and virtually abolished his post. There is now no responsible head officer either in the State or in the zemindaries.

3. For conducting his administration, the Maharaja has appoint-



ed a Council consisting of four members, three of whom are his officers and one a relation. Each of the members has got the charge of one or more departments, while the general control, supervision, and direction rest with His Highness himself. The Maharaja hopes that the arrangement will prove successful. How far this hope will be realized time will show. His Highness, who is so remarkable for intelligence, courtesy and goodness of heart, has not much reputation for ruling capacity. One satisfactory feature of the arrangement, however, is that the two appointed successors of His Highness, viz., the Jubraj and the Bara Thakur, have been given some share in the administration, though a small one. They have been authorised to see that the orders issued by the Maharaja are duly carried out. It is said that the object of His Highness here is more to let them have some practical training in respect of the duty, which, one day, they may be called upon to undertake, than to give them at present any power of direction or control. Both of them are intelligent, active and young, and both are willing to work. The Jubraj, who is the elder of the two, and who is the next heir to the gудdee, has shown a laudable desire for getting reforms introduced into the administration. He is the presiding officer of the Chief Court of Justice, and has, in that capacity, done much to improve the condition of the subordinate courts and of the jails.

4. News of the Lushai raids of the last cold weather in the Chengree valley caused considerable alarm in several parts of the State, including Agartala, its capital. Disturbance of a somewhat general character occurred in the Sonamura and the Bilania Divisions, where people of the valley visited by the Lushais had come in large numbers to seek shelter. The residents, as is wont with them on such occasions, left their villages *en masse* and went to hide themselves in the forests. In the hurry and confusion which ensued, they suffered much. The administration did all that lay in its power to give reassurance to the inhabitants, and to restore order and peace amongst them.

5. Besides the above, no event of any importance took place during the year. Recently His Highness has, in accordance with the advice given him in that behalf, prohibited by a duly promulgated order, the practice of suttee mentioned in the last Annual Report.

#### TOURS.

6. Of the three sub-divisions of the State, I visited Sonamura twice, and each of the other two—Koylashar and Bilania—once. I visited also nearly all the police-stations, military outposts, schools, dispensaries and other public institutions, and also several villages both in the hills and in the plains of the State. In my movements I had opportunity to see a good portion of the Maharaja's zemindaries in Noakholly, Tipperah, and Sylhet. The present report is chiefly based on the information gathered in these tours, which, on the whole, occupied 85 days.

7. The Sub-divisional Officers of Sonamura and Bilania moved a great deal in their respective jurisdictions, especially during the period of unrest caused by the reports of the Lushai raids. Their presence amongst the people at the time helped much towards the restoration of peace, for which the Sub-divisional Officer of Sonamura made creditable exertions.

#### CROPS AND WEATHER.

8. The state of the weather was tolerably good, but that of the crops was not quite so. The rainfall was sufficient, but not adequately distributed.

9. During the last six months of the year there was almost no rain here, the total fall being 1.39 inches against 14.09 inches of the corresponding period of the previous year, and 10.44 inches, the average of the same period of the preceding three years. This unusual dryness of the weather was not however, positively injurious to public health, though such a consequence was for a time most generally apprehended. It was, however, harmful to bora paddy, sugarcane, chillies, and oil-seeds, which suffered much for want of sufficient moisture in the ground.

10. Rats are great enemies to crops. In the hills of this State, especially in those of the Koylashar Division, they appeared this year in very large numbers and made a havoc of the jooms, eating up almost every standing crop—paddy, cotton, oil-seeds, &c. In the plains of that Division, however, there was a bumper produce of paddy. In the other parts of the State the yield of cotton and paddy was about the average, but that of sugarcane, chillies, and oil-seeds, below it. On the whole, therefore, the hill people did not fare well during the year, and their difficulties were increased by the disquietude that resulted from reports of the Lushai inroads.

#### EMIGRATION, IMMIGRATION, AND OTHER INTERNAL MOVEMENTS OF THE PEOPLE.

11. Emigration from here occurs very seldom. Internal movements of the people also take place only when joom lands have to be sought for in distant quarters. For the purpose, hill villages have often to change their sites. During the year, however, nothing worth being mentioned occurred under this head. The only noticeable movements of the people were those, which, as mentioned before, took place in consequence of the Lushai outrages in the Chengree valley. More than two thousand Chakmas and Reangs—inhabitants of the country about that valley—crossed the Fenny

and came to this State, in which most of them have cut their jooms and built their sheds. It is not likely, however, that they will be permanent residents here.

#### PRICES OF FOOD-GRAINS AND LABOUR.

12. There is no practice of buying or selling of food-grains amongst the hill-people. In times of necessity they borrow from their more fortunate brothers or take alms. This last course was largely resorted to by the people of the Koylashar Division during the year. In the plains there was a general rise in the price of the imported food-grains. This was owing to increase of the rates that prevailed in the markets of the adjacent districts from which they were brought. The crop of rice of the superior kind was very insufficient, which caused proportionate increase in the market value of the article.

#### MINES AND MANUFACTURES.

13. There is hardly anything to be said on this subject in addition to what has been mentioned in previous reports. The coal mines that have been discovered have not yet been brought under operation. The manufactures of the country are not many, and except a few cotton fabrics, such as rugs, bed-sheets, and wearing cloths of the natives, none are very interesting. There is no trade, in respect of any of them except dug-outs and bamboo mats. The work about the former, which is carried on in the Sima-Rima valley close to the borders of the Chittagong Hill Tracts, was much interrupted on account of the disturbed condition of the country.

#### TRADE.

14. Trade is not the profession of the natives who live chiefly by agriculture. The tradesmen of the country are all Bengalis, who export cotton, oil-seeds, and forest produce of various kinds, and import, except rice, all necessities of life, such as salt, dried fish, pulses and also piece-goods, hardware, pottery and fancy things. The seats of the export trade lie chiefly on the banks of rivers where they leave the boundary of the State and pass into British territory. Import trade is principally carried on in bazars and shops which are mostly situated close to the border of the British districts. The Bazars are slowly improving both in number and condition.

15. Sale of the wild elephants which are caught in the hills is an important part of the trade of the country. During the year under report, 80 elephants were captured for the purpose. But there were not many purchasers in the market.

16. The entire value of the export trade, of which a reasonable estimate can be formed from the amount of the export duties realized by the administration, was Rs. 6,41,000 against Rs. 7,82,000 of the previous year, which was an exceptionally good year for cotton. The average of the preceding three years was Rs. 6,17,000 only. The duties are of various kinds, and in some instances of extortionate character. The rate is hardly below 25 per cent. *ad valorem*. In some cases, as in those of cotton and oil-seeds, it is 40 per cent. or more. These high rates induce smuggling which is carried on to a considerable extent.

17. Timber and bamboos removed from the Hill Tipperah forests and floated down in the district of Sylhet are under the Sylhet river rules, charged with pass-fees. This additional liability has made the forest produce cut in the Sylhet side of the State a rather dear commodity.

#### STATE OF PUBLIC FEELING.

18. There is no voice of the natives of the soil in any matter in the State. The Maharaja's word is law, and it is obeyed by all classes without any objection. That word, however, when it relates to matters of administration, is not usually pronounced before it is considered by His Highness' advisers. The proceedings of these advisers in connection therewith, as indeed all their proceedings are carried on most privately, the people being never taken into confidence. This leads to reports of several sorts being created and circulated much to the discredit of the Darbar.

19. The action taken by the Maharaja regarding the abolition of the minister's post is universally regarded as a most ill advised one. It has engaged the attention of the people, whose decided opinion is that the State cannot long go on without an energetic and conscientious minister, nor the zemindaries without a strong manager. This opinion no doubt, is based on reason. But the popular idea about the mal-administration which prevails here, and which is so general a topic of conversation amongst the natives in several places, is founded, it appears, on an unjust comparison of facts. The condition of the State is compared not with what it was before,—say 20 or 25 years back, but with the condition of the settled districts under British Government. The former comparison, if made, would prove as much favourable to the Administration as the latter is against it.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES.

20. Besides the abolition of the minister's post and the constitution in its stead of a Council as mentioned before, the only change of importance worth being reported was the appointment of a graduate in law to the charge of the important sub-division of Sonamura, the services of the former incumbent having been previously dispensed with. The Administration is to be congratulated on this change, which shows that it now appreciates the value of the appointment of educated persons to responsible posts in the interior.

21. The Secretary's office was maintained in its full strength throughout the year. This office is now less objectionable than before, as, under the present arrangement, it has got work to do. His Highness' orders about matters of administration, which are to pass through it, are now necessarily more numerous and more important, as the Maharajah has kept in his possession all powers of guidance and control in respect both of the State and of the zemindaries.

#### REVENUE ADMINISTRATION.

22. The revenue administration of the State is showing some sign of improvement. But without a full financial statement containing an account both of receipts and expenditure, the real condition of affairs cannot be properly known. The Revenue Department of the State continues to be unable to prepare complete budget estimate owing to necessary information not being supplied from all quarters. This itself is a proof of want of vigour and order in the Administration. The account branch of the department, the creation of which was reported three years ago, continues to exist. It is doing good work in its way as a check to subordinate officers in matters which come before it. But its usefulness must be limited so long as a full and correct budget for the State and the zemindaries cannot be made.

23. In regard to receipts, the Maharaja is not a sufferer so far as Hill Tipperah is concerned. He gets from it almost the last realizable price of his demand. In times of necessity he receives advances. His zemindaries, however, present in this respect a sad spectacle. There the tenants in collusion with the Amla rob him in every possible way, withholding payment of dues, creating rent-free holdings, concealing lands, and paying rents at generally very low rates. There are no accounts in his sherista to show either the quantities of lands held by the raiyats or the amounts of jama for which they are liable. That is certainly not the picture of every estate. But in many of the mehals held khas, the general aspect is not brighter. Baksimal, a village close to Comillah, used to pay through farmers about Rs. 2,200 a year. It is now managed khas and yields Rs. 500 or so instead, and yet it is as prosperous now as ever. A village not far from Chagalnaya in Noakhali, capable of yielding about Rs. 2,000 per annum, is not paying any rent for the last 10 or 12 years. In many rent suits instituted in behalf of His Highness decree is obtained at the nominal rate of 4 annas a kani, while the actual prevailing rate is 12 to 16 times as much. During the last two years or so, nearly 80 tanks have been dug on the Maharaja's lands in thana Chagalnaya by men who not only did not pay for the same the usual salami or premium, but did not even take the necessary permission. Yet these tanks could not have been dug without the knowledge and connivance of the local rehildars. His Highness' zemindaries are extensive and valuable. In order that they may be saved from ruin, it is necessary that an efficient Manager should be appointed. It is said that the Manager's post and the post of the Minister have not been filled up for the sake of economy. If such be the case, the value of the posts has not been duly judged.

24. The Maharaja is gradually coming to a proper sense as regards the embarrassed condition of his state and the expensive character of his ever-increasing family. His debts, which were reported in previous years, have not been reduced to any appreciable extent, while his household wants are now at least three times as much as those of his predecessor. His Highness now seems to be anxious to improve the present state of things at the sacrifice, if necessary, of his personal ease and comfort. In the annual report of 1885-86, it was suggested that the rates of interest which were paid on the debts might be considerably reduced. The administration accordingly made endeavours in that direction from time to time, but never with success. During the year under report the matter was again earnestly taken in hand, and it has been known that arrangements have been made with some of the money-lenders, under which the old rates of 12 to 18 per cent. per annum have been reduced to 6 per cent. This has been done in respect of Rs. 2,10,000 of the debts, by which a saving of Rs. 14,000 a year has been effected. The necessary documents regarding the transactions have been executed and duly registered. Credit is due to the administration for the work so far as it is done. The work, it is hoped, will be proceeded with until the rates in respect of the remaining portion of the debts are similarly reduced.

25. During the year two ladies, related to His Highness, having died, the landed property which they had obtained from the Raj for their maintenance, reverted to the mother-estate, increasing thereby its revenue by Rs. 6,000 a year. This circumstance and the reduction of interest—effected, as alluded to above, both permanent gains—have, with the increase of revenue under the heads of cotton and forest produce, helped in greatly removing the gloomy character of the financial prospects of the State. Indeed though a complete budget has not yet been prepared, the Maharaja has been able to form a rough estimate of the probable receipts and expenses on account of the current year, so far as Hill Tipperah and the zemindaries managed from Agartala, i.e., those not included in the jurisdiction of the Chakla of Comillah, are concerned. The estimate does not include any portion of the existing liabilities in which,

among other items, is a big sum of about Rs. 12,000 due to the late minister on account of his pay. How far, therefore, it will serve any practical purpose remains to be seen. It gives, however, a surplus of Rs. 11,660, as its figures will show :—

Probable receipts for 1299 T.E.=1889-90 A.D. 1. From Hill Tipperah, Rs. 3,04,147. 2. From Zemindaries managed from Agartala, including a sum of Rs. 23,089 to be received from the Chakla in Comillah, Rs. 1,50,060. Total Rs. 4,54,207.

Probable expenses. 1. Administration and management charges for Hill Tipperah and the zemindaries managed from Agartala, Rs. 1,54,920. 2. Personal and household expenses of His Highness the Maharaja, including the estimate of Rs. 30,000 for repairing an old building, Rs. 2,87,622. Total Rs. 4,42,542.

26. It is true that the income of the state, such as it is now, can, under proper administration, enable the Maharaja to pay off his liabilities in a few years. This will be known from the following statement, the figures of which are believed to be very approximately correct :—

Yearly receipts (in round figures). From the State, Rs. 3,00,000. From the zemindaries managed from Agartala, Rs. 1,26,000. From the zemindaries managed from the Chakla in Comillah, Rs. 4,60,000. Total Rs. 8,86,000.

Yearly expenses. Household and private expenses of the Maharaja, Rs. 3,00,000. Administration charges for the State, being 40 per cent. on 3,00,000, Rs. 1,20,000. Collection and management charges for the zemindaries, being 15 per cent. on 1,26,000 + 4,60,000 = 5,86,000—87,900, or say, Rs. 88,000. Government revenue and cesses, Rs. 2,10,000. Total Rs. 7,18,000.

Net balance available for clearing debts and introducing reforms, Rs. 1,68,000.

27. The total actual receipts of the state during the year under report, viz. Rs. 2,97,510, as shown in the annexed revenue return, exhibit on the whole a falling off of Rs. 39,842 as compared with the receipts of the previous year, and an increase of Rs. 40,012 as compared with the average receipts of the preceding three years. Of the twenty heads of revenue given in the return, there was a total increase of Rs. 15,794 under five heads against a total decrease of Rs. 55,636 under the remaining fifteen.

28. The greatest increase was obtained from lands in the plains which yielded Rs. 52,018 against Rs. 38,266 of the previous year, and Rs. 38,998, the average of the preceding three years. This good result is said to be due to certain mehals having been assessed for the first time under the terms of their settlement. The next increase of any importance was under the head of *Adda* or chowkidari tax, which gave Rs. 5,241 against Rs. 4,291 of the preceding year. This is attributable partly to increase in the number of houses taxed and partly to more careful collection. Formerly the mahal was entirely held khas : now it is partially farmed out.

29. The greatest falling off was under the head of cotton, under which the sum of Rs. 96,372 was obtained against Rs. 1,28,188 of the previous year. This was due to partial failure of the crop. Indeed owing to the highly abundant produce of that year, the income was then nearly doubled. A considerable portion of that year's crop which had remained unexported was taken out and paid for along with the produce of the year under report. This helped to make the revenue more than the receipts of the preceding three years as shown in the return.

30. The decrease of Rs. 7,181 under the head of family tax comes next. This is due to the straitened condition of the hill-people caused partly by failure of crops and partly by apprehended Lushai raids. The forest revenue fell from Rs. 80,712 to Rs. 76,796 owing, it is said, to the levy of fees on forest produce passing into Sylhet by water and also to insufficient rainfall for which the hill-streams by which the produce is mostly floated down dried up partially. The fall in the Feni revenue, which is collected by Government officials, is reported to be due to short rainfall and to disturbed condition of the Feni valley, in consequence of Lushai raids in 1887-88 to which the revenue in question, as shown in the return, refers. The Maharaja's share of the Feni collections for the year under review has not yet been received. The royalty on elephants caught is gradually decreasing since 1883-84. This is chiefly attributable to want of sufficient demand in the market. The rate of tax in regard to the buffalo-grazing mehals of the Bilania Division having been somewhat unduly raised, a good number of buffaloes has been taken away by their owners for being grazed in the Chittagong side of the Feni. To this circumstance and to want of vigour on the part of the collecting officers is ascribed the falling off of Rs. 1,520 under this head. The rate in question was formerly a rupee a year for a full-grown buffalo and annas eight for a calf. It is now Re. 1-8 and Re. 1 respectively. The decrease of Rs. 2,162 under the head of Khotagari or mooring tax was due to decrease in the quantities of forest produce, cotton and oil-seeds exported from the country by river. This tax which is levied on the mooring of boats, &c., in which these articles are carried, may be well included in the general export duty.

31. The fluctuations under the other heads of revenue are not important, and do not, therefore, call for any explanation.

[To be continued.]

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## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridood Jah, Bahadood, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*, October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From

the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract.]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. .... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

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} No. 394

## THE PANDAVAS IN THE HIMALAYA.

AN EPISODE OF HINDU MYTHOLOGY.

By the late Murad Ali Beg *nd* Mitford.

### *Argument.*

THE five Pandavas, celebrated in Hindu Mythology, with their wife Draupadi, being overwhelmed with sorrow at the destruction of their kindred in the "Great War," the death of Krishna and the destruction of Dwarka, proceeded to the Himalaya to die. They were never heard of again, but Hindu tradition says that when Yudhistir, the eldest, was about to give up the ghost, Yam (the Hindu Pluto) arrived in a magnificent chariot to carry his soul to Heaven. Yudhistir asked if his brothers, &c., had preceded him. "No," said Yam, "they were erring mortals, but you are an Incarnation of Justice." "Then," said Yudhistir, "it would be derogatory to an Incarnation of Justice to accept a heaven for himself when his fellow-workers are excluded from it." So I shall take my chance with them." It is also said that Yam, under the form of a dog, accompanied the Pandavas about everywhere in hopes to catch Yudhistir tripping, but failed ignominiously.

\* \* The prismatic effects of sunlight in the Himalaya and their interpretation by Yudhistir may be thought exaggerated and unnatural. All I can say is that all the appearances described by me are neither inventions nor even observations of my own. My authority for them is a Journal of Travel in the Himalaya, published some years ago in the "Leisure Hour," though I have now forgotten the exact volume or numbers which contain it. For Yudhistir, it may be conceived as not unlikely that one born and bred and living all his life in the plains of India at that period may have been sufficiently ignorant of the theory of light, and sufficiently prone to believe in supernatural influence to regard, as described in the text, appearances so unfamiliar and brilliant as due to other than natural causes.

The fire flashed redly in the sombre night,  
And through the blackness of the whirling mists  
At times it lightened on the rocks around,  
Changing their icy pinnacles to stars  
Which instant shone and vanished. And the wind—  
The bleak, sweeping, and heavy-rushing wind—  
Blew the thick snow-flakes o'er the wanderers  
As it tore through the valley. There they sat—  
Cold, and emaciated, and faint with toil—  
Body and soul alike oppressed and blackened—  
Blackened with the deep blackness of despair.  
The rounded cheeks of Draupadi had sunk.  
And from her eyes the love-light vanished all  
Which once had gladdened palaces and camps,  
And for which swords were drawn and many fell.  
But now her skin was leathern with hardships  
And wrinkled with affliction. And the orbs,  
Late beaming with affection, now from out  
The deeply caverned hollows glittered forth  
A wild, cadaverous, and wolfish stare.

Her shrunk form cowered within its robe of bark,\*  
And pressed together for a little warmth  
Its thin knob-headed limbs and clammy fingers—  
Like to a skeleton within a coffin,  
Or the out-tired affections of the good,  
Who long have found them useless in this world,  
And now fold up within a hardened heart  
The love, the tenderness which thrilled it once—  
Sad spectre of exhausted loveliness!  
So crouched the Pandavas' wife beside the fire.  
And from her hair—the long disshevelled hair—  
The hair which during thirteen years of exile  
Had hung down her shoulders—never bound,  
In memory of vengeance still unsated,  
Its snake locks thirsting for the Kaurav's blood  
Which Bheem had promised them and gave at last†—  
Now all again disordered, but not now  
Out of design but cruel, sad neglect—  
Uncombed, untended, matted thick with sleet  
And the thick snow-mud of the mountain earth—  
(On which she late had laid her weary head)  
Still as she lent over the blazing logs,  
The melted mass coursed down in liquid streams—  
Now on her cracked, blistered, and bleeding feet—  
Now, hissing, on the embers of the fire.  
And there in front, nestled against each other,  
And sundered from her by the blaze which lit  
With an unnatural hectic their large eyes  
That glittered tiger-like, and faded beauty—  
Watching her with a look in which affection  
Was mastered by a horrid vacancy,  
The product of exhaustion, hopelessness,  
And agonizing grief—as 'twere a dream,  
A dim imagination of past pleasures,  
Clouded by present woe—the sons of Mádrée,‡  
Nakul and Sahadev sat.

There behind,  
Half-coiled around Draupadi as she crouched—  
Yet giving and yet taking warmth from her,  
As he had always been her foremost champion,  
Lay huddled up the giant form of Bheem  
Pillowed upon his mace, and slumbering  
On his cold, stony bed—alike unmoved  
In the deep horror of the present hour,

\* It is said that the Pandavas in their wanderings in the wilds, wore robes made of bark, perhaps like the Tapa of Polynesia. However, as "bark" and "skin" are not very dissimilar ideas, it may have been the latter, though modern Hindus may not like to acknowledge it.

† Draupadi, having been insulted by one of the Kauravas, vowed never to bind up her hair again till it had been dipped in his blood, a vow which Bheem enabled her to accomplish by cutting off the offender's head in the battle of Kurukshetra.

‡ Nakul and Sahadev, the youngest of the celebrated Five, were sons of Pandu by Mádrée, whereas Yudhistir, Bheem, and Arjoon were the offspring of Kuntée. Like Castor and Pollux, they were remarkable for inseparability and similarity of appearance.

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As of yore mid the rush and roar of battle,  
 Or in the throng of Hari's dancing girls.\* \*  
 The only human sound heard in the night,  
 Varying the shrieking of the scouring blasts,  
 And the sharp snapping of the shivered pines  
 Torn by the rush of plunging rocks and snow-falls,  
 And the low thunder of the distant cataract,  
 Was the deep breathing of the sleeping hero.  
 And on the right with arms around his knees,  
 Down upon which his shrouded face was bowed—  
 Drawn something backward from the cheering blaze,  
 As if his soaring soul despised its comfort,  
 And, true to gen'rous instincts, yielded it  
 To those—the weaker ones—whom yet its warmth  
 Might strengthen and sustain—proud Arjoon rested,  
 And veiled his sorrow e'en from those around him.  
 Say! was he thinking of that day of yore  
 When he won Draupadi from all the Rajas? †  
 Or, of the hour when on his ivory car,  
 While Kurukshetra rang with charging thousands,  
 He at advantage slew the Day-God's offspring? ‡  
 Or, of his friend—the never-failing Yaduv? §  
 Or, how he followed for a year the horse? §  
 Of Parameeta or Subhadra's charms? ¶  
 Of his dead son—the hero Abhimanya? \*\*  
 Or, him who yet survived and ruled afar  
 In Manipur—his only conqueror? ††  
 Did he bewail and mourn the vanished glories  
 Of that vain bow now lying useless by him? ‡‡  
 Or, was his soul engaged in higher flights  
 Longing to meet the heroes whom he slew  
 In the Great War which still amazes earth? §§  
 And opposite was Yudhistir the Just,  
 Upright and calm, though on his upturned face  
 The icy rain fell ceaseless without pity,  
 And trickling from the long and clotted hair  
 Thrown backward from his brow, streamed o'er his form—  
 Upright and calm, though as each gust swept by  
 The frail form shivered, though the spirit quailed not—  
 Upright and calm, though in the haggard eye  
 Which still looked upwards, and the visage dank  
 Trenched with deep furrows, and the strenuous mouth set  
 With teeth that chattered as it mumbled prayers,  
 Reigned utter misery and desolation.  
 And still his half-numbed fingers twirled a string

\* Krishna, in order to test the stolidity and chastity of Bheem (which latter, by the way, was not very notable except when called in question) surrounded him on a journey from Dwarka to Hastinapur by a crowd of frail enchantresses who practised on him every allurements. Bheem, however, "smelt a rat" and foiled the slippery Yaduv by sheer immobility.

† Although Draupadi was the wife of the five brothers, it was Arjoon who actually won her at her "Swyambara."

‡ Karna, the son of Surya, the Hector of the Mahabharat as Arjoon is its Achilles, was like his Western analogue, slain by the latter under circumstances which amounted to an unchivalrous advantage taken of a momentary weakness.

§ Krishna, chief of the Yadavs; Lord of the 1,600 Gopis; destroyer of the Black Snake and of Raja Kansa; king of Muttra (Mathura) and of Dwarka in Kattyawar when expelled from the first by Jarasindhu; Rajpoot king and Avatar of Vishnoo, Indian Eros, Apollo, and Hermes rolled into one, acted as Mentor to the Pandavas in the "Great War." He was especially friendly with Arjoon, by whose side he rode in battle.

¶ When the Pandavas celebrated Aswamedh (or horse-sacrifice.)

‡ These were Arjoon's "particular" wives. Of course, he had only a fifth share in Draupadi.

\*\* The name of this young warrior (the Patroclus of the Mahabharat) who was slain in endeavouring to pierce the centre of the Kaurava phalanx, has passed into the common generic name for "heroism" in most Indian languages.

†† Arjoon was only once conquered by the Raja of Manipur, afterwards discovered to be his own son.

‡‡ He used to perform extraordinary feats with this magic bow, which, however, lost its power in the decline of the Pandava fortunes.

§§ The number of men engaged, and the length of time taken in fighting (18 days) the battle of Kurukshetra, (whether credible or not) far surpass any other contest of ancient or modern times.

Of Rudra beads, and by his side there coiled  
 The single creature which yet served the Pandavas,  
 Faithful unto the last—a huge gaunt dog.

Then Draupadi,

Essayed to weep, but as a tear gushed out,  
 The snow-wind rushed and froze it on her cheek.

\* \* \* \* \*

Upon the lonely bivouac rose at last  
 The paly light of morning. From the hills  
 Which fronted to the East, reflected shone,  
 From snow-clad peaks and icy crags, the glare  
 Of the bright sun which yet could not be seen,  
 Hid from the valley by the Western mounts;  
 And in its purer, brighter, grander radiance,  
 The red glow of the Pandavas' fire died out  
 Until it showed but as a murky wreath  
 From the damp sticks upon the melted snow.  
 And the light served to rouse the wanderers,  
 Alike from their despondency and rest,  
 If rest it was which was their lot that night.  
 They stretched their limbs and chafed their chilly hands,  
 And warmed them o'er the fire, till Bheem at last  
 Rolled up and rubbed his eyes with his huge hands  
 And shivering yawned. Then Yudhistir arose  
 And, joining both his palms together, made  
 Obeisance to the rising Eastern light;  
 Then pointing with his finger overhead  
 To where the sunbeams, shooting through the mists,  
 Now rolling upward from the Valley, making  
 A bright prismatic rose-glow as they past,  
 Fell on the face of the opposing hills  
 Turning them all into a blaze of gold,  
 He unto his companions said—"See, see!  
 The Golden Palace of the Mountain-Gods!  
 The rosy air of Kailas in the sky!  
 Rise, let us onward, onward! In the Earth—  
 The dull dark earth which we have left behind—  
 Is nought but sin and sorrow—even we  
 Who loved, and fought, and ruled, and feasted, as  
 None but ourselves have done or ever shall,  
 Must leave it hopeless. But where we are going,  
 The glorious mansions of th' Eternal fathers,  
 The darkness of despair may never come.  
 'Tis fated we must die. Then let us die  
 A little nearer to the Heaven above us."  
 And as he spoke he started for the North,  
 And Arjoon rose and followed him; And Bheem  
 Stamped with his towering height in Arjoon's track;  
 And Sahadev stepped on the giant's foot-prints;  
 And Nakul followed close upon his brother;  
 The last was Draupadi—no, not the last,  
 For the dog trotted on the path she left.  
 And onward still Yudhistir led the band,  
 Ever ascending to the heights which towered  
 Yet in mid air above their fated heads—  
 The goal towards which they struggled. Along ledges  
 Which circled narrow round the mountain side  
 With yawning precipices far below,  
 And then again through fearful rugged gaps  
 Thick filled with snow and shutting out the light,  
 Or o'er bare ridges where the new-risen sun  
 Shot his oblique effulgence but to dazzle,  
 Not warm the wand'ers.\* With snow-blistered feet  
 And crackling skin, and eyes which seemed to burn,  
 And limbs that scarce obeyed the power of will,  
 So stiff and weary were they and so numbed,†  
 The seven still struggled onward till the sun  
 Stood in mid-heaven. Then as they crossed a flat  
 Between two summits, where the new-fallen snow

\* At great elevations the sun is said to dazzle and scorch even more than in lower regions. It does not, however, appear to give so much warmth, owing to the rarification of the atmosphere.

† All these are symptoms described by Alpine climbers, aeronauts, and travellers in the Arctic regions.



Lay thick and soft, not yet glazed o'er with ice,  
And floundered knee-deep through it, Draupadi  
Felt she could drag no longer. But no cry  
Burst from her bosom. Where she stood she sank--  
Down on that soft cold spot which was her grave.

[To be continued.] See *Reis & Rayyet*, 2/28/89

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE Viceroy leaves Simla on Tuesday, the 22nd October, and visits Pinjore, Rawal Pindi, Kohat, Peshawar, Attock, Bannu, Gomal Pass, Dera Ismail Khan, Quetta and Lahore, arriving at Calcutta on or about Saturday, the 30th November 1889.

ON Wednesday, Lord Connemara returned from Darjeeling and started the same evening for Simla. Lord Reay bade adieu to Simla the same day.

RAJA Prabhu Narayan Singh Bahadur of Benares has been Gazetted Maharaja Bahadr. He has begun well and is young. Higher honors may yet be his lot.

FROM an examination of the statistics, Professor Lexis, of the Gottingen University, has come to the conclusion that the German Universities have twice as many students as can possibly hope to make a living by the respective professions for which they are preparing. The Calcutta University has yet a sadder tale to tell.

THE widow of the late Mr. Wilson Bell, acting Agent of the G. I. P. Railway, applied to the Government for a pecuniary grant of Rs. 14,250 or six months' salary of her deceased husband for "the long and valued services rendered by her late husband." Mr. Barnett, the Agent, recommended the payment out of the revenue. But the Government is no Calcutta Corporation and has refused the application.

ONE Dharanidhar Ghose applied to the Northern Division Magistrate for a process against his father-in-law Dhurmo Ghose, for restoration of his wife under 16 years of age, removed from his house and guardianship in his absence. The Hon'ble Magistrate refused to entertain the complaint. The husband next moved the High Court. The Magistrate was called upon to explain. He pointed out that there was no criminality in the act of the father and that, in his long career he refused many such applications. The Vacation Judges, Messrs. Tottenham and Banerjee, have taken a different view of the matter and ordered the Syud to take up the complaint. They say

"that the cause shown by the Magistrate is not sufficient, inasmuch as the act of the father distinctly falls within the definition of Section 361 of the Penal Code. He may have no criminal intention probably in taking away his own daughter, but the law provides that the husband of a Hindoo girl of the age of fifteen is her lawful guardian, and taking her away from him without his consent amounts, according to the definition given, to kidnapping from lawful guardianship. We think therefore that the Magistrate must proceed according to law, and, if he believes the complaint, issue a process."

Section 361, reads thus—

"Whoever takes or entices any minor under fourteen years of age if a male, or under sixteen years of age if a female, or any person of unsound mind, out of the keeping of the lawful guardian of such minor or person of unsound mind, without the consent of such guardian, is said to kidnap such minor or person from lawful guardianship."

The section, however, excepts "any person who, in good faith, believes himself to be entitled to the lawful custody of such child, unless such act is committed for an immoral or unlawful purpose."

It goes without saying that the unsophisticated prepossessions of the public—the native public in especial—are on the side of the Hon'ble Ameer Hossein, the Magistrate.

HERE is an instructive anecdote:—

"Sir Joshua Reynolds used to relate an amusing anecdote of a venison feast, which would imply that he was by no means an epicure in the eyes of those who cared for the repast as such and nothing more. He tells us that he addressed his conversation to one of the company who sat next to him, but to his great surprise could not get a single word in answer, until at last his neighbour, turning to him, said, Mr. Reynolds, whenever you are at a venison feast, I advise you not to speak during dinner time—as, in endeavouring to answer your question, I have just swallowed a fine piece of the fat, entire without tasting its flavour."

That admonition to the great British President applies to all eating, and not simply to venison. No doubt, it is savage to feed by yourself at a corner. Conversation improves eating, but you may have too much of it, as among the British.

ERRATA.—P. 461 col. 1, line 9 from bottom, for funeral read funereal; line 2 from bottom for Bill read Bill. Col. 2, line 5 add the after by; line 11 for to read of; line 24 omit by.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

WITH our best *Vijaya asheerbad* and cordial good wishes for the next twelvemonth, we beg to go into our usual fortnight's holiday. The next *Reis & Rayyet* will appear on the 26th October.

THE Doorga Pooja passed off in a mild Hindu way, without any exceptional features of merriment. The floods and scarcity have damped the ardour of the people. The Nautches have, for some years, been becoming meagre by degrees and distinctly shabby. This year, the lowest degradation was reached: at one house the *Æsculapian*—the offensive Bengali ballet called the *khemta* was introduced. Babu Bholanath Mullick, of the well known Buria Bazar family, alone maintained the honour of the metropolis. For a whole fortnight continuously there were the best Hindustani dance and music and song, night after night, performed by the leading Nautch-girls. The attendance too was very full and respectable.

THE struggling, straggling little Bengalee community of Upper Burma have not been unmindful of their great national festival. They held a subscription Doorga Maha Pooja at Mandalay. We could not give Lord Lansdowne a more vivid idea of the place this Festival occupies in the minds of our countrymen.

To our Hindu brethren of Upper Burma we beg to tender our cordia thanks for their invitation. Unfortunately, it came too late. But the good feeling is all the same. Better luck next time! We shall be glad to hear the particulars of their celebration.

THE Calcutta Gazette of the 25th September may be called Sir John Edgar's Doorga Pooja number. It brings joy to many homes and gladdens many hearts. It announces many promotions and confirmations in the Subordinate Executive Service. If the Government could be made to move in the same spirit of sympathy that has dictated the announcements at this season of the year, the people will hardly feel that it is a foreign rule, or that the Governor is an alien.

THE holidays are not for Hindus only. The senior partners of the principal mercantile firms have gone up to the hills. The Deputy Commissioner of Police refreshes himself at Darjeeling these days.

ON the 8th of this month, Mr. Nolan resumes charge as Revenue Secretary to the Bengal Government. Mr. Buckland, his vigorous *locum tenens*, we believe, goes for a month on special deputation, and then takes three months' leave. His ability is well known and he has done well as Secretary.

WE notice in recent Home papers the demise of Madame Canrobert, *née* Macdonald, at her chateau Jouyen Josas, in the vicinity of Versailles. Madame Canrobert, on both her father and mother's side, was connected with India. She was, we believe, born in the North-West. She was by birth a Macdonald, her father Major Macdonald being one of the chiefs of that clan. He served many years in India and either died in this country or in England, from disease contracted in this country. Her mother was a Smith, the daughter of Colonel Nicholas Smith, of the Native Infantry, whose regiment, in days gone by, on account of his name, was called Old Nick's Own. Leila Macdonald was a particularly handsome girl. In the year 1855 or 1856, after the Crimean war, Miss Macdonald was introduced at the Court of Napoleon III., and Marshal Canrobert, the cousin of the Emperor, fell in love with and married her. She was in Paris in 1864 or 1865, and had grown into a remarkably handsome woman, but was just as nice and unaffected as she was when she was simply Miss Leila Macdonald.

SOME new anecdotes of the Duke of Wellington are given in a late magazine article. We choose one of the best showing that the great Duke was as proficient in swearing as Lord Thurlow himself and might be a worse brute :—

"The Duke detested being helped; not from ingratitude, but from two distinct feelings; one, that he did not like to be thought, what he certainly was not, decrepit; the other, that he knew very well that the majority of persons who helped him simply did so in order to be able to say that they had done so. This was to him revolting. Standing opposite to Apsley House in the evening in Piccadilly, when the street was even more crowded than it is now, the Duke was hesitating on the curbstone. A gentleman, nearly as old as himself, made some demonstration of assisting him to cross the road; endeavouring to check the tide of cabs and other vehicles that was setting strongly. When the Duke reached the gate of Apsley House, he touched his hat, and said 'I thank you, Sir.' The elderly stranger immediately uncovered: holding his hat at his knee, he addressed the Duke as follows: 'My Lord, I have passed a long and not uneventful life; but never never did I hope to reach the day when I might be of the slightest assistance to the greatest man that ever lived.' The Duke looked at him calmly; and in a voice not in the least choked by emotion, replied, 'Don't be a damned fool!' and walked into Apsley House."

That certainly beats Thurlow hollow. That Chancellor once damned a bishop through the latter's clerk, but he would probably not have sworn like a thief at an old man who presumed to think him somebody. The——fool! indeed! But who was that? The truth is, the Duke was a great soldier and a good old High Tory statesman, but he was never remarkable for chivalry of soul or even urbanity. His grace was confined to his title. He was capable of great hard-heartedness, as in his Machiavellian arrangement, after the fall of Seringapatam and death of Tippoo Sultan, to keep the daughters of that sovereign in enforced life-long celibacy.

It is about a quarter that a line in the Home papers announced the death, in England, of a retired old Indian, who had been a popular citizen of Calcutta—Dr. David Smith, formerly Principal of the Medical College of this city. Remembering the large space occupied by the deceased in the minds of our Calcutta people, native as well as European, we, being no professional organ, almost went out of our way to notice the subject at great length. Indeed, our account of the deceased's life was the most copious in the Indian press as our tribute to his worth was the most cordial. It was with no ordinary feelings, then, that we closed with the statement, more mournful than death itself, which being

"a necessary end,

Will come when it will come"—

namely, "He leaves a wife and daughter badly provided for." Since then, specific news of the condition of the family has come. The daughter is a little girl of six years, so that her whole bringing up as an English lady remains to be accomplished. For this and for the support of her poor mother and herself, and for all purposes whatsoever, there is but an income of £60 a year in all. This is obviously an absurdly inadequate provision for the widow and daughter of an English gentleman.

It is strange that the family of a prosperous professional man like Dr. Smith should be left so destitute. Having been a bachelor as long as he was in the Indian Service, he ought to have been able to lay by money enough, as he ought to have done, if he contemplated matrimony. For marrying after leaving the Service, as he did, he would not be allowed to subscribe to the Military Pension Fund for the benefit of his widow. But even if he saved nothing from pay, he must have made a goodly acquisition by his private practice. For several years, his practice was the largest in the metropolis. We suppose, he was of a most liberal disposition. Be that as it was, there is no doubt that he has left his family in want. And that is sufficient for his friends and the world in general. We are glad to see that several of the former, both in India and in England, have come forward to open a subscription to help the widow and orphan. In this country, Messrs. Grindlay & Co., Calcutta, are the Agents. They will receive and acknowledge all sums paid to the David Boyes Smith Fund. Names and amounts of subscriptions will appear in every issue of the *Indian Medical Gazette*.

The late Professor Smith's eminence as a man of science and as a teacher is indisputable. His success as a physician and popularity as a man are still fresh in Calcutta. We only hope there may be a collection worthy of the humanity and prosperity of this metropolis.

It would seem that British officers and gentlemen may be as great bores and beggars as any unmannered Baboos. It has been necessary to warn British officers now in Moscow and St. Petersburg studying Russian against troubling the British Embassy. Furthermore, they are strictly forbidden to appear in uniform. They should specially never be conspicuous at military functions, such as reviews. The reason given is thought to be a mere excuse :—

"'Why are you not in uniform?' said a Russian Prince to one of our officers who was lately invited by his Russian friends to attend. 'Because,' replied the British officer, 'we have been ordered not to wear our uniforms on any occasion, and, in fact, to make ourselves as little conspicuous as possible. We are told that the Czar does not like to see British officers in uniforms at ceremonies unless they are introduced to his Majesty, and we cannot all be presented.' 'It is not true,' rejoined the Prince; 'we are surprised that any such secrecy should be made about your presence in Russia.'"

We suspect the new sumptuary regulation has been issued by way of a punishment and, above all, a precaution. Some of the students or perhaps other officers have apparently been misbehaving, or at any rate there have been indications of a kind likely to lead to irritation between the two nations and questions between the two Governments. John Bull is a bad customer abroad, and the best—for the prices he glibly pays. And in uniform, his bovine—we mean national *brusquerie* and self-consciousness are simply exaggerated. Mutual suspiciousness being the normal relation between the British and the Russians, the statesmen of the two countries should be particularly on their guard against any private ebullitions or *contretemps* that might produce exacerbation. A young Subaltern might precipitate an international conflict by the puppyish sweep at a court function in the bravery of epaulettes and gilt buttons, or his hour's strut at a review. No doubt, it is a hardship to the British officers in exile to be condemned to the obscurity of plain clothes. Not but what as a rule they would in most cases be relieved of the exacting scarlet cloth as of the metaphorical Red Tape. Michael Scott's Captain, who is so very particular in dress as in other things besides, is their butt of jest. It is different in Russia, we conceive. In an ultra-military monarchy, where a mere civilian is a rare bird, where everybody of any consequence sports a uniform, where gorgeous military ceremonies are constantly taking place, the British officer might naturally desire to appear in his proper character.

Ordinarily speaking, the desire is one to be encouraged. The regard for etiquette and sartorial exactitude may, no doubt, be carried too far. But the opposite habit is certainly worse. The present disposition to mufti makes its indulger liable to strange mishaps. To mention one out of many instances which must occur to each reader of experience, in 1863 there was a serious difference between England and Brazil over the arrest of certain British naval officers, in the latter Empire. The quarrel was at length submitted by mutual consent to the arbitration of the King of Belgium who, if we remember aright, justified the seizure. Be that as it was, the difficulty would never have arisen but for the British officers having strayed on land in a foreign land without their distinctive mark of recognition, their professional costume.

SACRILEGE is the order in India. Certainly, robbery of shrines and sacred objects is very much on the increase. A few months back, we noticed the repeated offences committed at the holiest of holy places of the Hindus by the very Hindus apparently. Similar depredations at other places have since been reported. It was time enough for the culmination, preparatory to reformation, if, indeed, such a welcome turn is to take place in this Iron Age. And now sacrilege has reached its highest development towards the side of orthodox Orissa.

A correspondent of the *Morning Post* reports a daring burglary at Laksanath, a village in Balasore, where, at night, a temple was scaled and broken into, and not only were the sacred jewellery and paraphernalia purloined, but the goddess, whose trinkets they were and who was every day decked out in them, was herself carried away. The Police, of course, were nowhere, but they have since been making inquiries. Luckily for them, the other rascals were stupid enough to have left almost exposed in a bush close by some of the holy jewellery, besides a *dhootee* and some implements of their own. If, after that, they do not trace the robbers, they ought to be whipped out of the service.

Between correspondent and editor, we see the *Morning Post* makes a ludicrous blunder. The *Sindkati*—one of the robber's belongings discovered—is described as "a famous instrument of the dacoits used in breaking open locks." This correspondent, though a native, has evi-

dently never seen a "Sindkati," nor heard about it from one who has. The editor probably fancies it to be some importation from the "Young Egypt" of the Far East. It is neither an "instrument for breaking open locks," nor an implement of dacoits at all. The dacoit who was found with it would lose caste and be boycotted as a Black Leg by the Chivalry of Industry. We are afraid our friend's notion of dacoits is hazy. The K-shattriya would sooner go out armed with an awl than the Dacoit with a *Sindkati*.

THIS is how cleverly the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* explains away its omission to lash a singular instance of the degradation of Bengali journalism, and makes an opportunity to read a homily to some of its brethren who have been sufficiently human :—

"A Bengali journal cracked some coarse jokes at a Hindu lady of literary fame. The matter was brought to our notice, but though we had no language to express our condemnation of the paragraph, we thought that the best way of dealing with it was to treat it with contempt. To make a lady the subject of comments in the newspapers is to shew utter disregard to her feelings. But *Reis and Rayyet* took it up, and attacked the Bengali journal with a shoe in hand. Now you must know that though our brother possesses a massive intellect and is deservedly considered the only philosopher amongst the Indian journalists, he is yet as impatient as a child. There was the offending journal before him, and he commenced the onslaught. Forthwith rushed an ally in the person of the *Tribune* of Lahore. The *Tribune* not only attacked the offending Bengali journal, but also its ally, who is editor of *Hope*. The attack of the *Tribune* was ferocious and vindictive. *Hope* retaliated, and his return-blows were fiendish. We can assure our brothers that it was not for this that God entrusted them with the task of editing newspapers in India. It was not to bite each other and tear each other to pieces,—not to satisfy personal feelings. But it was to defend the weak against the strong, and to educate the people. Both these gentlemen, *Hope* and *Tribune*, are estimable men, highly intelligent, educated, and warm-hearted. We beseech them to forget and forgive, to shake hands and to devote all the energies they possess to the accomplishment of the grand task that they have taken upon themselves."

Seriously speaking, the quarrel of the two last named journals was more worthy of vernacular journalism of the *Bangabasi* and *Dainik* type than any journalism in English.

So far as the paragraph relates to us, it is a poor return for saving the honour of the entire Native Press. We admire the lofty delicacy of respecting a lady's feelings by allowing her to be blackguarded in print without a word of protest. Such delicacy is, happily, rare, as also such ladies as would be grateful for such favour of silence. The lady in question herself and her friends certainly do not sympathise with the transcendental reticence of our contemporaries of *Amrita Bazar* and *Hope*. She has expressed herself to friends of her own sex in terms of thankful approval and satisfaction of our own humble effort to protect her from outrage and punish the outrager. One of her connections, Baboo S. K. Chatterjee, writes to the same effect in the *Indian Spectator*. A neglected duty may confront you when least expected. We should not be surprised if hereafter the whole Native Press had to suffer for the sin of one vernacular print, condoned by the fatal indifference of the respectable Native English Press.

THE Americans are a go-a-head people and no mistake. But some of them have gone very far ahead of their normal go-a-headism of the whole body. Here, beyond question, is go-a-headism with a vengeance.

"Citizens of Colorado were dreadfully shocked when the grand jury in session at Denver presented bills of indictment against Secretary of State Rice and the State printers, charging them with conspiracy to defraud the commonwealth of Colorado. According to the published accounts, the last session of the Legislature was charged with scandals which tend to strain the confidence of the friends of universal suffrage. On the last night of the session the railway lobbyists carried in wine by the dozen cases. The sparkling fluid flowed as free as the milk and honey of tradition. Dignity and decorum were forgotten in both Houses, and a pandemonium prevailed until they adjourned. At seven o'clock the next morning the committee rooms assumed the appearance of a temple of Bacchus. The female committee clerks, half-crazed with champagne, were seated upon the laps of some hoary-headed favourite of the Assembly, with one arm around his neck and the other swinging above their heads an overflowing wineglass, and the enacting scenes were suggestive of a Roman Saturnalia. An estimate of the expenses of the session indicates that each word of all the laws and resolutions passed cost 2*l*."

"Go a head," did we say? Rather, is it not a strategic movement in an opposite direction—a march forwards to the rear? It really looks like a vaulting backwards. These Transatlantic Republicans are apparently tracing their steps to the source of their democratic system in Europe. If chronologically the American Revolution preceded the French outbreak, that was a mere historic accident. In the true history of the democratic evolution, the French were the precursors of the Americans. It was the French that brought the republican ideal to maturity and flower. It is true that the English had, more than a

generation back, killed their king and established a commonwealth and paved the way for an able and remorseless tyrant without hereditary prestige. But the French did more. Commencing with suppressing the monarchy, the aristocracy, the clergy and the Church, they ended by abolishing God and the Future State by Act of Parliament, and established the worship of a courtesan as the Goddess of Reason. It is that French Festival of Reason that is recalled by these precious republicans (using the word in the sense of our Eastern Hemisphere) of Colorado.

#### IN THE PRESS.

(Uniform with "Travels & Voyages in Bengal")

#### ESSAYS BY A BRAHMAN

IN  
Politics, Sociology, History, & Literature

BY  
the Author of "Travels & Voyages in Bengal."

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## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1889.

### STRIKES :

#### THEIR DANGER AND THEIR REMEDY.

THIS is the day of the combination of Labour. The present year has been specially fruitful in overt manifestations on the most pronounced scale. Calcutta showed the way, quickly followed by Baroda and soon enough by Bombay. Then the disease, suppressed or allayed in the East, broke out with epidemic virulence in Western Europe—at the capital of the British Empire. There, indeed, it was a truly formidable affair. Aided by funds from Australia, the dock-labourers were able to hold out against the Directors. As the employers were firm, the struggle threatened to be a protracted one, possibly developing dangerous proportions and features. Other trades too followed suit, such as gas stokers, tailors, and so forth. At length, the Unions called all the labouring classes in London to join on the following Monday. The prospect was alarming. If the men did not come to terms, it was feared for one thing that the great metropolis would be consigned to darkness, and then the roughs, with which London abounds, might play the devil with her. As if this liability was not enough, the neglect of the retorts might result in incalculable danger to life and property. Luckily, the danger was prevented just in time by concession.

The success of the London workingmen has naturally inflamed the pretensions of the labouring classes throughout the civilised world, who hope, by a similar combination, to better their fortunes. And now news has come of the revolt of the workmen of Rotterdam.

*Holloway's Ointment and Pills.*—Those who have given these remedies a fair trial freely admit that they inherently possess every property suitable for healing and removing eruptions, ulcerations, piles, abscesses, sores, bad legs, gathered breasts, and all disorders of the glandular system. When carefully rubbed in the Ointment relaxes the swollen muscles, diminishes inflammation, assuages pain, and even alleviates dangerous maladies which may have lasted for months, or even years. Holloway's excellent preparations are effective singly, resistless in combination, and have been recommended by grateful patients to be resorted to as alternatives when all other means of regaining health have failed. Their action is temperate, not violent or reducing.

The situation is far from pleasant to contemplate. It sets us, for one, to reflect on the slender securities of life and property under the modern system. These successive labour *emeutes* in one country after another, bring out vividly the risks and liabilities of the extensive use of machinery and of the massing of men to minister to our convenience and comfort. We are certainly far too dependent, than is desirable, upon blind forces of great intensity and upon the labour of scarcely more intelligent men in vast numbers.

Every advantage has its corresponding disadvantage. The institution of standing armies made monarchs and Governments independent of the great nobles and feudatories. But the armies themselves might mutiny or dictate to the State, as in old Rome.

Free Trade is good, international competition cheapening the necessities of life and generally lowering prices, but it ruins many home industries. Where, as in England, it supersedes national agriculture in the products for human sustenance, it leaves the means for feeding the nation at the mercy of foreigners and the chances of naval warfare.

Who will doubt the benefit of railways? Yet, they leave the lives of hundreds at the mercy of a single man of no education or character. A desperate man may in a diabolic fit—a thoughtless man for fun—destroy many of his fellowmen. The negligence of a single pointsman may cause a great disaster. So in ships—the larger the vessel the more the proportions of possible annihilation of lives and property by a single man or freak.

It is the same in modern factories—with our great steam and other power works. The possible occasional risks are commensurate with their grandeur and ordinary usefulness. But there are efforts of human ingenuity and accumulated powers which are more risky still. Think of the inconvenience and danger to a whole city from the failure of some of the great organizations on which its feeding and lighting and other necessities and comforts of life and society depend!

If with the progress of science and mechanical improvements, there had been a simultaneous moral progress of humanity all round, there would be less danger. But the fact was not so. There has not been and there is not the same advance in morals. At any rate, there are still vast numbers of savage men let loose in the midst of civilised society—men almost irresponsible for their actions, men of ungoverned passion, whose acts are not reducible to calculation beforehand.

It is impossible, and not expedient, to stop the use of machinery, but great care should be taken in laying and habitually employing it in great towns, where a slight miscarriage might destroy thousands, maybe the very members of Government and the legislature. Care as to what machinery and what sort of it and where and in what way; and care in strict superintendence of its working throughout, day and night. Greater care in special ought to be taken in laying underground systems of gas and water pipes, subterranean railways, and such other mines. For, inasmuch as their operation is not visible, there is the more likelihood of neglect, and the greater danger therefrom.

If Machinery and Multitude of Workingmen are necessary evils of modern society, surely we can minimise their pernicious influences—guard against their worse aberrations. We are afraid we do not always do so. A *laissez faire* spirit has grown up in

these matters—until we do not care to protect ourselves beforehand from the obvious liabilities of the stupendous steam works and other blind forces we are fast multiplying about us. This indifferentism is due, no doubt, in some measure, to the paucity of actual accidents, but chiefly from pre-occupation, in many cases, in similar concerns. Above all, it is due to the teaching of the philosophers of Democracy—the publicists and political economists.

The massing together of multitudes in the same labour necessarily leads to combination. But the law might check it. It might be unwise to suppress what is perhaps the only safety of Labour. It certainly would be unfair to suppress combination of workmen without suppressing combination of employers. But we have gone farther, perhaps, than the proper limit by recognising Trades Unionism. This is to encourage mischievousness—to allow liberty to run to license. Trades Unionism is the efficient organization of combination into a vigorous instrument—a great power. These unions enable workmen to bully, harass, and inflict signal defeat upon the masters. But neither masters nor workmen should be allowed to trouble and distress the others. The policy of permitting such conspiracies—for they are nothing better—is certainly worth serious consideration.

It is all very well to talk of Freedom, but Freedom has its limits. There is no freedom to do wrong. Combination of the character of conspiracy is illegitimate.

In this matter Capital and Labour are not the only factors. Other and grave interests are frequently involved—the interests of society at large and of even the body politic may be concerned. It stands to reason that neither masters nor men should be allowed to combine against the vital interests of others, specially of the State or of society at large.

See how the late strike threatened the metropolis of England and of British civilization. The lives of thousands and millions of property were clearly in jeopardy from neglect of some of the great works for the convenience of the citizens. What, for instance, must have been the consequence, if the gas workmen did not soon return to duty! It is no joke to consign a great city like London to primeval darkness. The criminal classes, with which Babylon is stuffed to the throat, might make short work of it. It is lucky that they have now alternatives in kerosine and candles and, above all, in electric light, but then the combination of all the trades would leave no substitute, and such a combination is quite feasible. If one class of workmen can strike, why not several classes? An obstinate general resolve on the part of the working and labouring classes of the community, is quite within the bounds of possibility. There is nothing to prevent it. An accident may bring it about. A few able and determined wirepullers may effect such a league. Such a universal abstention from work might invite a grave disaster—a tremendous crash.

Such is the danger involved in unrestricted Trades Unionism. It is not every day that all the conditions towards a great danger are present. But they may any day be present. It behoves us to take timely warning from recent experiences. In some instances, great cities were within a measurable distance of a catastrophe. The other day, the maritime commerce of this metropolis was at a stand-still from the cartmen striking work. At another time, some years back, the whole city was threatened with death by

poisoning from accumulation of animal excreta in consequence of the nightmen's strike. The other day, in London, the situation was most threatening. And now we do not know how the matter will end in Holland.

It is time for statesmen to interfere. It is worthy of the most anxious deliberation whether the present *carte blanche* to combine should not be withdrawn. We are inclined to think it should, the Mills and Fawcetts notwithstanding. A privilege which may be abused to the compromise of the best interests of the community, nay, to the destruction of society and civilization, ought not, we are persuaded, to be maintained. At any rate, Trades Unionism ought to be placed under strong and specific legal checks. Society ought, in its interest, to be able to end a strike by mediating between masters and men.

### THE TRUTH ABOUT MAHOMEDAN EDUCATION.

THOSE gentlemen who can speak with some authority on the Mahomedan Social and Educational and other questions, and those who are anxious to make a false impression upon the public in the garb of a well-informed and learned Mahomedan give numerous reasons of the backwardness of their co-religionists both in educational and cultural progress. There may be some truth in the assertion that the general poverty of the Mussulmans is a great drawback to their education and that the erroneous educational policy of the Government had kept them behind other natives in the race of progress. But, as far as I have been able to judge, such explanations are not generally applicable in the case of the upper and middle classes of the Mahomedans who can well meet the expenses of their education and who could have made up the deficiencies of School Education in special branches at home. They have not only neglected their English Education, but most of them, as a rule, are very indifferent to their own temporal and religious education, and their Persian and Arabic languages of which at one time they were so proud. While the Bengali Hindu Civilian is successfully passing the Honour Examination in Persian and getting the prescribed handsome reward, the Mahomedan boys are mostly plucked in their second language in the University Examinations and cannot correctly speak or write a few sentences in Persian. By the middle classes I mean, of course, the respectable classes who are not poor and not the lower classes who are well to do. Now I ask the Mahomedan Reformers and Educationists what explanation can they offer of the deplorable educational condition of the upper and the middle classes. I think the parents and guardians of the boys and the present state of the Mahomedan Society are greatly responsible for the undesirable results of the education of boys of these classes. Much depends upon the healthy and salutary influence which the guardians and parents exercise upon the young mind by their examples.

It depends mostly upon the conduct of the parents and guardians of the boys what sort of influence they exercise over the character of their children. Among the females of the high classes there is little which will further the education of the boys, but on the contrary there are many things by which they unintentionally bar the proper education of their own children. There are many guardians who are, in my opinion, barred by their habits and character to do any good to their children. There are others who can set excellent examples and exercise very good influence on the characters of their boys, but by their unusual habits of personal comfort and some erroneous rules of our society they are precluded from mixing with their boys at a time when the foundations of their character are laid and when their society might be most beneficial to the boys. These parents and guardians, who are mostly very conservative people, will on no account make any sacrifices of their own comfort or deviate from the old rules, even for the obvious good of their own sons and other near relations. From his childhood there is a gulf of separation between the boy and his

father, which gradually widens as he grows up. When he can most enjoy the society of his father and benefit by it and when he can help his guardian and elders, he is kept at a great distance by them. In 24 hours the father and son or other guardian and his ward scarcely meet once, and there are many instances in which the father never sees his son for days, although they live in the same house in separate apartments. These boys are entirely left at the mercy of an unpolished and unmannerly and uneducated *Meajee* or *Mollah* at the very time when his whole character and habits are being formed, and they only see their father when they are sent for some thing particular, or when they have some thing to say, or on ceremonial occasions and at the time of going to invitations and parties. In former days, when Mahomedan Society was flourishing, when there were satisfactory arrangements for their education, the wealthy Mahomedans used to appoint *Attaliks* (a class of tutor who were chiefly responsible for the good character and manners of those days and who were appointed in addition to other teachers) for training up their children. Now-a-days, the double functions are performed by an incompetent *Meajee* who generally comes from a lower grade of society and about whom there is but little respectable and gentlemanlike.

The conservative and old Mahomedans consider it below their dignity to mix and associate with their boys, be they their sons or their nephews. In their opinion, there must always be a respectable distance between them and the younger members of their family, including boys. That distance is not in most cases respectable, but deplorable and objectionable. This is only a lame excuse on their part to protect their selfish comforts and inconvenient habits. Those who are conscious of their own bad habits, are, by their common sense and sense of justice, prevented from coming in contact with their boys and relations. They are to a certain extent excusable for keeping themselves aloof from their boys. This time-honored but mischievous separation between the Mahomedan boys and their parents and guardians does great harm to the cause of Mahomedan education in the higher classes, the boys of which in their school days fall an easy prey to the evil influences of the society of bad people. There is, indeed, no safe-guard for them against their being plunged into the maelstrom of evil example. When the boys get spoiled, learn bad manners, and abandon the grand principles of their family, their parents, instead of finding out the true cause of it, become angry with them and blame the present system of education and many other unknown and unobservable things. I can dare to assert that out of 100, in 75 cases, they are entirely and directly the cause of the ruin of their own boys. Had they trained them up in their own way and not treated them like strangers and deprived them of the benefit of their experience and influence, their boys would have never gone astray and blighted their prospects in life. Those parents who have not the courage, honour, and justice to mend or improve their own manners and habits or give their evil ways up for such a noble cause, must be, in my opinion, very cruel, unjust, and indifferent to their own personal interests. The best remedy for curing the educational complaint of the Mahomedan boys of this class is in the hands of their parents and guardians as I have clearly pointed out, and if they neglect to administer it, it is their own fault and they must be responsible for it. It is hopeless to teach boys good manners, and high principles, and form their character by lectures and arguments, as some learned and experienced persons would do. It simply makes them impertinent and unmanageable. Unaccustomed to discipline, left without the influence of salutary example or admonition at home, these unlicked hobbled boys have taken to the notion that argument is the only true umpire between them and their parents and elders—the only tribunal to decide matters. I would advise the Mahomedan guardians and parents of this class to form a committee for self-improvement—for the reformation of their own hitherto neglecting and neglected selves—instead of going up with long petitions to Government, in season and out of season, and bewailing the condition of their co-religionists.

As this class of boys live thus in an independent manner and their actions and conduct are not properly supervised by their parents and guardians, they get more liberty than is good for them. In fact, they do just



as they please. Each Mahomedan student becomes a fashionable gentleman before he has passed the Entrance Examination. This statement will be borne out by all who have carefully observed the Mahomedan Boy of the Period. He requires good dress, good shoes and first class toilet and other necessities of self-gratification. These things take up a good deal of his time and gradually and imperceptibly lead him to other and more dangerous paths and germinate in him the habits of extravagance—that plague which has been the ruin of most Mahomedan families. A Bengalee Hindu under-graduate or even graduate in his pupilage never thinks much about combing his hair, not to speak of the dress, whereas a third class boy of the Medressch takes half an hour for his toilet. A student should remain a student until he has finished his education and is able to earn. The Mahomedan schoolboy is not only a fashionable gentleman, but, at the same time, he is a politician, social reformer, educationist and what not. He learns habits of extravagance when in the school, or I should say rather in his cradle, and for this ruinous habit also his guardians and relations are responsible.

If the respectable and upper classes of Mahomedans are actually desirous to see their children follow the footsteps of their illustrious forefathers, they should not lose the opportunity of remedying the defects that I have stated so freely. They must make sacrifices, mix and associate with their sons and young relations at least moderately, and be always in touch with them, so that the natural link of true affection and sympathy between them may not be broken. They ought to do their duty by their children and it should not be entirely left to others. The strong natural wire of sympathy and affection which exists between the father and son and other elder and younger relations, is the safest and surest medium for guardians of conveying the good effects of their examples to their children. Every good trait in the father is imperceptibly and permanently engrafted on the mind of his son. No amount of lecturing can do this work better. Be yourself the model for your son, if you sincerely wish that he should be a model of good according to your own views. A father conceals his bad habit or worse parts of his character from his sons and other boys in the family, and thinks that that separation, to which I have alluded above, will not allow the youngsters to see them, and thus his bad example shall not affect them and he will be saved the mortification of being lowered in their estimation. This fond hope is vain on the very face of it. The mere knowledge of the boys that their parents or elders do a particular objectionable thing or have a particular bad habit, is enough to encourage their minds to that particular vice. They will never say what they feel, but they will not hesitate to imitate them in that way. Therefore, this hiding policy is worse, in many cases, than open and straightforward practice.

The better classes of Mahomedans ought to reform themselves and their habits before posing in the world as reformers, &c. There is ample room for reformation in their own households. They should also give up the habits of extravagance and false displays and discourage them in their sons and relations, by example and not by high-flown lectures which are of no use whatever.

A Mahomedan Reis takes his meals at 3 P.M. and 3 A.M., another leaves his bed at 10 A.M. and a third takes his tea at 2 A.M. Under such circumstances, how can their sons or young relations join him in eating or meet him daily? There are other difficulties for which a gentleman cannot receive his sons or nephews at night at his own apartments, or thinks it would be inconvenient for him to do so.

Let the higher classes of Mahomedans reform their habits and manners, and the classes who are below them will surely follow their good example. Let them take the lead in this matter. For carrying out my suggestions they need not wait upon Government, or call any meeting or invoke any Reformer; they can do everything sitting at home and by themselves. Those Mahomedans who feel and know the force of the facts that I have adduced, never complain of the failure of their sons in education, &c., and their children are true copies of their fathers and forefathers and are taking the lead of the Mahomedan community of India.

A MAHOMEDAN.

## METIABROOJ.

September 26, 1889.

Sir,—I regret much to report to you, for the information of the public, the lamented death of Nawab Sarir Ara Zainab Begum Saheba, wife of Prince Jahan Kadr Meerza Bahadoor and eldest daughter of the late King of Oudh. The deceased was born at Lucknow before the annexation of Oudh. By her mother's side, she descended from a noble Syed family of which Nawab Mukhtarud Dowlah was the head. The descendants of this Nawab are now Government pensioners. She was brought up under the sole care of her royal father, and when still a child she was married to her cousin Prince Jahan Kadr Meerza Bahadoor, the most beloved nephew of the King. Even after the marriage, she was not permitted to remain far from her august father and it was for this reason, His Majesty assigned separate and distinct apartments in the Sultan-khanah to the married couple. Both the Prince and the Princess were in the enjoyment of various benefits, presents and tokens of love from the King. It was only after His Majesty's death that the lady was obliged to leave, under orders of Government, her old residence to which she clung with feelings of as much love as of religious sacredness.

Since the death of the King, it is said, she had been pining away. The sorrow attendant on the removal of the family to Shah Munzil, the premises lately rented by her husband, sat deeply on her mind. Her financial prospects were not cheering. She hoped that Government would do justice to her case, but she was therein disappointed. She was in receipt of a monthly allowance of Rs. 600 only granted by Government for herself and her three daughters, and with this scanty income, she was somehow maintaining her position. She was lately suffering from small-pox and fever to which she succumbed yesterday at noon. The best medical aid was called in but to no avail. It was her last wish that her remains should be buried in the Imambarah close to the grave of her royal father and Mr. Upton was good enough to grant the request. It may be recorded here that it was the first act of kindness done by Mr. Upton since his assumption of the office of Agent to the Governor-General. The funeral was celebrated at midnight amid loud lamentations of the husband, brothers and other gentlemen of Garden Reach. There was a large crowd and some Bengali and European gentlemen also attended the mournful procession. All the sons of the late King, with the exception of Princes Mirza Kamar Kadr, Mirza Asman Jah and Mirza Mahomed Jogee, were in attendance and all were in deep mourning. Princes Mirza Mahomed Askari and Furrakh Mirza made the necessary arrangements for the funeral. It is said that Prince Mirza Kamar Kadr, full of prejudices as he is, did not attend the funeral as he feared, death on a Wednesday being an ill-omen, any one joining the ceremony would be subject to the influence of evil stars.

The deceased did not receive due marks of respect and good treatment at the hands of the Government. She hoped that her claims would yet be considered, but met with utter disappointment. According to the Mahomedan law and custom in noble families, the eldest daughter receives one-half of that assigned to the eldest brother, but this fact was ignored by Government in her case. I hope that the justice and sympathy denied to the mother, may be fully shown to the three daughters left by her, and that Government will do some such thing by which their sorrow may be lessened. The young Princesses were in the enjoyment of separate allowances during the life time of the King, after whose death, a monthly allowance of Rs. 600 only was granted to the deceased lady for herself and three daughters, of whom the youngest is still unmarried.

In fine, I do heartily condole with Prince Jahan Kadr Mirza Bahadoor on this sad bereavement. It is the greatest misfortune that has befallen him as can never be repaired in any way. A few days ago he lost his only two grand-daughters, and his eldest daughter is also very ill. Prayer to the Giver of Life is the only remedy in such a case.

B. B.

## Public Paper.

### INDEPENDENT TIPPERAH.

Letter No. 476HT—IX-1, dated Chittagong, the 9th July 1888.  
From—D. R. Lyall, Esq., Commissioner of the Chittagong Division,  
To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

In accordance with the usual custom, I have the honor to forward the report of the Assistant Political Agent of Hill Tipperah, together with the remarks of the Political Agent in original, and to request that printed copies may be sent for record.

2. The report is due from me on 30th June, but was only received on that day, the cause of delay being the non-receipt of information from the Maharaja's officers. The report is less bulky than formerly, but contains all necessary information.

3. The year reported on has been a very good one for the Joo



meas, who constitute the bulk of the population; and, as in the Hill Tracts of Chittagong, the cotton crop has been a bumper one, while all other crops were good, some excellent.

The revenue increased in consequence by the very substantial sum of Rs. 47,442, the receipts being Rs. 3,37,352 against Rs. 2,89,910 in the previous year, and Rs. 2,38,805, the average of the three years before then. The income of the State has thus improved by close on a lakh of rupees in two years, yet the only improvement reported is the construction of two small roads.

These will be very useful, but the people can hardly think that they constitute a sufficient return for their paying Rs. 3 taxation, where they paid Rs. 2 two years ago.

The increase of plough cultivation is satisfactory, but it is due to the hill people themselves taking to this mode of cultivation, and not to the migration of the people from the plains, the right given last year to British subjects to acquire rights of occupancy having had so far no effect.

4. The state of things commented on in paragraphs 24 to 33 of the Assistant Political Agent's report is very unsatisfactory, and shows that any change which the Maharaja has introduced has been merely a change in name, and that things are going on in exactly the same way as before; in other words, that the State is being slowly but surely ruined. The new minister has succeeded in raising a much larger income, but he has failed to induce the Maharaja to alter his system of spending, or to introduce any reform in the way of retrenchment.

5. Notwithstanding the efforts of the Jubraj to improve the administration of justice, there can be no real improvement until the officers who administer it, and the police who send up the cases, are properly paid. The large number of criminal sentences reversed on appeal points conclusively to bad work in the courts below. The testimony given in the end of paragraph 35 to the rectitude of the highest court is satisfactory.

6. The question of detention in jails other than those recognised as regular jails, referred to in paragraph 40, may lie over until the further report promised is submitted.

7. The military force is little more than a name.

Out of 263 men of which it consists, 107 are Bengalis, men who may make efficient policemen, but not efficient soldiers. Necessarily better men cannot be got as they are not paid.

8. The occurrence of cases of suttee has been previously reported, and the matter is still pending.

The whole thing is far from creditable to the Government. If the Government did not hear of the cases, it argues a very weak executive; while if they were known of, and no steps taken until the Assistant Political Agent heard of them, the Government is still more to blame.

9. The Political Agent's forwarding letter deals with the great point at issue—the financial state of Government of Hill Tipperah.

It is now nearly three years since I visited the Maharaja, and impressed on him the absolute necessity for reformation, as reported in my remarks in forwarding the report for 1885-86.

He appointed a capable man to the post, but for various reasons he resigned the office after a very short trial, and the fact that he has not yet been paid the full salary claimed, and that even part (Rs. 2,000) of that admitted to be due was only paid between November and February last, shows how difficult it is to obtain money from the Raj.

His successor with the best intentions has clearly no influence, and all his efforts so far have only succeeded in raising the revenue without reforming a single abuse.

I am not prepared to endorse what Mr. Price says regarding the Minister in his 6th and 7th paragraphs, and rather agree with his predecessor's opinion quoted by him in the former paragraph.

10. The real obstacle to reform is the Maharaja himself, and his personal character; and so long as he sets himself against, or even passively resists, radical reform and a severe check on his own expenditure, no reform can be carried out, nor can the state of the exchequer be improved.

The Maharaja has the firm conviction that it would be derogatory to his dignity to act otherwise than he now does, and unless under compulsion of the paramount power, I am quite convinced no improvement will ever take place.

11. The state of things represented in the latter part of Mr. Price's paragraph 14a and paragraphs 15 and 16 is correctly described, and the Maharaja alone is responsible for the state of affairs there represented.

Mr. Price's language is strong, but the state of things represented justifies strong language.

12. I am reluctantly compelled to say that I agree with the Political Agent that matters in Hill Tipperah have now reached such a state that Government would no longer be justified in looking on and letting the ruin of the State be completed. The Maharaja was fully warned by me in September 1885 that reform was imperative, but that Government was most averse to interfere, and wished him to carry out the reform himself.

This he said he would do, but he has utterly failed to keep his promise, and the time has now come for more active interference.

13. I do not agree with Mr. Price's proposals, however, and think it would suffice if Government insisted on the Maharaja appointing a Government servant of the description given in clause 6 of paragraph 18 of the Political Agent's report as Minister with full powers of reform.

I do not think the proposal to appoint the Jubraj as Regent would be agreeable to himself or to the Maharaja; and if the Maharaja only agrees to make over the power of controlling expenditure to an efficient officer, and restricts his own personal expenditure, things will soon come straight.

14. I would also most strongly deprecate the re-appointment of the Manager whom the Maharaja has dismissed as an unnecessary act of direct disrespect to him, which the circumstances of the case by no means call for.

Whoever is appointed Manager of the estates should be free from all connection with the past, and should be subordinate to the Minister.

15. In substitution of Mr. Price's proposals, I would therefore ask Government to demand from the Maharaja the appointment of an officer such as has been described above, nominated by the Government of Bengal, as Minister under pain of removal from the guddi should he refuse to do so, and that such officer should be vested with full powers to deal with the finances of the State for a period of four or five years, subject only to the control of the Bengal Government, the same Government fixing a suitable provision for the private expenditure of the Maharaja, and that such officer should have full powers both in Hill Tipperah and in the zemindaries, and be removable only by the Government of Bengal. Without some such action I am quite convinced no reform is to be hoped for, and that, as before, promises will be made which will be kept in the same way as those already made.

16. While making these proposals, I wish at the same time to express my respect for the Maharaja's private character.

It is solely as a ruler that he fails, but unfortunately in a country like Hill Tipperah, the personal character of the ruler, however amiable, may ruin the State by its weakness, and when such is the case, I think the paramount power is bound to interfere.

17. I may add that I had no previous intimation from the Political Agent that he was about to send up such proposals, and that I should have directed him not to send them up in an annual report had he consulted me beforehand, and that I have decided to send on his report after some hesitation.

I have been induced to do so because the Hill Tipperah report is no longer published in the Gazette, and because after full consideration I could see no way of carrying out the reforms necessary, unless by a radical change.

The annual report on the State also differs in its character from the general run of annual reports, and is the only occasion in the year in which Government reviews the whole management of the State.

18. I concur with the Political Agent's remarks regarding Babu Umakanta Das. He fills a difficult position with considerable tact.

## REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION FOR THE YEAR 1888-89.

[Concluded from page 466.]

### GENERAL STATE OF POLICE, CRIME, AND ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

32. In its numerical strength and general distribution, the police force remained the same as before. In its functions, too, there was no change. It has the dual duty of preserving public peace and collecting revenue. Since the appointment of a Superintendent for each Division in 1886-87, there has been noticeable improvement in the general conduct and tone of this important branch of the Administration. It will, however, be some time before a thorough change for the better can be effected. For, among other circumstances, the rate of pay that is allowed is a great drawback. The pay, as a rule, is Rs. 20 a month for an officer in charge of a station, and Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 for one in charge of an outpost with no prospect for pension and no extra allowance for travelling.

33. There was no noticeable change in respect of crime either in the hills or in the plains. In the former, indeed, offences do not take place often. But most of those that do occur are not reported, the police being located close to British territory among Bengalis far away from the hill villages. The Courts also are situated in the plains near British borders. It is desirable that these institutions should be removed to proper places in the interior. Their removal is sure to be followed by extension of cultivation and increase of population, which are objects of paramount importance to the country.

34. The Sub-divisional Officers have the functions of Magistrate, Judge and Collector. In the last two capacities they do not get proportionately as much work as under the first. This is chiefly owing to the facts that the revenue of most of the mehals are let out in farm or taluk is paid in the Sudder Treasury at Agartala, and that the differences between landlords and tenants, such as are

not settled amicably, are generally made subjects of complaints before criminal courts. The laws regarding civil suits are few, but they are a great deal too much in favour of landlords.

35. Besides the three sub-divisional courts, there are five courts at Agartala, *viz.*, three original and two appellate. The latter are generally dilatory; otherwise they work pretty well. Justice is indeed fairly administered when the cases are between subjects and subjects. But when the State or any one having influence in the Durbar is one of the parties, the presiding officers of the Court seem occasionally to lose nerve.

36. There were altogether 585 criminal cases for disposal against 598 of the previous year. Of these, 181, or nearly 31 per cent., were rejected; 54, with 71 persons, remained under trial at the close of the year; and 350, with 703 persons, were tried, 401 persons, or 57 per cent. being convicted. In 234 cases, or in two cases out of every three tried, enquiry had been made by the police, who in 153 cases had arrested and brought up 282 persons, of whom 184 or 79.2 per cent. of the number tried were convicted. This was so far satisfactory. But in respect of it, there were 82 cases of appeal. In 21 of them only the sentences of the lower courts were confirmed, and in 6 the appeal was rejected; while in 41 the sentences were reversed, in 9 modified, and in the remaining 5 further enquiry was directed. Seven of the unsuccessful appellants again carried their cases up to the khas appellate court, where in one the order appealed against was reversed, in two it was modified, and in four confirmed. The whole result therefore was discreditable to the original Courts. It is not always easy for persons who are dissatisfied with the orders of the sub-divisional officers to duly prefer and conduct appeal cases at Agartala where the appellate courts are situated. This is owing to the distance of the place from the sub-divisions and to the delay which generally occurs in the disposal of cases. The matter has been brought to the notice of the Maharaja.

37. Of the total number of cases mentioned above, British subjects were concerned in 218, which shows a slight increase compared with the figure, 198, of the previous year. None of the cases had any especial interest. The number of persons for trial also rose from 213 to 257. Of this number, 223 only were tried, 153 or 68.3 per cent. being convicted. The increase of cases noticed here is due to increase of the facility with which trade and cultivation can be carried on in the State. The former is entirely in the hands of British subjects and the latter partly.

38. The number of civil suits fell from 523 to 478, which is ascribed to the re-establishment of good feeling between the landlord and tenants in a tract in which hitherto there was want of it. In 158 of these suits British subjects were concerned, *viz.*, in 83 as plaintiffs, in 34 as defendants, while in 41 the plaintiffs and defendants were all British subjects. The entire value of the suits was Rs. 43,582, of which the sum of Rs. 7,131 only, or 16.3 per cent., was decreed. This is said to be due to a big case valued at over Rs. 24,000 having remained undisposed of. The total amount of fees realized was Rs. 2,714. There were 39 cases of appeal against the order of the lower court, which, together with 16 pending cases of the previous year, were all disposed of. In 11, the appeal was wholly decreed, and in 3 partly, while in 5 remandment was ordered; in 7 the appeal was rejected, and in the remaining 29 the decision of the lower court was upheld. In reference to these, there were 11 cases of appeal before the khas appellate court, where one of them was decreed wholly and two partially and two were remanded. In the remaining six cases, the decision of the lower court was confirmed.

#### JAIL.

39. There were four jails or lock-ups in the State, containing at the close of the year 37 prisoners in all. The prisoners were, as usual, treated with leniency. Their out-door work consisted chiefly of making and repairing roads and clearing jungle. When work of this kind was not procurable, they manufactured baskets in the jails. Their earning, however, is always much short of the charges that are incurred by the administration on their account.

40. The practice under which people are sometimes kept in confinement in what are called Alangs, as reported last year, is believed to continue still, but no complaint about it was received during the year.

#### MILITARY AND FRONTIER MATTERS.

41. There were in the year under report 292 men, rank and file, in His Highness' service. The best portion of the number was engaged on duty in the frontier guard posts, of which there were three in the Koylashar Division on the Sylhet side and one at Eksari on the Gumti towards the side of the Chittagong Hill Tracts. During the period of disturbance alluded to before in paragraph 4, additional posts were maintained in the interior.

42. There was some improvement in the condition of the force to which comparatively greater attention was paid by the administration during the year. A good quantity of ammunition was brought under a license granted by Government, and a supply of arms is also being arranged to be imported for the use of the men, as the guns now with them are mostly out of order. During the year patrol communication was established between the guards of the Koylashar Division and those of Sylhet.

#### EDUCATION.

43. The number of schools maintained by the state rose from 16 to 18, and that of boys attending the same from 393 to 493. With the exception of two sub-divisional schools and the school at Agartala, the institutions are all ephemeral patshalas which are not always found in working state. The Agartala School not being in suitable condition, many of the children of the Thakur families, who were students there, have gone to Comillah for education. Their expenses are chiefly borne by the state, which pays about Rs. 100 a month on their account. This shows at once the necessity that exists for the school being improved and also the means by which the same can be effected. During the year the Jubraj visited this institution and awarded prizes to the students.

#### DISPENSARIES.

44. From the four charitable dispensaries of the State 5,003 out-door patients received medicines. Among the members of the military, police and the other establishments of the Administration, 1,152 persons obtained gratuitous medical treatment of whom 1,143 were cured, five died, and four remained under treatment at the close of the year. The total daily attendance of the patients was, on the whole, 48.6. Surgical operations were performed in 249 cases and vaccine operations in 1,946. In respect of the last, a fee of four annas in each case was levied by the Administration, of which the vaccinator received three annas as his remuneration and one anna went to the State treasury to meet such charges of the Medical Department as were incurred in connection with the work. The prevailing diseases of the year were fever, diarrhoea, dysentery, worms and skin affections. Sporadic cases of cholera also occurred at times.

#### POST-OFFICE.

45. The Government post-office attached to the agency continued to work well. Money-orders and insured covers of the value of Rs. 83,785 and Rs. 3,815, respectively, or Rs. 87,600 on the whole, were issued during the year, against Rs. 78,842 of the former and Rs. 9,856 of the latter, or Rs. 88,698 on the aggregate of the previous year. The rise in the number of money-orders, and the fall in that of insured covers, were both due to want of supply of currency notes. The value of money-orders paid by the office fell from Rs. 52,606 to Rs. 31,116 owing to the Administration on the score of cost not availing itself of the post-office as largely as before in the matter of getting remittances from the sub-divisions. Two new post-offices may now be advantageously opened in the State, namely, one at Sonamura and one at Koylashar. But the Administration does not seem inclined to view with favour any proposal on the subject.

#### STATE OF COMMUNICATIONS.

46. The state of communications in the country is not good and there was no attempt made by the Administration during the year to improve it. Lahars or hill-paths were cut as usual. But the sub-divisional stations are not yet connected with one another by roads, nor are they connected with Agartala. In the rainy season two of them are accessible by rivers which run through British territory. But the Hill Tipperah portions of these rivers contain many snags and other obstructions for which they are easily passable.

47. Of the two roads that were constructed in 1887-88, as noticed in the annual report for that year, the one which passes through the Chanddagran hills has been kept in a fair condition, but the other has been abandoned. The latter, indeed, was not made in the form of a regular road. It was at best a foot-path passing through precipitous hills and therefore not much used; consequently it was blocked up by jungle soon. It is necessary that Koylashar and Dharmanagar, between which this path was cut, should be connected by a road.

#### BOUNDARY MATTERS.

48. During the year additional pillars were erected on the line of boundary between Chagalnaya in Noakhali and Hill Tipperah. This line is now sufficiently marked. In the hilly tracts on the Sylhet side, the boundary posts are generally very far from one another, a circumstance which sometimes leads to disputes. In a few cases the administration has already questioned the correctness of the line so demarcated. It appears that the lands therein concerned have all along been within the jurisdiction of the state, though situated outside its boundary as defined and settled. This latter fact did not hitherto come to the notice of the district authorities, as the lands were covered with jungle. It is necessary therefore that inter-visible posts should be erected on the line to prevent the possibility of further disputes being raised.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

49. The rule under which no excise shop is allowed to stand within a mile of the common boundary of Hill Tipperah and British territory was found in a few instances to be disregarded on either side. The facts have been brought to the notice of the proper authorities, and it is hoped that the shops, which are wrongly situated, will be duly removed. The rule is a salutary one and should be strictly observed both in this state and in the adjacent districts.

50. The head-clerk of this office, Babu Govind Chandra Dass, is a very trustworthy officer. He performed his duties throughout the year with great care, intelligence and zeal.

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## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little *brochure* written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridood Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From

the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract.]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1889.

No. 395

## THE POLICE AND THE BARBER:

AN EPISODE IN THE HISTORY OF TANTIA THE BHEEL.

SCENE—A FOREST IN CENTRAL INDIA.

*A Jemadar (Sergeant) and a few Police Constables are seated near a tree.*

Constable No. 1.—What is it shakes so hard that bushy hedge?

" No. 2.—Maybe it is a snake or beast of prey.

Jemadar.—Or one of Tantia's trusty bodyguard

Sent out to see what we might doing be.

But soft! Reach me my gun and load your own.

Constable No. 3.—But hark! A human voice hails through the wood!

" No. 1.—Whence can it be?

Jemadar.— Perhaps the robber scout

Shouts to his fellows news of what we do.

Constable No. 2.—Look! There's a man perched high on yonder tree.

" No. 3.—He shouts again! He shouts to us for help!

Jemadar.—Bid him come down and banish all his fears.

Constable No. 3.—*(Raising his voice).* Fear, man, no more! We are  
the Government.

" No. 1.—Even the Police Imperial! Come down!

" No. 2.—Mark how he looks about him as he comes!  
*(The man descends and advances)*

" No. 1.—See how he trembles as he hurries up!

" No. 3.—I've known no greater coward than this man.

ENTER A BARBER.

Jemadar (to Barber).—Compose thyself. Thy mind seems much disturbed.

Constable No. 3.—Sit down awhile and quiet thou thy soul.

Barber.—I would have died with fear but for your help.

Constable No. 1 (to Barber).—Which is thy village? Whither art thou bound?

Jemadar (to Barber).—Thou seemst to be a barber. Art thou one?

Constable No. 3.—His dress bespeaks him one and skill his look.

Barber.—And many a time I've served even princes well.

Jemadar (to Barber).—Well, then, come on, I'll pay thee handsomely,  
If payment from Police thou carest for.

Barber (aside).—Thou shalt pay dear! (to Jemadar) I will and do my best.

THE BARBER PROCEEDS WITH HIS WORK.

Jemadar.—The smartest fellow that I ere have known!  
How neat and soft his razor fine he plies!

Barber.—E'en so. My motto is a neat clean shave.

Constable No. 3.—'Tis rarely that we come across such men.

" No. 1.—*(To Barber.)* How didst thou chance to get atop  
that tree?

Barber.—My house is in a village not far off,  
And yester eve I started thence to see  
A kinsman who is dangerously ill.  
The way I had to go is near the hedge  
Which grows beside the tree I saw you from,  
And which I scarce had reached when suddenly  
I saw before me lie across the path,  
Its face away from me and half asleep,

A tiger fierce and strong weltering in blood,  
Its massive head reclining, filled with gore,  
Against the mangled carcase of a deer.

I felt a thrill of horror at the sight,  
And knew not for a while what was to do;  
But speedily the danger I was in  
Drove me to seek a place to hide myself,  
And I betook me to that spreading tree,  
And on its branches rested till you came.

Jemadar.—Where is the tiger gone?

Barber.— I do not know.

It left the place before I saw you here.

Constable No. 1.—But what was it that shook that bush so hard,  
Before we heard you shout from up the tree?

Barber.—'Twas only one of Tantia's robber band  
From whose attacks I sought your powerful aid.

Jemadar.—Friend, canst thou tell us aught of Tantia Bheel?

Barber.—I know not much, Sir, of this daring man,  
Who is a terror unto all around;  
But what I know I'll tell you cheerfully.  
His strength is great and courage past compare,  
Amazing is his knowledge of these woods,  
Where never tiger roamed more fearlessly,  
Or faster ran the swift, light-footed hare.

Constable No. 1.—And hence it is that all attempts to catch  
This King of Robbers have so useless proved.

" No. 2.—And we ourselves will sure be doing well  
To leave this place unsafe without delay.

Jemadar.—No! we shall yet find out the whereabouts  
Of this bold outlaw and put him in chains.

Constable No. 2.—No! Be advised. It is no easy thing  
To pierce these yawning wilds in search of him.

Jemadar.—But I am now resolved to go at once,  
And do not care if you will stay behind.

Constable No. 2.—Not so! we'll follow you where'er you go,  
But let us see at first what risks we run.  
So, let us ask our friend what he can say  
Of where we may the dauntless robber find.

Barber.—The man has not a fixed place to live,  
And hard it is to count his many haunts.  
His followers are numerous indeed,  
To whom he pays his visits one by one.

*(Looking up.)*—I now bethink me of the only way  
To bring to book the curse of all the land.

Jemadar *(Eagerly)*.—Oh! what is it, my worthy friend?

Barber.—*(Cutting off the tip of the Jemadar's nose and rising abruptly.)*  
'Tis this!

Now do thy worst! Know me for Tantia Bheel!

Jemadar.—Help! Help! My friends! Up! After him! At  
once!

*(Exeunt in confusion, carrying off the bleeding  
Jemadar's body.)*

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.



## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE Secretary of State has spoken on the Public Service Commission Report. He approves of the raising of the age of the Civil Service candidates to 23.

A COOPER'S HILL man has started the idea of an organization of the entire body. To make it a success he proposes an annual dinner. He wishes that they should be recognized as an "Imperial Corps" and the members called "Royal Indian Engineers." Yes, they ought to be a caste, like the Covenanted Civil Service.

THE two sons of the Viceroy—the Earl of Kerry and Lord Charles Fitzmaurice will visit India during the Prince season.

PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR, accompanied by Lord and Lady Claude Hamilton, reaches Bombay on the 9th November and goes over to his uncle the Duke of Connaught at Poona, and passes five days at Magdalla House before commencing his regular Indian tour. With the advantage of advice from near and dear relation, the Prince ought to be tolerably independent of mere official *mantras*.

The Prince, among others, visits Hyderabad. The Nizam will entertain him in right royal style and has sanctioned two lacs of rupees for two days' entertainments.

IT has been decided to consider all the stations on the Sind Section of the North-Western Railway as situate on the external frontier of British India. What are the privileges secured by this decision?

THE *Pekin Gazette* is a thousand years old. During this period, nineteen hundred of its editors have been beheaded at the rate of about two in a year. Notwithstanding the new Official Secrets law, native Indian editors live in much happier times.

THE local under-Congress or the Bengal Provincial Conference was held last week in the British Indian Association Rooms. It was opened by an address by the Hon'ble Dr. Mohendralal Sircar under the presidency of Raja Pearymohun Mookerjee, one of the Vice Presidents of the said Association. A feature of the meeting of the Bengal delegates was the presence of a number of rayyets—about one hundred—from the khas mehals of Jellamutta and Sujamutta in the Midnapore district who complained of the working of the Certificate Act.

THE *Indian Mirror* makes an article on the Berhampore College the occasion for repeating the oft told tale of Maharanee Surnomoyee's charities. In doing so the writer bungles in true *Mirrorial* fashion. He does not know even the names and titles of the family. To crown all, he puts her out of her proper caste. For such is the effect of giving her for husband Rajah Kristo Nath Coar. Coar is the designation of a different caste from that which the illustrious lady adorns. There never was such a being as Rajah Kristo Nath Coar.

TOWARDS the end of last week, a telegraphic puzzle vexed Indian society. It was wired from London that "General Sleeman, the Thuggee suppressor, died yesterday." General Sleeman, the Thuggee suppressor, has been so long dead that the telegram might well excite surprise. It must be a mistake—of epithet at least. So the *Statesman* pointed it out. In setting the matter right, however, our contemporary itself made a curious lapse. Says the *Statesman* :—

"Major-General W. H. Sleeman of Thuggee fame, to whose efforts principally the suppression of these terrible crimes was due, died at sea on his way home from Calcutta on the 10th February 1856, shortly before the Mutiny."

Was the 10th February 1856 shortly before the Mutiny? We have a notion that the Mutiny occurred in 1857. The out-break at Meerut took place on the 19th May of that year, if we remember aright, or more than a year and a quarter subsequent to the death of poor broken-hearted Sleeman.

MESSRS. SCHNEIDER have prepared plans for a bridge across the Channel from Calais to Dover. The total length is 24 miles, the

number of piers 120, the width of openings 320 feet—1,640 feet, in the clear, the head way for ships 180 feet, the greatest depth of water 180 feet, and the height from the foundation to the top of the steel work 600 feet. The work can not now be an engineering impossibility, but the cost is prohibitive.

THE proprietor and editor of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, Mr. Fraser Smith, sued the proprietor of the *China Mail* for libel, assessing the damages at 10,000 dollars. The suit has been decreed for 25 dollars only and costs.

THE Municipality has been lucky in its last loan of Rs. 11,15,000. The whole of it has been taken up at 103, the minimum fixed by the Commissioners.

THE slow second-class gun boats on the China Station will be replaced by new first-class, speedier and better armed ones of the *Pheasant* and *Redbreast* type.

MR. KASHINATH TRIMBAK TELANG replaces on the Bombay High Court Bench Mr. Nanabhai Haridas removed by death. We are sure Mr. Telang will justify the choice made.

THERE being a difference of opinion between the Electric Light Companies and the authorities, regarding the danger of overhead wires, the several Companies, to enforce their view of the matter, left the principal streets in New York on the 14th in absolute darkness.

THE Pope is at a discount in Rome. Speaking at Palermo, Signor Crispi appealed to all reasonable men to support the Government against Papal encroachments and the designs of Anarchists. The Signor too has announced a proud foreign policy. He said "the foreign policy of Italy aims at enabling Italians to repeat, as in the days of ancient Rome, *Civis Romanus sum*. Ethiopia had been pacified, and now extends a hand to Italy, who had obtained in Africa the safe frontiers of a vast kingdom open to commerce and colonization." Italy has notified to the Powers that she has assumed control of the foreign relations of Ethiopia.

LORD LANSDOWNE strayed from Simla into Dhami for two days for sport and bagged seven Kharka, two ghural, four peacocks, fourteen chikhor, about a dozen munglies and—last not least—a wild cat.

By the bye, are there any true wild cats, wild, that is, *aborigine*, or is it, as the Bengali proverb hath it, that the cat—meaning the tame species—by betaking to the woods becomes the wild cat? Here is a toothsome nut for the experts of the Museum and the Zoo to maunch. We hope Lord Lansdowne has not been shooting some poor Alexander Selkirk of a Pussey left, by accident of circumstances, behind in the forest, where giving up her laziness and her luxurious life of civilization, she employed her uncommon intelligence to adapt herself to the new conditions.

THE editor of the *Rast Gofar*, Mr. K. N. Kabraji, has filed a suit in the Bombay High Court against the proprietors of the *Jam-e-Jamshed* for libel, claiming Rs. 20,000 as damages.

IN the present year, the German army will be supplied with new artillery and ammunition to the amount of two hundred and twenty millions of marks.

THE Earl of Galloway was charged at the Dumfries Sessions with indecent assault on a girl named Gibson. The child deposed that she and some others were gathering blackberries when the Earl pounced upon her. The defence admitted the gathering of blackberries but not the assault. He had simply helped the girl over a wall to gather the berries. A witness Mrs. Moffatt had heard the child call the Earl a "dirty blackguard" and found him by her. The children's evidence not quite agreeing, the Jury returned a verdict of not guilty and the Earl was acquitted.



THE Lieutenant-Governor leaves Darjeeling on the 1st November, but not direct for the capital. Accompanied by Sir Alfred Croft, Mr. A. W. Paul, Mr. J. C. White and Mr. P. C. Lyon, he goes to Sikkim through Pemionchi, Tumlong, Guntok and Pedong, reaching Calcutta on the 18th November *via* Daling Fort and Jalpaigori. The Raja of Sikkim meets him at Tumlong.

MR. CLIFFORD LLOYD has been posted to Kurdistan as British Consul.

A COMMITTEE of experts has been appointed to consider the scheme of the Siberian railway.

ON the 18th the Sessions Judge convicted Tania the Bheel of the murder at Bhuiphal in 1879 of Hanmat Patel and sentenced him to be hanged.

THE following lines, received from a correspondent, are not without their moral :—

"The oldest book in the world is the Papyrus Prisse which was found in one of the tombs of the Egyptian kings of the 11th Dynasty. It must have been placed there a few centuries before Abraham's time. It was composed by Prince Ptah-Hotep in the reign of Assa in the 5th Dynasty, so that the author lived about 4,000 years, B. C. How it survived the Deluge which occurred according to the *Statesman* 104 generations ago I cannot tell you. Perhaps there was a copy in the officers' library of the good ship 'The Ark,' Captain Noah. But if that question interests you, good reader, better apply at No. 3, Chowringhee for information.

What I wish to point out is that even in those days young men were disposed to disobedience and want of humility. This ancient document deplores the deterioration of the then rising generation, laments over the good old times that had passed away when young people were obedient and respectful to those set in authority over them. The author declares that the study of the wisdom of the ancients should be the work of old and young, that humility and obedience are the foundation of all virtue, that God loves the obedient and hates the disobedient, that sons should be obedient and so forth.

I infer from this that the infirmity the Bengalee schoolboy is afflicted with at present is not a new complaint. All ages have suffered from it and survived without any Tawney's Bible. The croakers may take heart again when they consider this."

THE recent strikes in England have filtered down to the schoolboys. In the *Scotsman* of September 20 occurs the following passage :—

"A large number of the school children in the higher standards at Wilton and Trinity Board Schools, Hawick, have gone out on strike. They marched in processional order between the two seminaries, denouncing the school discipline and calling names at the Headmasters. The pupils state that they want shorter hours, fewer and easier lessons, and better teachers. At Wilton School the strikers form a formidable band, but the malcontents at Trinity are not quite so numerous. Not a few were desirous of resuming their school work again in the course of the afternoon, but the mutinous element is strong; there are to be no 'blacklegs' and they were prevented from doing so."

A PARAGRAPH is going round relating to a family massacre said to be reported from Ouessa, to the effect that a teacher, named Robert Sause, at the Richelieu Lycée, hanged himself to death. The wife forthwith went mad over it, cut her five children into pieces and then threw herself from the window of the third storey of her residence and was picked up dying.

EMPEROR WILLIAM has contributed 10,000*l.* to the fund for the relief of the sufferers from the Antwerp explosion.

*Holloway's Pills.*—Liver, Lungs, and Kidneys.—Most diseases of these depurative organs arise from obstructions, over the removal of which these celebrated Pills exercise the most perfect control. A course of them is strongly recommended as a remedy for such chronic affections as liver enlargements, congestion of the lungs, torpidity of the kidneys, and other functional disorders which cause much present suffering, and if neglected lay the foundation of organic diseases. Holloway's Pills are specially adapted for the young and delicate; their gentle and purifying action ranks them above all other medicines. In indigestion, nervous affections, gout, and rheumatism these Pills have achieved for themselves universal fame. They expel all impurities from the blood, and thus restore cheerfulness and vigour.

THE recent Simla census gives a total return of 23,777 persons. Of these, 11,000 are congregated in the Main Bazar.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Viceroy left Simla on the 22nd on his tour to the frontier, and reaches Calcutta by the end of next month. The Council remains, with General Chesney, as Senior Member, presiding. The Legislative, Military and Foreign Departments close at Simla for the down journey on the 2nd, 4th and 16th November respectively.

THERE will be a grand show at Lahore on the occasion of the Viceroy's visit. The Rajas and Maharajas of Faridkote, Kupperthula, Nabha, Jheend, and Patiala, are going there to meet His Excellency. The Nawab of Bhawalpore will receive Lord Lansdowne on his return from Quetta at the Railway station where and when His Highness will feast his illustrious guests who must be sufficiently hungry and impatient to fill themselves after their long ride, through the bleak but bracing Beloochee sands and rocks.

THE Prince of Patiala's lot has been cast in a happy hour. Maharaja Rajinder Singh has assumed, even before the usual time, the administration of his State, the Council of Regency being pensioned off—thanks to Lord Lansdowne and the much abused Foreign Office! There was a Durbar. The Maharaja acknowledged the services done to the state by the members of the late administration. Sir Deva Sing replied on behalf of the Council expressing their satisfaction at the treatment accorded them by the Maharaja. *Nuzzers* were presented and the new reign announced by a royal salute. The Maharaja is now touring in his territories, receiving the homage of his subjects.

We congratulate His Highness and his people on the event, and hope he will allow himself to live.

As if to balance the account, the Thakore of Bhowanuggur is under a cloud. At the instance of a Vakil—Chhagaul Soonderjee—the Bombay Government have authorized the Political Agent of Kattyawar to investigate charges of unmentionable practices and of administrative mismanagement against the Thakore Sahab.

THE Indian Congress is degenerating into a sort of parliamentary debating club of the natives under the auspices of benevolent European gentlemen—as the phrase goes. To the shame of India, there is to be another foreign President. The choice of the Cabinet Ministry of the Congress has fallen on Sir William Wedderburn, of that ilk, late of the Bombay High Court Bench, as the fittest organ of the Voice of India in Congress assembled at the coming Session at Bombay. And that amiable philanthropist is not likely to decline the proffered crown. The wirepullers are doing their best to expose the machinery of their show. We expected them to show more forbearance and wisdom.

THE madcaps on the bench are sometimes useful in difficult situations. If one failed Captain Hearsey on this side, another is equal to the occasion that side the water.

Mr. Currie, the Magistrate of Howrah, has granted the summonses applied for against Messrs. Chesney and Dare of the *Pioneer*. They have been made returnable on the 20th November to suit the convenience of both parties.

"NATIVE journalism in India"—according to the Oracle of British journalism in India—"is conducted on charmingly free and easy lines." And in evidence of the sin of "Native journalism in India" only the following editorial note is quoted from a late issue of the *Behar Herald and Indian Chronicle*, to wit,

"We claim our usual Dessera Holidays from to-day. There will be no issue of the paper for the next two weeks."

A most unworthy complaint! It reminds us of the Hindu widow who, out of the benevolence of her heart, wishes that others of her sex may have the full benefit of unencumbered persons. (The Hindu mourning for a husband requires a lifelong abstention from wearing jewellery and all decoration\* of the person.) As well might Heathen slaves rave at Christian labourers enjoying their Sabbath! This querulous-

ness, indeed, is unChristian. It is unworthy of that Faith which, in the best physical needs and highest spiritual interests of poor humanity, bowed down to the earth by the curse of living by the sweat of the brow, has ordained a day of rest every week.

THEY are "silly"ing and shilly-shallying through the Recess over the Great Schoolboy Question. The *Times* is justifying its Silly Season by introducing the subject and sticking to it, through good report and evil report. Its columns are daily filled with the discussion of the right of the schoolboy tyrants of Eton to impose on all boys, whether they like or not, the games of football and cricket. The other papers, having nothing more exciting on hand, are glad to follow suit. We suppose there would be a howl against the frivolity of the Indian Press if our papers resorted to such a poor method of killing time. The Doorga Pooja Long Vacation, which towards the end is synchronous with the period when the Viceroy in Council is neither at Simla nor at Calcutta, is our Recess. Is it not better that, instead of making a Silly Season of the whole time and yawning in one another's face, the Native Press of Bengal boldly takes the dilemma by the horns and shuts up shop for at least two or three weeks? There is no nonsense about it. It is a frank and natural solution. Are native journalists to be blamed because they do not, in submission to a foreign example which is not exacted by their constituents—and not exacted simply because it is not conformable to the national life—keep themselves and their people in harness all through the twelve months? They could not do much work at a time when they feel themselves fagged and when there is not much material to work upon, and when, society being dispersed, they are not sure of a hearing. Not to submit to be foolish cannot, after all, be a great crime. The Native Press will not drown itself in the Ganges if it be suspected of having neither *animus* enough nor versatility enough to establish a Silly Season.

WITH respect to the Schoolboy controversy occupying the Silly Season in England, our opinion is decidedly in the affirmative. We say, the young tyrants of the public schools—so young and so unkind!—are quite right in compelling the other lads to go through the discipline of athletic games and break their necks or ruin their constitutions or come by their deaths in the attempt, if need be. Our opinion may not be worth anything but it is formed on orthodox lines. Above all, we can offer high precedent for it. In fact, it is founded on the venerable English principle of two wrongs making a right—which is *rationale* of the national reliance on precedents. The practice of the school authorities themselves justifies the despotism of the young athletes at Eton and other institutions. Are poor students without any turn for Greek or Latin verse, excused that frivolous operation? One might do excellently in philosophy or science—he might have even a genuine capacity for pure literature itself—and yet he would be harassed and harried through the Procrustean ordeal of literary carpentering in the vain effort to make metres in dead languages which the dons themselves know not how to pronounce, and finally sent adrift on the world, marked "dull" and "no good," whereas in a rational system, he might have proved brilliant and made solid acquisitions in knowledge and power. It is the same policy of forcing the round man into the square hole that the more brutal, we mean Bullish, of the Etonians are following in the matter of their recreations and diversions. If the poor weaklings—often the more intellectual of the whole—are unequal to the strain of the gladiator exercises, that is their own fault. They are not even objects of pity. They have certainly no business at such thoroughly British public institutions as Eton. A fellow who is not blessed with a prize-fighter's bones and sinews has no right to intellectual culture, however intellectually fitted he may be for it. The great Public Schools of England will not give him instruction. That may not strike "outside barbarians" as very convincing reasoning. It may not be the Port Royal Logic. It is certainly the British Logic. And we, as in duty bound, are for the British.

THE Native papers of India are accused of writing up the interests of native princes for hire and coercing landlords and bankers and Government servants to see them on pain of being shown up. Whatever truth there may be in the charge, the evil at any rate is neither Indian in origin nor confined to "those abominable natives." Indeed, it seems to be a recognised, though far from hofoured, thing in the West, and to be almost openly practised. It is a tempting business.

You eat sumptuous dinners and pocket your bank notes as well as thunder your patriotism from day to day, and constitute yourself the shield of protection of the righteous and the oppressed and the scourge and terror of the wicked. But it is not all beer and skittles. Occasionally, there is a miscarriage of calculation. All your clients are not equally wise and steadfast. All the victims may not be blessed with the patience of Job. In case of a defection, there is danger to the 'cute editor. Such mutinies are apt to be serious indeed. There is no actual fear of loss of life, except in the American Territories and newer States, but he may be pretty sure of a personal treatment of a far from agreeable order, from being spat upon in the face in public, through slipping and horsewhipping, to tar and feathers.

A case has just occurred in England in illustration of the risks of "pecunious" journalism. The editor of a financial newspaper has come to grief. He had been making a revenue out of the fears of business men and speculators in difficulty whom he threatened to expose. One of the unfortunates was driven, by the treatment he experienced at the hands of this literary harpy, to obtain his own satisfaction in a prompt way with his own hands. He has given the editor a terrible mauling.

THE Barakar Iron Works proving a perpetual drain, the Government have washed their hands off them. The enterprising firm of Hoare Miller & Co. has taken up the working of the mine, doubtless hoping, by economical and smart management, to make a profit. We sincerely wish they may. It will be a damper to the spirit of intelligent speculation and a heavy blow to the prospects of enterprise in an all important industry, if this Company fail. The whole neighbouring country would feel the shock of such a calamity. Between Iron and Coal, thousands of the people are being supported, and the possessors of land have, some of them, risen from indigence to affluence. Many of the local coal miners, whether companies or individuals, have, however, made profitable bargain with the landlords who never suspected that their lands encased such sooty gold. They have grown wiser after the event. There is little cause to repine, after all. It is no small thing to have their country cleared of the jungle, and their income increased, in whatever measure.

THE Chamber of Commerce has done well to draw the attention of the city corporation to the lapses of the Tramway Company. In a letter to the municipality, the Committee of the Chamber point out that in many parts—especially in portions of the tramway traversing the business thoroughfares of the City—"the rails have sunk below the level of the setting, the curves and crossings are in bad order and are dangerous to conveyances, and the public road occupied by the tram lines, is, as a rule, above the level of the street." The letter is equally a condemnation of the municipal administration as regards the Tramways, for by law the Municipal Commissioners have a kind of control over the Company, and it is their duty to see that the Company do not travel out of the strict provisions of their Act. The Commissioners seem content with the mileage they draw from the Tramway Company. They are even jealous of any remission of that revenue on an unprofitable line. But they would not do their duty by the public which suffers by the omissions of the Tramway Company. The Company, on the other hand, try to derive the greatest revenue by suspending necessary repairs and working the horses and men to cruelty.

THE *Hindoo Patriot*, conducted between a nominal "King" whose "kingdom" was proved in the High Court not to yield him a revenue enough to entitle him to be elected to the town municipality (although the qualification for candidates was no more than the payment of annual rates amounting to Rs. 24), a retired schoolmaster who is a standing *Omedwar* for any snug fat appointment that might be created or vacant, and a promising young man who has just been enrolled as an attorney, has been inditing a leading article of a single paragraph of two mortal columns to the tune of "the grapes are sour, nor worth a thought." It is dissatisfied with the affairs of the High Court and is specially inconsolable that the barristers and olden attorneys reap all the harvest and that even any occasional crumbs in the shape of partition commissions do not fall to its lackland Rajas and pensioner-leeches. This is a reflection on the successful lawyer driving a roaring business at whose court the Hindoo Patriots are loyal habitual Durbaris! It is clear that their legal member with a literary turn of

mind has no partition suit in his office. With the poor print—which by the way, is now a receptacle of private puffs of all kinds—he may now hope to do something. Accordingly, in this very article, the Judge who, adjudging our young man's Chief not "pecunious" enough, disappointed that respectable gentleman in his persistent effort to be elected to the municipal board, has been buttered with an enthusiastic liberality that would satisfy an Eskimo.

The subject is a legitimate one, but no well-conducted respectable paper would treat it in the mean personal way that it is treated. There is room for improvement in this branch of the administration of the Court as in every other branch. Why talk of branches, the trunk itself needs a good thorough shake! The bench itself would be the better for a discriminate weeding.

THE Adyar fishers have caught a great whale—in British waters. Madame Blavatsky has won over another and no less distinguished madame—Annie Besant. This clever lady, so well-known as the colleague of Mr. Charles Bradlaugh in his revolt against his Maker and Religion, and who will be recognised in India as the champion of one of our greatest princesses, the Begum of Bhopal, has announced her belief in the Worshipful Mahatmas. From rank Atheism to fervid Theosophism is not a step to most of us, but the fair neophyte may know better. It is not necessarily a final step. For anything that we know to the contrary, it may be a step to Wahabi-sm.

THIS defection must be a great embarrassment to the Camp of Universal Revolt. Mr. Bradlaugh, in especial, is much to be pitied. He must now carry on the war against God and the *statu quo* single-handed and alone, as well as he could, without the hearty help of the accomplished philosophist in petticoats. The defection amounts to a divorce in the home of Secularism. It devolves on the good man the duty of maintaining a house divided within itself.

ON the arrival of Colonel Olcott, Mrs. Besant got up a meeting at Finsbury to hear the Gospel from the lips of the Master *in propria persona*. It was not much of a success, it is to be feared. There was curiosity enough but not that predisposition to enthusiasm which is better than every other thing. The unfortunate Colonel was badgered out of his life by all sorts of questions, pertinent and impertinent. We have no doubt of his acquitting himself as well as possible under the circumstance. Colonel Olcott is a very able man and a brave one.

SOME particulars have reached us of the Doorga Poojah celebrated at Rangoon. Through the exertions of certain Bengali clerks a piece of land has been obtained from Government on which a permanent temple has been erected, it is said, at a cost of nearly three thousand rupees, contributed by a well-to-do Madras gentleman. It was in this temple, which has already been christened as Durga-bari, that the Poojah was celebrated, "with great eclat" as a friend writes to us. A brass image of the goddess, about three feet in height, was obtained from Benares at a cost of about Rs. 450. We are not told whether the image represented only Durga, or, the great goddess along with Lakshmi and Saraswati and Kartic and Ganeqa. A large number of goats were sacrificed every day. On the last day a buffalo, symbolising the great *Asura*, was sacrificed, as in many houses in Bengal. The worship was performed in right orthodox fashion. An upcountry Hindustani merchant at Rangoon has a few learned Brahmans about him. Well-versed in the Hindu scriptures, these performed the poojah. About five to six hundred people were fed every day. The bill of fare, as in Bengal proper, consisted of thin wheat cakes fried in clarified butter, and the usual sweets. We should like to know how these were obtained. They were evidently manufactured at Rangoon, but then who was the artiste under whose supervision it was managed? If *loochees* and sweets become popular in Burma, the Burmans will owe more to this native of India than the most beneficent Governor introducing the "blessings" of British rule. There were Manipuri dances and diverse kinds of indigenous *tamashas*, some of which are pronounced by our friend, who saw them for the first time, to be "much superior to the indigenous *tamashas* of Bengal." To crown all, a grand party of *Kavi* was taken from Chittagong. The total expenses are said to have amounted to about Rupees five to six thousand. Subscriptions poured in from every side. Of course, the rich Madras people contributed the lion's share. Altogether, the celebra-

tion of the Durga Poojah at Rangoon is a significant fact. The number of Bengalis there is still small. But they are already a power.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1889.

### THE NEW GAG.

THE MAMLATDARS' ACT AND THE OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT.

LORD LANSDOWNE has now fairly opened his mouth and he has already shown his teeth. That, we take it, will be the general drift of intelligent opinion in India on the late harangues in Council at Simla, and the latest Official Secrets Act just passed. All the several speeches are pervaded by not only the same sentiment but also the same tone. The speakers, it is true, are three, of whom the Viceroy is one, but all three belong to the same Cabinet, and it is the Chief that gives the tone. Not that there is anything like a musical rehearsal or any command on one side and conscious obedience on the other; not in the least; and yet such associates are commonly wont to come to a harmonious understanding on the subject of the tune to be given, the pitch of voice and the manner in which it is to be rendered. This harmony is observed in the present instance. The policy of the Government must, of course, be one, but that important point secured, there is always room left for a good deal of variance. Not so in this occasion. The several speakers on the Mamlatdars Bill did not certainly repeat one another. On the contrary, the mover (Mr. Scoble), the Madras member (Mr. Hutchins), and the President, took up each a different thread of the same story. But there was a wonderful unanimity in their manner. They had no doubt a disagreeable and difficult task. They had to dispose of the public demonstration against their Bill; they had to reply to the criticisms of the platform and the press throughout the country. There was evidently a disposition to perform the operation with delicacy, but the delicacy was scarcely forthcoming. We shall not be surprised if Mr. Scoble has compromised much of his well-earned popularity in the Bombay Presidency. The arguments of all the speakers must be allowed to be thoroughly fair, whether one admitted any of them to be convincing or not. But the attitude towards public opinion was hostile to a degree and even contemptuous. The noble President himself, we are afraid, showed unmistakable traces of temper. There are too little indications of independent criticism by the people of India, and when the best men of the community—many of them acknowledged by high officials themselves to be of striking ability and sterling integrity—come forward in *propria persona* to state their views on any public question, no ruler who understands his business will snub them for their pains. The most unfair advantage was taken of the fact that many of the representations had come from the side of the country of the Mamlatdars where the sympathy with them must naturally be the greatest, and the worst motives were suggested for the speakers and the writers who had questioned the policy of the Government proposal. Of course, these official legislators were safe from their fortress to pelt stones at their critics outside. The triumph would not have been so easy with some representative Indians in the chamber. On the heights of their ramparts the Government warriors rode to death the high horse of national

morality. And there was not a soul to remind them that, after all, it was the corruption of a great British functionary that originated this business, and that they were now trying to wriggle themselves out of a solemn pledge of a British nobleman and a British Government—a pledge given in perfect good faith and so accepted by those to whom it was given. The Viceroy, like an English gentleman, frankly confessed that they were trying to make the best of a bad job. It were well had they all stuck to the sackcloth and ashes which best became them on such an occasion, instead of being oversolicitous to point the mote in the eyes of their expostulators. It is much to be regretted that the President himself, in what was almost his first appearance in legislative debate, should have shown any signs of irritation.

The Official Secrets Bill is a far more serious affair. It is a gratuitous outrage on the people and princes of India. It revives the Gagging Act in the most objectionable way. It is a worse Gagging Act than Lord Lytton's, because it insinuates itself under false colours. Indian and Anglo-Indian readers will understand us when we call this the Gagging Act *bendami*. It is a far more sweeping measure than the withdrawn Act. That threatened only the Vernacular Press—this is directed against the entire Indian Press without exception. It arms the Government with a tremendous engine for punishing critics of Government and measures and official men. It enables the Executive to silence public opinion when it might have the best claims to be heard and be respected, that is, when it might offer to convict officials of delinquency out of their own mouths, as it were. It will have the effect of suppressing the only constitutional institution in the land for checking official blundering and maladministration. For in this distant Dependency of Great Britain, without a representative chamber on the spot and practically beyond the purview of Parliament in the mother country, the Free Press functions as Her Majesty's Opposition.

This unfortunate Act bears a harmless enough name which is likely to charm many good people and to deceive the unwary. But its object is plain to those who are able to look behind special pretences. It is an ugly monster that is smuggled under the guise of a measure for the maintenance of official secrets of a military and strictly diplomatic kind to which there can be no earthly objection. Is that the motive of the true advisers of the Bill hurried through the Council into law? To us, we confess, it seems that the example of English legislation at Home has been taken advantage of by those Indian officials who were never reconciled to the repeal of the Press Law of Lord Lytton to introduce a gag on the Press by a *ruse*—by the back-door, as it were. Of course, the idea of silencing criticism of the most serious kind naturally commends itself to the official mind in general. Hence so much quick unanimity on the subject. The Viceroy naturally deferred to the opinion of the experts on the spot. He seems also to have been put out by the attitude of the native Press. That attitude, it is well-known, we do not, in some important particulars, approve and do not share. But his Excellency should not be so touchy and not so ready to make common cause with his subordinates. A constitutional ruler like himself, who has had experience of civilised states in more than one continent, is expected to have a better regard for the Press

and to deal somewhat tenderly with its failings. He is best able to appreciate such an institution. Far be it from us to defend any writer who is base enough to fabricate, in whole or in part, documents to bring Government into disrepute. Let him be punished, if such there be. But why harass all publicists and publishers? Why injure the noble institution?

#### LORD CROSS ON THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

THE Secretary of State's Despatch on the Report of the Public Service Commission is a clever and cautious document. Indeed, it dooms to disappointment the ardent hopes that were aroused by the appointment of the Commission. Commissions, however, it is well known, are respectable British absurdities that generally end in nothing particular. The despatch does not much advance those objects for which the Commission was appointed; indeed, in several essential details, it negatives the Commission's recommendations. For all that, the liberality of its tone almost disarms hostile criticism. All the varied, conflicting interests involved in the question are dealt with in such a skilful manner as to give some degree of satisfaction in every quarter, at any rate not to cause poignant dissatisfaction in any. Neither the Covenanted Civil Service nor the Statutory Civil Service, neither Natives nor Eurasians, can, at all events, find much cause of complaint with the conclusions of Lord Cross. The Commission threatened the Statutory Service with extinction and the Civil Service proper with restriction. The old and traditional designation of the latter Service was also proposed to be done away with. From these proposals the Secretary of State differs, and those Services must congratulate themselves. In fact, all interests have been carefully recognised, and in a manner reconciled, and although his Lordship has differed from some of the fundamental recommendations of the Commission, and virtually left the existing order of things intact, he records his emphatic adhesion to the principle that there should be no restrictions to the admission of natives of India to the higher offices of the public service as they might be fitted for them by education and character. The Secretary of State deprecates any new Parliamentary legislation as both unnecessary and inexpedient, while he relies on the present law and arrangements as sufficient for all purposes, if they are properly interpreted and carried out effectively and in a liberal spirit.

Indeed, Lord Cross leaves things pretty much as they are, while he explains that by this means and without introducing any great changes, the primary object now in view, namely the admission of natives of India to the higher offices of the public service, can be quite as well and effectually served. One of the chief means recommended by the Public Service Commission for widening the sphere of native employment in the higher offices was to reduce by law the number of what are called the Scheduled appointments reserved by a past law to the Covenanted Civil Service, and to transfer them to the list of offices proposed to be thrown open to the Provincial Service. This was a very important recommendation made by the Commission with the view of widening and giving greater dignity to the Provincial Service, and of proportionately restricting the domain of the Covenanted Civil Service. If it met with approval, Parliamentary legislation would

have been necessary to give it effect. Lord Cross, however, does not accept this suggestion, on the ground that he believes that the object proposed to be secured by it is capable of attainment by means which are under existing law already available to the executive authorities. Indeed, his Lordship relies upon the Statute of 1870, by which the Statutory Civil Service was constituted, as furnishing sufficient powers by which the Executive Government might always reward natives of admitted ability and fitness by nominating them to the offices reserved by the Schedule to the Covenanted Civil Service. In any case, a large measure of discretion must always rest with the executive authorities, and as the Commission themselves did not propose to give a statutory basis to the Provincial Service, and further as the vital principle of fitness as the sole criterion of eligibility to any appointment, laid down by the Court of Directors so far back as 1834 and uniformly maintained all along was not to be departed from, Lord Cross fails to see how the mere restriction of the schedule by any present enactment can meet the end proposed to be thereby attained by the Commission. The question thus as between the Commission and the Secretary of State resolves itself into this: The Commission says there should be a greater number of appointments for recruitment from the Provincial Service thrown open by Act of Parliament by amendment of the Schedule. These will belong as of right to the Provincial Service just as they have hitherto pertained to the Covenanted Civil Service. Lord Cross replies that no sort of vested interests can be created, as involving a departure from the principle of fitness as the only criterion of eligibility expressed in the Court of Directors' Despatch of 1834, and that selections must continue to be made on that sole test of proved fitness. So that the mere increase of new appointments for the Provincial Service by the curtailment of the Schedule would hardly benefit aspirants for higher employment, whose selection must in each case depend upon the choice of the executive authorities, whereas by a liberal application of the Statute of 1870, which the Commission propose to repeal, it is now quite within the powers of those authorities to adequately reward natives of merit, and even to stretch a point in their favor, should they be disposed in any especial circumstances, to do so.

Lord Cross would thus not only maintain the Statute of 1870 intact as furnishing an effective instrument in the hands of Government for satisfying the claims of native merit and ambition but rely upon that Statute as a substitute, for the present, at least, for any legislation of the kind proposed by the Commission. From this decision we are not disposed to differ. The Commission's recommendation for abolishing the Statutory Civil Service and merging it into the Provincial Service had not our approval. The principle underlying the Statute of 1870, with wisdom and liberality in its application, is quite in harmony with our feelings, as it is capable of remedying some of the defects existing in the present state of things.

Lord Cross endorses the conclusion adopted by the Commission as well as by Lord Dufferin's Government against holding a simultaneous examination for the Covenanted Civil Service in England and India, but on the question of age, he has decided to raise the maximum limit to 23 and minimum to 21. This is a concession of vital importance and will go far to conciliate public opinion in this country.

The Secretary of State does not wholly accept the Commission's suggestion of abolishing the designation of the Covenanted Civil Service and changing it into the Imperial Service. He prefers, that the Service now known as the Covenanted Civil Service should be designated the Civil Service and that each Branch of the Provincial Service should be designated by the name of the particular province to which it belongs, *e. g.*, Madras Civil Service, Bombay Civil Service, Punjab Civil Service, and so forth. The use of the terms Covenanted and uncovenanted will thus be discontinued.

The tangible result of the appointment of the Public Service Commission, is thus reduced to very small proportions. The integrity of the Civil Service and the rights of officers already enrolled in the Service are to remain inviolate. The reduction, however, in the recruitment for that Service yearly in the proportion of one-sixth made in the interests of the Statutory Service, is pointed out by Lord Cross as having already in course of less than a decade expanded the field open to native ambition in no small measure. The extension of the age limit now proposed to be made is likely to have equally favorable effects in the same direction. For the rest, if after the clear and liberal interpretation of the Statute of 1870, its operation in the hands of the Local Governments and Administrations fulfils those expectations which the Secretary of State regards it intended to satisfy, it will be idle to grumble or complain so long as no great departure from the existing system has any chance of acceptance.

#### THE MINOR WAR ON THE BENGAL FRONTIER.

THERE seems to be some uneasiness with respect to the situation of affairs on the North East Frontier. Our arrangements are not complete. The plan of operations is far too elaborate and grand to be executed in a trice, and it is not so expected to be executed. To work up the hills to the last retreats of the hostile tribes from one side of the country to the other and sweep through the entire backwoods in the rear of Sylhet and Cachar, Hill Tipperah and the Chittagong Hill Tracts, is a great programme, the preparations for which require some time and are dependent on several contingencies. They are doubtless being run up with expedition. Only, they are not yet all ready. Meanwhile, it is feared that the tribes might be beforehand with us. This is, perhaps, giving them credit for an organization which they hardly deserve, and which, so far from any barbarians, even civilized Orientals like the Turks and Persians have rarely displayed. Of course, there is no accounting for savage caprice. As a rule, however, savages are lazy, and the Mongolian and Malayan races on the borders of India Proper are remarkably slow, even when they are freed from pure savagery and have made some appreciable advances in the arts of civilised life.

For some days our officers on the Frontier have been exercised by the apprehension of a sudden raid. The attack has been expected in the direction of the Lungleh outpost. That position is weak, being defended by a small garrison, and a surprise might possibly lead to a disaster. But no such movement has taken place, and we, for our part, have some reason for hoping that none will. According to the latest report, three messengers of the Moliempur Chief, Jacopa, have brought information to Fort Lungleh of the



intention of the Shendu tribe to attack the fort in great strength. This may be an idle rumour, like the others of the same tenour which have been in vogue for some weeks. There may be some ground for uneasiness in the absence of any specific news from the Government intelligence department. But from previous knowledge of the habits of the tribes, we know this much that the season for their migrations, whether nocent or innocent, is not yet. There may be exceptions to the rule even among savages, and a Kookie strategist may throw custom to the winds and plan a great surprise. It is certainly by a sudden attack in force on weak numbers that the enemy has any chance. These tribes never showed the pluck to face disciplined troops. And fighting as they do with bows and arrows and lances and old muskets and blunderbusses, it is no disparagement to their courage that they avoid the bloody intruders armed with breechloaders and other arms of precision. They are wise in relying on their local and personal advantages. Their movements are regulated by the nature of the country. That is simply impenetrable during the rains and the succeeding autumn. The low hills are covered from top to the bottom of the valleys with bamboo and other plants and shrubs bound fast together in a network of rattans of endless length. Although these people can make way through the jungle, cutting it down with both hands with their *dao* differently edged for each, as they run, yet the operation, we fancy, cannot be maintained through any length of time or any great distance, and is practically out of the question when the tropical vegetation is at its height and fullest luxuriance. Not till Nature herself has made matters somewhat smooth for him, does the Lushai or Shendu put forth his art. After the drying up process has thinned the jungle, then is the time for the tribes to move about. As yet, the numerous streams that form the watersheds of the rivers of Chittagong and Sylhet have not dried up to admit of easy travelling. For, in these parts it is the dry channels of the streams that are the natural highways. Not before their periodical roads were ready for them by the usual operation of the seasons, would the Lushais or Shendus or Howlongs think of leaving their *baris* or *bustees*. Just now, indeed, their presence is absolutely necessary at home. They have got to look after their commissariat. They have yet to cut their crops. They will starve if they neglect this opportunity. For, they have no previous accumulations to fall back upon, in the event of missing the harvest of one year. With their characteristic improvidence, they have no notion of laying in a reserve stock. So they must imperatively attend to their *jooms*. Although they live upon animals with delight, and nothing from a snake up to an elephant comes amiss to their table, they have redeeming manhood enough not to be entirely carnivorous.

On these grounds, we take it, the tribes are not coming upon us in a hurry.

#### JOHORE—A GEOGRAPHICAL PUZZLE.

THE *Statesman* lately editorially warned the public of Europe against taking any particular notice of the so-called Sultan of Johore, who has gone there to endeavour to raise the wind on some scheme of exploitation of the resources of his territory:—

"A fifth-rate ruler at best, he and his territory are hardly known to any one outside the Straits Settlements."

Differing from our morning contemporary, the *Mahomedan Observer*, now under new and able management, gives its readers the benefit of the editor's personal knowledge of the Chief in question. He first made his acquaintance in 1876. He has ever since "continued to dis-

tinguish himself as a mild, and, for an Asiatic, able ruler." "He has more the tastes of an English nobleman than any other Asiatic potentate we have known." The writer visited Johore in 1883, but although the Chief was absent in China, he was hospitably entertained and his yacht was placed at his service.

"The Palace of the Sultan is pleasantly situated on the outskirts of Johore facing the Strait separating the Peninsula from Singapore by little more than two miles. Johore is a prosperous and growing city, is far in advance of Calcutta from a sanitary point of view, and when we were in Johore materials had arrived for the new waterworks which have since been successfully completed and can boast of a Public Works Department which the Government of India might well take a profitable lesson in economy from. Coffee and tea do well in Johore in both of which the Sultan holds large interests, has from time to time made several large grants of land and other valuable concessions to Europeans, and as a Mahomedan is uncommonly enterprising from whose book a leaf might very well be taken and profitably turned to account by some of our co-religionists in India. We hardly think it is correct that the Sultan has been compelled to proceed to England to raise funds, as we know positively he is not in a needy condition. He is frugal and unostentatious in habit and manner, the Palace is of the most moderate dimensions, handsomely furnished but unattended by idle luxuries, if for no other reason we think he is entitled to special notice. In 1883 there was considerable speculative talk with reference to a Syndicate taking up and working out a large tract of land. We have never heard that it came to anything and are of opinion that the Sultan's trip home now may be to bring the matter to a head. In mineral wealth Johore is second only to Burma, but in vegetable excels anything we have seen in the East. We hope the Sultan may be so successful in his negotiations as he deserves to be. We are pleased to be able to represent the Sultan in his real character, and we have no hesitation in saying he is a model ruler in every sense of the term, wholly void of any evil or vicious habits, takes a warm interest in his territory and subjects."

We are glad to be assured by a writer who knows that this Sultan of the Straits is not in straits. For ourselves, we are able from personal observation in some measure to corroborate our *Mahomedan* contemporary's general picture. His Highness was in Calcutta during the visit of the Prince of Wales. He was a thorough gentleman, without the ostentatious display or noisy surroundings of our Gangetic Indian Princes. Personally he was not only quiet, but seemed even reserved. Perhaps he was not very well pleased with his reception. The Indian Government were far too preoccupied with their royal guest and the potentates nearer home who had been drawn to swell his triumph. Both officials and non-officials, Europeans and Indians, were thus restricted in their attentions. Nevertheless, their neglect was unworthy of a great city like Calcutta, one that claims to be the capital not only of India but the British World in the East. Native Society, not excepting the very Mahomedans who might be expected to be proud of a Mussulman hereditary ruler of farther Eastern Asia, was scarcely aware of his visit. The fact is, there was shamefully gross ignorance about this visitor in all Hind, among all classes, European and Indian. In India, we are not prepared for an outlandish Raja—a veritable Maharaja with an extra-Indian *habitat*. A Mussulman with a Chinese cast of head and features was no less staggering at a time when the Panthays had not been heard of. To make confusion worse confounded, he called himself a Maharaja. So this distinguished visitor passed unheeded. No one beyond a handful knew who he was and what was his due. Where his country was might be a hard nut beyond the mental cutlery of the more learned Professor or examiner of the Calcutta University—we advisedly except the men of the enterprising and mercantile West and South. Such was the prevailing ignorance that the Post Office itself did not know where His Highness hailed from. We remember that our letters and packets addressed to him at his capital came back to us from the Dead Letter Office, after months during which they had been travelling all over the country and had knocked at the door of every chief, great and small.

After all, Johore is not so unknown to the world of civilization as to the Dark Continent itself of which it is a part, or to the proud, exclusive India of the Ganges. Situated on the vantage ground of one of the leading commercial Highways, opposite the maritime and mercantile sentry box of Singapore, between the Indian and China Seas, it is visited by most merchants and all globetrotters, drawn as much by hospitality as attracted by curiosity. It is now more than a generation since the American Exploring party of Commodore Perry first discovered Johore and its enlightened Chief. Ever since the intelligent traveller has been bound to "do" them. And no wonder. The paradox of an indigenous Mussulman Maharaja of a country beyond the geographical limits of India, is not a whit less singular, and is perhaps more puzzling, than that of an English Raja in the Indian Archipelago. Each is calculated to fascinate the imagination, and each is worthy of the honours of pilgrimage.



## MOORSLEDABAD.

*Moorshedabad, the 23rd October.*

A grand meeting of the Oswals of Azimgunj and Baluchar was held on the night of Friday last, at the Jugat Sett's Bungalow to decide the question of readmission into the Oswal community of Messrs. Indra Chand Dudhuria and Indra Chand Nahata, son and nephew respectively of Rai Budh Singh Dudhuria Bahadur of Azimgunj, who had recently reached home after enjoying a pleasant trip of nearly three months in Europe. This being the first occasion in which Oswals had crossed the *Kalapani*, it was natural that there should be a great sensation among them. The meeting was convened at the instance of a letter received by the young Jugat Sett Bahadur from the Calcutta Panchayat in which it was strongly urged that the two young men should suffer exclusion from the caste. Almost all the Oswals of this place were present and numbered about two hundred. The proceedings commenced at 8 P.M., under the leadership of Jugat Sett Golap Chand Bahadur, who in a short speech in Hindi submitted the letter from Calcutta for the opinion of the members. It was then read out by the foreman of the Baluchar Oswals, and different interpretations were given to it. After a hot discussion, it was settled that the Calcutta Oswals had not come to a definite conclusion but that the matter had been referred to them. In reply to a question asked by Baboo Hurruck Chand Golicha, Rai Dhunpat Sing Bahadur said that a person does not necessarily lose his caste merely because he touched a foreign land but that the violation of the prejudices of the Sect, such as eating on the same table with persons of different religion, taking food cooked by the latter and consuming intoxicating liquor and meat, condemns him to excommunication, and consequently he was of opinion that a man may lose his caste here and not lose it by going to Europe, according as he does not or does observe its usages. In order, therefore, to decide the present case it was necessary that evidence should be adduced by the accused that they kept their prejudices in tact. There was a solemn silence and parties came out of the building to consult each other. On reassembling after two hours and before the president had proclaimed the unanimous opinion of his fellow brethren, which from the grave looks of the members, it seemed, would have been far from favorable, Rai Budh Singh Bahadur rose and prayed submissively and in a pathetic tone, that his son and nephew be excused their faults and be received in their respective families. His humble attitude and sorrowful words had the desired effect of appeasing the wrath of the Panchayat eliciting a verdict of "all right." Before passing the final order accordingly, the President required of Rai Budh Singh Bahadur to send for the two youths and to ask them to publicly explain their conduct. A carriage and a pair were immediately despatched to fetch them and they arrived at 3-30 A.M. On being questioned as to the nature of the diet they had taken during their passage to and from, and residence in, Europe, they said upon oath that they had taken fruit and milk all the time and never consciously took any unhallowed meal. The order of the meeting that they have been excused having been communicated to them through the president, the assembly dispersed at 4 A.M., amidst loud vociferations of delight.

To celebrate his triumph, Mr. Nahata arranged for his fellow brethren a grand feast which took place at his residence at Baluchar on Monday last. It would have been a success had it not been for the receipt of a telegram from the Calcutta Oswals, who, assembled at a fresh Panchayat, had issued an injunction on their brethren here not to dine with the Europe-returned persons. Only a few relatives of Mr. Nahata joined him but the rest kept themselves aloof. Thus the decision of the local Panchayat was set aside.

R. K. DAS.

## Law.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

## LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

The following Act of the Governor-General of India in Council received the assent of His Excellency the Governor-General on the 17th October, 1889, and is hereby promulgated for general information :

## ACT NO. XV OF 1889.

*An Act to prevent the Disclosure of Official Documents and Information.*

WHEREAS it is expedient to prevent the disclosure of official documents and information ; It is hereby enacted as follows :—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Indian Official Secrets Act, 1889 ; and

Title, extent and application.

(2) It extends to the whole of British India, and applies—

(a) to all subjects of Her Majesty within the dominions of Princes and States in India in alliance with Her Majesty, and

(b) to all Native Indian subjects of Her Majesty without and beyond British India.

2. In this Act, unless there is something repugnant in the subject or context,—

## Definitions.

(1) any reference to a place belonging to Her Majesty includes a place belonging to any department of the Government, whether the place is or is not actually vested in Her Majesty :

(2) expressions referring to communications include any communication, whether in whole or in part, and whether the document, sketch, plan, model or information itself or the substance or effect thereof only be communicated :

(3) "document" includes part of a document :

(4) "model" includes design, pattern and specimen :

(5) "sketch" includes any photograph or other mode of representation of any place or thing : and

(6) "office under Her Majesty" includes any office or employment in or under any department of the Government.

3. (1) (a) Where a person for the purpose of wrongfully obtaining information—

## Disclosure of information.

(i) enters or is in any part of a place belonging to Her Majesty, being a fortress, arsenal, factory, dockyard, camp, ship, office or other like place, in which part he is not entitled to be, or,

(ii) when lawfully or unlawfully in any such place as aforesaid, either obtains any document, sketch, plan, model or knowledge of anything which he is not entitled to obtain, or takes without lawful authority any sketch or plan, or,

(iii) when outside any fortress, arsenal, factory, dockyard or camp belonging to Her Majesty, takes or attempts to take without authority given by or on behalf of Her Majesty any sketch or plan of that fortress, arsenal, factory, dockyard or camp, or

(b) where a person knowingly having possession of, or control over, any such document, sketch, plan, model or knowledge as has been obtained or taken by means of any act which constitutes an offence against this Act at any time wilfully and without lawful authority communicates or attempts to communicate the same to any person to whom the same ought not, in the interest of the State, to be communicated at that time, or

(c) where a person after having been entrusted in confidence by some officer under Her Majesty with any document, sketch, plan, model or information relating to any such place as aforesaid, or to the naval or military affairs of Her Majesty, wilfully and in breach of such confidence communicates the same when, in the interest of the State, it ought not to be communicated,

he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both.

(2) Where a person having possession of any document, sketch, plan, model or information relating to any fortress, arsenal, factory, dockyard, camp, ship, office or other like place belonging to Her Majesty, or to the naval or military affairs of Her Majesty, in whatever manner the same has been obtained or taken, at any time wilfully communicates the same to any person to whom he knows the same ought not, in the interest of the State, to be communicated at that time, he shall be liable to the same punishment as if he committed an offence under the foregoing provisions of this section.

(3) Where a person commits any act declared by this section to be an offence, he shall, if he intended to communicate to a foreign State any information, document, sketch, plan, model or knowledge obtained or taken by him, or entrusted to him as aforesaid, or if he communicates the same to any agent of a foreign State, be punished with transportation for life or for any term not less than five years, or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years.

4. (1) Where a person, by means of his holding or having held an office under Her Majesty

## Breach of official trust.

has lawfully or unlawfully either obtained possession of or control over any document, sketch, plan or model, or acquired any information, and at any time corruptly or contrary to his official duty communicates or attempts to communicate that document, sketch, plan, model or information to any person to whom the same ought not, in the interest of the State, or otherwise in the public interest, to be communicated at that time, he shall be guilty of a breach of official trust.

(2) A person guilty of a breach of official trust shall—

(a) if the communication was made or attempted to be made to a foreign State, be punished with transportation for life or for any term not less than five years, or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years and

(b) in any other case be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both.

(3) This section shall apply to a person holding a contract with any department of the Government, or with the holder of any office under Her Majesty as such holder, where such contract involves an obligation of secrecy, and to any person employed by any person or body of persons holding such a contract, who is under a like obligation of secrecy, as if the person holding the contract and the person so employed were respectively holders of an office under Her Majesty.

5. A prosecution for an offence against this Act shall not be instituted except by or with the consent of the Local Government or of the Governor-General in Council.

## Public Paper.

### AN ACCOUNT OF THE BURDWAN RAJ ESTATE AS REPORTED BY MR. OLDHAM.

Since the 1st May 1888 the Burdwan Raj estate has been administered under the new system, by which one joint manager had sole charge of all the landed property under direct management, and his colleague all the other business of the estate. In the absence of one manager the other was to carry on the duties of both, and some few items of important administration were reserved to be conducted by both managers concurrently. The results have been that Mr. Reily has been fully and usefully employed, while the central household administration has been conducted just as it used to be, except for the absence of trouble and friction. In August Mr. Reily was absent for three months on privilege leave, during which no action beyond the maintenance of routine was or had to be taken in the department of direct management of landed property. The retention of the old joint or concurrent department produced a serious complication later on.

On the 13th May 1888 the Maharani of Burdwan died very suddenly. This event at once brought the Dowager Maharani, who thenceforward claimed to be the proprietress, and styled the ward a pretender or usurper, into collision with the managers. The Maharani's obsequies were duly celebrated by her adopted son, but the Dowager Maharani declared that, as there was no such legally adopted son, it was incumbent on her to perform the ceremonies and she summoned the paid priests and other retainers of the Raj to aid her in doing so.

A serious collision would have ensued but for the hesitation of the servants as to whom they were to obey. Both sides appealed to me, and I laid down the principle that the paid servants of the estate were the servants of the ward, and were bound to render him loyal and faithful obedience, and for any act of overt disloyalty to him or disobedience would render themselves liable to dismissal. The Dowager Maharani was given every facility for performing the ceremonies herself without hindrance and interruption, though the assistance of the paid servants of the Raj at them was prohibited. At my request Mr. Reily associated himself with Lala Bun Behari Kapur in the management of the household during this emergency, and by his tact and firmness avoided the many traps and pitfalls and provocations which were sedulously laid for his colleague. This state of things continued till July, when the Dowager Maharani instituted her suit, thus enabling us to treat her on a formally defined footing as a declared enemy of the ward and his interests. Since then there has been at no time any risk of a recurrence of these collisions.

On the institution of the suit a discussion took place as to how it was to be defended, and the Lieutenant-Governor decided that the conduct of the defence was to be entrusted to Lala Bun Behari Kapur, acting with Government solicitors. Orders, accordingly, were passed by the Court of Wards and communicated to the Managers, and thereupon arose a chain of disastrous misapprehensions. In the discussion as to the defence, Mr. Reily's views had been overruled and he manifested sensitiveness on the subject. As a consequence, Lala Bun Behari did not personally discuss the orders which gave him the sole conduct of the suit with Mr. Reily, and the latter either did not (as he himself says) see them at all, or certainly did not study and realise them. Lala Bun Behari Kapur made the fatal mistake of not giving a copy of them to the Government solicitors. Two days after I had communicated them to the Managers, I received a letter regarding the conduct of the suit from them, signed by both of them.

I at once called for an explanation of the appearance of Mr. Reily's signature, but Mr. Reily, who left for England on three months' leave the same week, did not see the letter; which was partially replied to by Lala Bun Behari Kapur; for in it I had also asked what steps were being taken to have all proceedings conducted on the sole signature of the latter, and this enquiry has never yet been answered. A reference was made to the Government solicitors on the point, and the fact that Mr. Reily had been excluded from the conduct of the suit, was not formally communicated to them or realised by them. As a consequence, all preparations for a defence by the Joint-Managers were made, and early in February

Mr. Reily, without a word of warning, was called on to sign the long and elaborate written statement for the defence. This he naturally refused to do. The Judge refused to allow the written statement signed by Lala Bun Behari Kapur to come on the record, and in reference to it openly said from the bench that he believed, or was under the impression, that Mr. Reily had refused to sign it "because it was not true." The suit being in the High Court's Original Jurisdiction, the Judge pronounced that it was necessary to appoint a guardian for it to the ward. He refused to allow Lala Bun Behari Kapur to be so appointed, and eventually, on his suggestion, I was appointed and filed an infant's written statement, leaving the case to the judgment of the court.

Subsequently the Judge wished to have a supplementary statement, and I signed and had filed one which was substantially the same as that which Mr. Reily had refused to sign. The only statement to which I refused to accede was that made by the Dowager Maharani, and repeated in the draft statement for the defence, that "The issues in the case were fixed on the 28th March."

The compromise with the Dowager Maharani has been carried fully into effect, except for the settlement of the wording of the deed and its execution and the disposal of the jewellery, questions which have been kept since July 1887. The settlement and execution of the deed depend upon it. Regarding it my information is very incomplete, because so much has been done without any reference to me. What I do know about the case may be set down in the following propositions:—

a. The Dowager Maharani wished my predecessor, Mr. Coxhead, to arbitrate on her claims to the jewellery. He could not accept at the time owing to his bad health and approaching departure on furlough.

b. The jewels in question were valued at from 5 lakhs to 7 and half lakhs of rupees.

c. In March 1887 Lala Bun Behari Kapur proposed to offer the Dowager Maharani four and a half lakhs in settlement of her claims, saying that he believed the offer would be accepted.

d. In May 1887 the Board asked the Dowager Maharani if she would accept me as arbitrator in place of Mr. Coxhead, and added that they were ready to give her a lakh of rupees to satisfy her demands for the jewellery, but would not admit any extravagant claims. She replied at once refusing to accept my arbitration.

e. In July 1887 the Lieutenant-Governor on his visit to Burdwan decided that the jewellery case should be treated separately, so as not to impede the compromise in other respects; also that the jewels were valued by a competent European firm. The Dowager Maharani was called on to name the firm and no further steps could be taken in the jewellery case till the valuation was made.

f. Not till some six months after, the Dowager Maharani nominated Messrs. Cooke and Kelvey to be the valuers. In February 1888, she complained to Government about the Board's offer of a lakh (how it originated I can not even surmise), and said she would take five-half lakhs in satisfaction of her claims.

g. In May 1888 the Government offered the Dowager Maharani the services of the Advocate-General or the Standing-Counsel to arbitrate on and finally dispose of her claims to the jewellery. She accepted the latter.

h. In July Mr. Pugh, then officiating Standing Counsel, and also the retained advocate of the Dowager Maharani, came to Burdwan and began the arbitration. It occupied nearly three weeks and was conducted in the most technically formal manner, pleaders being heard on both sides, and the sanctioned fees for the ward's pleader in it amounted to Rs. 2,200.

i. While the arbitration was proceeding, Mr. Coxhead returned from furlough and, as there was no vacancy for him, took charge of the Burdwan district for some hours.

j. Mr. Pugh demanded his fees from me at Rs. 1,000 per day. I had no instructions regarding them and could not pay them. He refused to publish his award till they were paid. They amounted to Rs. 19,000. Eventually Government ordered that the costs should follow the award, and on both sides depositing a moiety, the award was delivered to me in February.

k. The award was wholly adverse. On my report on it, the Court of Wards ordered that no action could be taken on it till the Advocate-General's opinion had been given.

On the 25th March the Dowager Maharani prayed in the High Court that it should be filed under Section 521 of the Civil Procedure Code, and as guardian *ad litem* I am now replying and showing cause against that prayer being granted.

It only remains to be added that amid all this strife, and notwithstanding the heavy additional burden which it throws on the administration of the estate, the numerous institutions are maintained. With the field season the survey, by a party of the Survey of the Government of India, of the larger estate under direct management in Burdwan, Bankoora, and Beerbhoom began and is in progress. In October and November the system of the estate's accounts was examined with a view to devising means for the easier and better audit by an officer from the Accountant's Department. His report on the subject was not received till January and is still in the press.

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*Formerly Minister to the late*

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(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,  
Behar and Orissa.)

*Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.*

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## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little *brochure* written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which neces-

sarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract.]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him.....

*Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1889.

No. 396

## THE PANDAVAS IN THE HIMALAYA. AN EPISODE OF HINDU MYTHOLOGY.

BY THE LATE MURAD ALI BEG and MITFORD.

(Continued from p. 471.)

But Nakul missed her footsteps from behind him  
Crackling the crisp snow-soil, and turned and looked,  
And cried to Yudhistir—"Oh brother! stop!  
Draupadi can no longer journey forward."  
And they all stopped and turned, and Bheem spoke thus  
"I will go back and raise her!" and Arjoon  
Said—"We will wait till she can move again."  
But Yudhistir replied—"Brethren, you rave!  
There is no wood here to make up a fire  
And we shall never see a fire again;  
For far below are the pine-forests left  
And never plant grew on the mountain tops.  
And if we stay with Draupadi, we all,  
Without a fire should stiffen here and die,  
Doing e'en for no good, while we ourselves  
Should break our vow 'gainst turning back, and lose  
Our chance of reaching yonder Mountain-Heaven.  
Let her alone! It is but natural.  
She was the weakest and must perish first!  
Haply ere nightfall we may follow her!"  
And Draupadi spoke thus—"My husbands! I  
Have ever looked upon my life as nought  
But a gift whereby I might do your pleasure,  
I know my time is come. I could not journey  
Forward again were you to wait for hours.  
I would not keep you from the Mountain-Heaven  
Nor let you break your vow for nought. But ere  
You journey forward in your fated path  
I would you all forgive me any word  
Or deed by which not wilfully, I know,  
But unintentionally perhaps, I may  
Have you offended. Give me your forgiveness.  
This is the last sole boon I crave." Then each  
In turn of age from Yudhistir to Nakul  
Said—"We forgive thee. Never wife on earth  
Was like to thee, Oh Draupadi, for truth,  
And faithfulness, and love, and patient service!"\*  
O'er the blue shrunken face of Draupadi,  
While the death-film was filling fast her orbs,  
A gleam of radiant joy played like the lightning  
Across a summer cloud, illumining  
Each feature now triumphant o'er despair.  
And on they tramped. The faithful dog himself  
Whined but a moment by the woman's side,

\* Despite her five-fold conjugal duties, Draupadi is always described in the Mahabharat as the perfection of a wife, nor from what we see of her conduct, as detailed in it, does the praise seem undeserved. Her principal characteristics are fidelity and submissiveness, and most men will agree that these are the principal "points" of a good wife.

And licked her cold hands, and then plunged away  
To follow Nakul. But the woman lone  
Still fixed her eyes on the receding band  
With the long agonizing farewell gaze  
Until they vanished from her swimming eyes,  
When o'er her stole the tranquil frozen sleep  
From which she ne'er should waken.\*

But the six

Still mournfully pressed on. 'Twas bitter work  
To force the sinking form against the blast  
Which now howled out again. The momentary  
Gleam of encouragement that morn—thrice blessed  
After the horrid night—had given them,  
Had long departed; and all hopelessly  
And cheerlessly, but still unyieldingly—  
Rather like some cunning machines of steel  
Than beings of blood and bone—they clambered on,  
Urged onward by a mighty force within  
Which was nor courage nor despair but something  
Seeming both which said—"Ye are a fated race,  
As well die moving on as still at rest."†  
The raw wind cut them to the very bone;  
The thin air hardly filled their yearning lungs;  
Making breath painful. Still they held their course,  
Northward and upward, towards the highest peaks.  
But as they crossed a glacier's slippery face,  
The wearied foot of Nakul missed its hold  
And he sank reeling on the glassy plain.  
He strove to rise, but his enfeebled bones,  
Brittle with cold, their wonted function failed.  
A broken thigh had sealed his speedy doom.  
Although the numbing air forbade now pain.  
Faintly he said—"My brothers! Leave me too,  
Check not your progress to the Mountain Heaven!"  
And Yudhistir looked back, and on his brow  
The shade of horror darkened, but he cried,  
As if the sight but roused his will to frenzy,—  
"Onward! Still onward! To the Mountain Heaven!"  
But Sahadev said—"I part not from Nakul,  
We are the children of one mother. I  
Do not turn back, but where one son of Mádee  
Lays his bones there too must the other rest.  
We were not joined through life to part in death."  
Yudhistir answered—"Be it as you will,  
But we must onward on our destined path."  
"Tis right for you"—said Sahadev—"But for me

\* Perhaps some of my readers are not aware that people frozen to death are believed to first sink into a kind of sleep or stupefaction, which of course is never shaken off, except by the use of warmth and stimulants.

† I do not know whether I have been very successful in portraying the frame of mind which prompted the Pandavas to take the extraordinary step of "losing themselves" in the Himalayas. The words in the text, however, appear to express the impression left on the mind by their whole conduct.

‡ This is also an effect of high-mountain-ascents.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

My place is here with Nakul. On, and fear not!"  
 So Sahadev sat him down beside his brother,  
 And on the others marched, now only three!  
 And the dog circled once around the brothers,  
 And whined and licked their hands, and then ran on.  
 And up—still upwards—the survivors went,  
 High rising up amid the vault of heaven,  
 As they would reach the sun. And far beneath  
 The lesser ranges lay for countless miles,  
 Peak beyond peak emerging from the clouds,  
 Spread barrier-like between them and the earth.  
 The last few stunted shrubs had long been passed,  
 And nought there was around but ice and snow and stone.  
 And over head two giant summits rose,  
 The last and greatest. Still they climbed aloft,  
 Clinging to crags and leaping over fissures,  
 Though the wind nearly blew them from the heights  
 As it came whirling on with unchecked power.  
 The sun was sinking from the western heavens  
 And still they knew no pause. Till, with a rush  
 A snow-wreath, loosened from the mountain side  
 Came roaring downwards. All unmoved they stalked—  
 What was an avalanche to such as they—  
 Men come to seek their doom? And it passed on  
 With a most awful hubbub of all sounds,  
 From charging cavalry to thunder-claps,  
 Filling the icy air and dazzling their eyes  
 With the light flakes it sent as harbingers.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE Lieutenant-Governor is on tour in Sikkim. He arrived at Phullut on the 1st. To-day he is at Chiabhanjan. To-morrow he passes on to Dentam, arriving at Pemionchi on the 4th, where he also halts the next day. On the 6th, he goes on to Rahlong. The following day sees him at Yougong, and the day after at Silling Nundong. The party arrive at Tumlong on the 9th, where passing the next day, they reach Guntok on the 11th, Pakhyong on the 12th, Pedong on the 13th, Pesheting on the 14th, Meenglas Gurubatham on the 15th, arriving at Julpigotee on the 16th and at Calcutta on the 18th November.

BOMBAY will observe next Saturday the 9th as a close holiday. That day Prince Albert Victor lands there, it being also the birthday of the Prince of Wales. The *Oceanic* bringing the royal visitor is timed at noon on that day. It has been telegraphed, however to Suez that she may be in harbour at daybreak that the landing may be effected in the cool hours of the morning. The Duke of Connaught and the Governor of Bombay first welcome the Prince on board the steamer and bring him ashore.

THE *Times* has sent out Captain Charles Norman as a special correspondent to report on the military resources of the Native States. We believe he is a Norman of the Indian Normans.

THE Bengal and North-Western Railway Company have asked permission of the Secretary of State to join with the main line by a branch the grain mart at Revelgunge and to extend it to Byram Ghat as originally projected.

THE Governor-General has sanctioned a survey of the Desert Railway—a line from Delhi to Kotri, the project being officially styled the Bikanir Desert Railway Survey.

THE Secretary of State has accorded provisional sanction to the estimates of Rs. 1,08,53,996 and Rs. 87,68,127 for the extensions of the Cuddapah-Nellore State Railway, now forming part of the Villupuram-Guntakal Railway, namely, the first for the section from Tirupati to Dharmavaram and the second for the section from Pakal to Villupuram.

THE Bank of Bengal seems determined to put down not only the Doorga Pooja vacation but all Hindu holidays. It keeps itself open to-day, recognising only one of the two days for the Juggodhatri Pooja.

ON the 29th October, the London Chamber of Commerce gave a banquet to Lord Dufferin. There were many Indians present, such as Sir Charles Bernard, Sir Rivers Thompson, Sir Robert Davies, Sir James Fergusson, Sir Arthur Hobhouse, Sir M. E. Grant Duff, Sir Charles Aitchison, Sir Donald Stewart, and Sir Alfred Lyall. In reply to his toast, the ex-Viceroy said that if anything were done to weaken the existing relations between India and England, every householder in the manufacturing districts in England would suffer, and if British capital helped in the extension of railways in Burma, China would in all possibility become open to British Commerce, resulting in a prodigious expansion of trade. Referring to Cashmere, although he was for a policy of non-interference in Native States, His Lordship approved of the deposition of Maharaja Pratap Singh.

AFTER 18 years' service at Whitehall, General Richard Strachey retired from the 1st October on a special pension of £500 a year. In his new place as Chairman of the East Indian Railway Company he will draw £1,500 a year or £500 less than his predecessor Mr. James Crawford did. The *Englishman* understands that Sir Alfred Lyall has succeeded the General as Chairman of the Public Works Committee in the India Council, proving that an Indian Civilian is well up even to the command of the Channel Fleet.

ON Sunday, a disastrous accident happened to the down mail on the E. I. Railway at the Hatras Junction. The cause was a trivial mistake. The Jemadar in charge of the points turned the train into a dead-siding instead of on to the main line. The train was dashed into the embankment which terminates sidings; the engine was derailed; and the brake-van and the succeeding carriage—a third-class for native females—were smashed. The casualties are given at—killed 13 women and three children; injured 39, many of them mortally. The editor of the *Pioneer* Mr. Hensman was in the train and he, with the driver and the guard and Corporal Macdonald, of 16 Battery, Western Division, Royal Artillery, and Private J. Grant, of the Royal Rifles (both invalids and on their way home) rendered material assistance in rescuing the women and children from among the debris.

A NEW YORK telegram reports that crops having failed for three successive years in Dakota, over a hundred thousand persons have been rendered destitute.

A SHOLAPORE vernacular newspaper wrote that "the Chief of Akalkote is merely a nominal Chief. He is always confined to the place. Both he and the Kharbari do not attend to the affairs of the State; they are addicted to bad habits." Both the Chief and the Kharbari appealed to law for justice charging the editor with defamation. The case will be taken up by the Poona City Magistrate on the 4th instant.

IN August last, Kimberley exported diamonds weighing 200,638½ carats, valued at £387,886.

AN ardent Congressist writing to a contemporary here thus pays his grudge to one of the leading anti-Congressists:—

"The father of the gentleman, living at Allyghur, who is afraid his throat will be cut by some ferocious Babu if the Congress proposals are granted. (I refer to Professor Beck, of the College, which Syed Ahmed founded, and wishes to keep in the family, and the author of some supremely silly compilations on Indian politics)—has been making an exhibition of himself. Mr. Beck, Senior, visited India last year, and, like some other distinguished visitors to the opulent land of India, brought many presents back with him. He also brought in his luggage a Mahomedan suit of clothes, and is very proud of wearing these on special occasions. A few evenings ago—according to the North London local papers—Mr. Beck invited his friends and neighbours to look at his presents, to see him masquerading in the garb of Sir Syed Ahmed, and to hear his views on India. Alas! Mr. Beck, Senior, seems to be as little regarded in North London as Mr. Beck, Junior, is in India. Hardly any body came to the Assembly Rooms, which had been engaged for the purpose. The report I have before me, gives the following particulars:—

"The platform was very tastefully and prettily decorated by the members of Mr. Beck's family with numerous articles of vertu and curiosities brought home by Mr. Beck from India. Want of space alone precludes us from detailing the whole of them, suffice it to say that the collection formed quite a miniature Indian Museum, and was well worthy of careful inspection from an intellectual and artistic point of view.

In the second part of his lecture, Mr. Beck, having during a brief interval retired, appeared dressed in full Mussulman costume coming on to the platform bowing in true Oriental fashion, much to the amusement of the audience. He presented quite a picturesque appearance



in this novel attire, and finally gave an outline of the Mussulman form of worship.

The want of dignity displayed in the whole affair and the power of masquerading are evidently hereditary among the Becks."

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A MEDICAL graduate of the Calcutta University was not allowed to practise at Constantinople by the Turkish Government because he could not produce a diploma. He said that it was not the rule of his University to grant any document of the kind. He was scarcely believed. The matter was brought to the notice of the Government of India which has written to the Indian Universities recommending that steps may be taken by the Syndicates to amend the existing regulations, so as to provide for the issue of regular diplomas and licenses to candidates who have passed the recognized examinations in Medicine and Surgery.

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THOSE who know the inner life of the people of this land can never charge them with ingratitude. Notwithstanding the learned argument drawn from the supposed absence of a vocable in the Indian languages corresponding to the English word gratitude, nowhere over the world is the sentiment itself stronger than in India. Here, gratitude, like every other thing, descends from son to son. The story of the Calcutta millionaire Ram Dulal Dey, walking on foot in humble guise to the house of the Dutt of Hatkhola, his former masters, and conducting himself in every way as if the old relation had never been changed, could occur only in India. That story, however, is not unique. Instances of the kind may be cited by hundreds. It is a question whether English education is not altering the people for the worse by striking at the very root of such sentiments as the relic of a cringing past, inconsistent with that 'spirit of independence' which means the ignoring of all inconvenient obligations. The sentiment, however, is too deep to be materially affected even by Western influence. It affords us, therefore, sincere pleasure to notice all genuine demonstrations made by the people in their own quiet natural ways for expressing their obligations to benefactors even among the officials of the Government. Demonstrations in honor of retiring Viceroys and Governors of provinces and even Honorable Councillors and Judges are great things in their way. Their genuineness and sincerity might be subjects of doubt. Wire-pullers, acting from self-interest, might be abroad. Or, the thing might be overdone and degenerate into downright caricature as at the neighbouring town of Bali. It will be in the recollection of our readers how, a few years back, in that old, degenerate seat of the Mahasoyas, a knot of busy bodies contrived to charm the magnates of the land on the cheap. How a Lieutenant-Governor was brought down for show with the offer of immortality by connecting his name with a small seminary for youth, a Secretary to Government by associating his with a smaller girls' school, a Divisional Commissioner, of borrowing (against the law) repute, by naming after him a Dispensary not dispensing fifty pounds of quinine in a whole year, and a District Superintendent of Police by calling, if we remember aright, a little flight of steps or a window or a beam or a rafter—measure fit in their frugal schedule of fame, considering the gradation of the last officer—after him. But there are demonstrations and demonstrations of regard. All genuine movements of the kind, however humble, must command sympathy. The local *Gazette*, before the Poojah holidays, announced many transfers in the Subordinate Judicial Service. Generally speaking, the transfers announced excited little interest outside the immediate circles of friends and acquaintances in which the officers moved. The people remained unmoved. Only at Howrah there was a little stir, for the pleaders addressed off their outgoing Second Moonsiff. One instance, however, occurred, deserving of notice, for the leaders of local society and their followers, numbering by hundreds, came forward, of their own accord, to mark their sense of esteem for the officer leaving them for a distant station. We allude to the modest but genuine movement at the Subdivision of Barripore for honoring the outgoing Moonsiff, transferred to Patuakhali in Backergunge. Besides calling a public meeting which was attended by representatives of all sections of the local community, and recording a resolution expressive of their esteem for Baboo Bepin Behary Chatterjee and the regret they felt at his transfer, they asked the Baboo to sit for a portrait of his the expenses whereof are to be met from local subscriptions. Knowing that the orders of Government do not permit the presentation of an address, the people re-

solved to show their feelings in another way, *viz.*, by assembling together for seeing their Moonsiff off by the train. The procession formed for the purpose numbered hundreds of persons. It was a decent and orderly train consisting of the local gentry, the pleaders and the mooktears, and the veritable rayyets of the plough. The Native Christians also, through the head of the local Mission, took a part and almost a leading part. A friend writes to us to say that never before had such unanimity been witnessed at Barripore. It was not an affair of the Sudder station only. Gentlemen came from villages in the interior and some went down from Calcutta on purpose. There were some whose presence could not be expected from their age and ailments.

The example is very rare of a judicial officer leaving a scene of only three years' labour amid such genuine regret. We think the present system of transfer after only a period of three years ought not to be a general rule. The period may with advantage be extended to five years, although there are officers, Indian and European, in whose case even three years would be a long period.

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THE Bengal Secretariat Press, if the statement made in the *Indian Mirror* by a correspondent singing himself "La Phune" are founded on fact, should seem to stand in need of some drastic reform. Is it true that a convict holds a situation of trust and responsibility in that establishment, having been smuggled into the appointment by backstairs influence? Is there also a latrine tax that the Superintendent is allowed to levy on only the Hindu and the Mahomedan employees of the press to the exemption of the European, the Eurasian, and the Native Christian hands? Except in the case of the "readers" and the copy-holders, the usual working hours are stated to be from 6-45 A. M. to 8 P. M. If this be true, it were better to dismiss all the present hands and utilise the more heinous offenders in all the Bengal jails for working the Bengal Secretariat Press, although even then philanthropists will raise their voice on behalf of the slightly over-worked convicts. From a letter addressed to us on the subject, recapitulating with slight variations the statements made in the *Indian Mirror*, it seems that what the employees want is that the same system as regards working hours and pay that obtains in the Government of India's Press under Mr. Dean may be introduced in the Press under the superintendence of Mr. Lewis. The prayer is certainly reasonable. We hope the Under-Secretaries who are served so faithfully by these poor men in setting off their cleverness to advantage under the pomp and circumstance of Gutenberg's invention and whose statesmanship would certainly have been hidden amid piles upon piles of foolscap traced only with marks of the cadmean art, will not fail to attend to the matter. The Head of the Government himself should bear it in mind that a successful strike among the compositors of the Government Press, sympathised in by their fellow craftsmen belonging to the other establishments in Calcutta, might be a very ugly affair. As a matter of fact, by far the greater portion of the hands in the Calcutta presses belong to the poor middle classes of Hindoo and Mahomedan society and not to those classes that are inured to out-door manual labour. It is impossible for them to bear the strain of thirteen hours' work from day to day. The usual working hours in the Government of India's Press as also in all the private presses in Calcutta are seven. Why should the Bengal Secretariat Press be so singular in its regulations?

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THE telegraph has flashed the intelligence of the serious illness of Mr. Charles Bradlaugh. He is suffering from an attack of congestion of the lungs. At first it was feared that there was very little hope of recovery. Later intelligence is slightly reassuring. Already Mr. Bradlaugh's claim to the gratitude of Indians is well founded. That he may be spared to serve this country and his own is the prayer of all Indians who take an interest in public affairs to that God whom he himself disowns.

*Holloway's Ointment.*—The great climatic variations which soldiers and sailors experience render them liable to a variety of diseases, the development of which is favoured by exposure and hardships—often, it is to be feared, by their own carelessness as well. Holloway's remedies afford a safe and easy means of cure for those constitutional and local maladies which are so frequently engendered by residence in unhealthy climates and by incautious living. The Ointment is a wonderfully healing application, as it cleanses the surface of foul sores and ulcers, soothes the throbbing and pain in cases of inflammation, and checks the progress of skin diseases. The Pills purify the blood, cleanse the liver, and remove all noxious matter from the system.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Meingoon Prince has, after all, really escaped from Pondicherry and has reached Saigon safe. The poor man has for nothing given himself so much trouble. He is just a day too late. His return to his native land may cause the authorities some anxiety but no practical difficulty. The spirit of the people has been crushed—certainly their resources are exhausted—and the country disarmed.

SIR MORTIMER DURAND has made over charge of the Foreign Secretaryship to Mr. Cuninghame and goes home on furlough. He takes leave opportunely. The question of the native States is sure to come before Parliament at the next sessions, when the Viceroy's able and accomplished Foreign Secretary will be a tower of strength to the India Office.

THE Imperial landlord has cast his eye on his estate on the south of Beugal Proper. The Engine of measurement is about to be turned against the poor Ooryas. Under the direct charge of Mr. Finucane, the Director of Land Records, the settlement work of Orissa, stopped since 1836, will be recommenced in the present cold season. The chief local officers will be Mr. Reily (late Manager of Burdwan), Mr. Datta, Settlement Officer of Mourbhunj, and Babu Prankristo Roy, Deputy Collector. Here is a good prospect of additional revenue. We only hope the Bengal Government will use its advantage with moderation. The public spirited among our Orissan brethren should quietly watch the proceedings of the officials.

A MOVEMENT has been started in Hyderabad to secure the exemption of private dwellings from the operation of judicial decrees. The matter is to be reported upon by a Commission. It is not a bad idea, if kept within reasonable limits. It is certainly in accordance with Oriental sentiment. The British Indian Code of Civil Procedure has recognized the necessity of some protection to "the materials of houses and other buildings belonging to and occupied by agriculturists." In a country not governed by the feudal system, there is sufficient reason why a man's home should be reserved to him through various vicissitudes of fortune. We hope some attention will be paid to the question in the next revision of the Code.

THE Bombay agitation against the proposed Bombay Sunday mail has borne fruit. It has been agreed that Saturday should be the day all the year round for the departure of the English mail from Bombay. The hour for closing the mail will be so fixed as not to interfere with the half holiday at the close of the week. By this new arrangement, the P. and O. Company are freed from the payment of penalty for late arrival of the mails in London whenever the fortnightly Australian steamer arrives behind time.

A CORRESPONDENT at Simla, who is described as "a keen observer of men and things," warns the *Morning Post* not to judge Lord Lansdowne too hastily. He says "His Excellency is a strong man who will rule justly and well. You must remember that he scarcely had time to get into harness; but when he once has the coach well in hand, you will find what a really worthy successor to the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava we possess. The Viceroy allows no settling of even trifling matters off the bat of the Secretariats, and his firmness in this respect has caused something like alarm in certain quarters." A fig for such "keen observers!" The Viceroy may be ever so strong but he can scarcely free himself from Secretariat leading strings. And well for him that he cannot. Nor is this eternal jealousy of the Secretariat a proof of keenness of observation. The Secretariats represent Indian experience and capacity.

WITH the pacification of the country, the British authorities are now having leisure for civil justice in Upper Burma. The District Magistrate of Kyautse recently investigated a case of death by torture to extort confession. A village and one constable have been ordered transportation for life, another constable sentenced to seven years' rigorous imprisonment and an Inspector to one year's simple imprisonment and Rs. 300 fine. The condemned are all Burmans. The Shwebo Correspondent of the *Rangoon Times* tele-

graphs that Mr. Buchanan, Extra Assistant Commissioner, and Lieutenant Thatcher, Hampshire Regiment, have each been fined Rs. 300 by the District Magistrate for causing hurt to certain Burmese villagers.

THE capital sentence passed by Commissioner Lindsay on Tantia Bheel runs thus :—

"You have had an impartial trial, and the assessors find you guilty of leading a gang of dacoits, one of whom, Bijnia, shot Himmatt, Patel of Bhuipal, whom there is evidence to prove that you had spite against, and therefore that the murder was committed by your instructions. Section 396, Indian Penal Code lays down that if five or more persons commit dacoity, one of whom conjointly commits murder, all may be punished with death, penal servitude for life, or rigorous imprisonment for ten years with fine. I, therefore, sentence you to death by hanging, subject to confirmation by the Judicial Commissioner. If you wish to appeal against this sentence you must do so within one week."

Tantia was undefended. He was given no counsel to plead in his defence. The opportunity given him for appeal, therefore, resolves itself into mere sound signifying nothing. Tantia's great name which hitherto conquered, now makes him suffer the extreme penalty of the law for constructive murder. The great man falls without a great trial.

THE Tirputhy temple case is being postponed from day to day. Meanwhile the toils are encompassing the sinners. The excavations proving the disappearance of the buried gold, the Mohunt charged four of his servants, witnesses for the prosecution, with abstraction of the treasure. The case was then put off for the police report. The police now charge the Mohunt and the four accused by him with having misappropriated the missing gold. A Madras sowcar has deposed that he has sold gold for the Mohunt, realising Rs. 67,443.

THE Indian Bureaucracy, in its aristocracy the Covenanted Civil Service in especial, may well stick up its nose, seeing that, however modest in origin and material, it includes some of the best European patronymics. A finer leaven gives flavour to the mass of Browns Joneses and Smiths. The Police is crowded with respectability. There has long been a Tonnere in it. And now we read of a Sir William Stewart serving India as a District Superintendent. No mere holder of a personal distinction—no winner, by hook or by crook, of a cheap Indian knighthood—but a veritable Baronet.

A RETIRED Anglo-Indian advertises a book by himself purporting to sing his administrative triumphs while an executive officer in India on an outlying Frontier. Now he is out of the whole business and the country, beyond the reach of Courts and Commissions of Inquiry, and above all explanation, he is safe to indulge himself in any autobiographical romancing. As regards the truth, instead of "How I helped to govern India" it would have been more to the point for him to call his work "How I helped to loot India." He certainly showed some genius in the line. As for governing, he governed with an eye to the main chance. He may yet be a sort of public benefactor if he will give a few plain directions and practical suggestions to the large number of his countrymen in India who, with the most unquestionable desire to share in the pagoda harvest, are yet at a loss how to proceed about it. Our author might teach them, poor souls! the secret of feathering one's nest in the most unpromising field and retiring with a competence before time. He certainly knows how the most beggarly Raja or Ranee may be made to yield to the local Cæsar what is *not* due to the said Cæsar.

OUR Indian literary men are not very literary, after all. The writers on the British newspapers here are not often beguiled into an epigram or an allusion. As for apt quotation, it is well that they rarely run that risk. They are so unhappy in their sense of metre. Here is a writer of some smartness in Madras, who is apparently regarded as a great gun down South, who has been tempted and his fall is pitiable. He has in his last lucubration sought to give point to an elaborate effort at "chaff" against Lord Connemara's Private Secretary, in respect of the narrative of the Governor's Tour, with a dispatch which is so remarkable that we reproduce it in its entirety, with its own peculiar punctuation or defiance of all punctuation. It is thus—

"Who will not weep for such a man as he

Who will dare laugh when he in such misery."

The inverted commas at the beginning and at the end are the writer's own, and they are the only marks of punctuation in the lines, besides

the final full stop. If they are used for the purpose of emphatically suggesting that the couplet is a quotation, it must be a queer classic from which he drew it. We would rather suppose it to be a parody of Pope, and a strange travesty it makes of one of the most famous couplets of that accurate and brilliant writer. Defiance of punctuation, did we say? It defies all grammar. Nay, it defies not Syntax and Prosody alone, but Arithmetic also. Not only do the lines not scan, but they do not count too, and there is a poor verb somewhere left out. And the paper—the *Madras Spectator*—which contains this brilliant curiosity of literature, joins in the railing at "Native journalism in India" as a thing "conducted on charmingly free and easy lines." But native journalism is *not* conducted on *such* "charmingly free and easy lines."

So much for Madras and the smart Madras. But the matter does not mend in higher latitudes, literary, ethnological, or geographical. Look at the *Pioneer*. To call it the leading journal goes without saying but scarcely conveys a sufficient idea of the Leviathan. Child of fortune, doated upon by Government and pampered by official favours, it has been placed in a position to command the patronage of the world of readers as well as advertisers. Its resources are unbounded and its arrangements are on a magnificent scale. It has no end of editors, contributors, correspondents, reporters, and retainers of all kinds. The highest civil and military servants of the State are tempted by the princely honorariums offered by it. Of course, it takes care to secure the best Patent. And yet it is scarcely more free than humbler journals from inaccuracy and error. That it has a good staff is wellknown, as also that its productions are usually of a respectable level. It has always too one or two excellent paragraphs, and it occasionally arrests the public with a brilliant "leader," a charming epistle, or an amusing ditty, or informs—sometimes "o'erinforms"—the world with a masterly essay. But it is far from being equal. They are not all picked men, the writers who serve it. And there is no adequate supervision exercised upon them such as we remark in the superior British journals at Home. Here is an instance in point. Our contemporary's Special at the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West's hill capital of Naini Tal is doubtless one of the favorites of the great Establishment. He is a respectable penman for an Indian paper who is perhaps great on the important subjects of picnics and polo. We say "perhaps," because we are no judges of such high matters. But he is not nearly so great in the less recondite matter of pure literature. In his last, he treats us to a short dissertation on picnics, classifying the several kinds. Had he confined himself to this and cognate subjects, nothing would have been better, perhaps—always perhaps. He might have earned the gratitude of "Society" without being anybody's laughing stock. But as in classic times, so at the present day, the cobbler will go beyond his last—with the old result. The Special was tempted to show his wit. And this was his ruin. As one of the principal members of the staff of the leading journal, he probably felt himself bound to be brilliant. It was not enough to be an apt analyser of picnics: he must be apt at quotation. So he racked his brain, and at last thought his memory supplied him out of its pigeon-holes with a snatch from the singing of a great master. But picnics have no more affinity to poetry than Monmouth has to Macedon. And so he contrived only to write himself down. The editors at Allahabad were too distracted with the legal troubles of their Chief at the hands of their obstinate victim Captain Hearsay to lend him any assistance to save their unfortunate scribe.

The Naini Tal Special Letter thus opens:—

"Our life (says a great poet) is but a birth and a forgetting." The great poet is certainly right as regards Naini Tal. There is the inevitable series of social events: the introduction—followed by acquaintance and friendship (I need not go further)—and the parting. Picnics usually accompany and lighten these partings, however; and this is the stage, now all but over, in which we at present find ourselves."

"The stage.....in which we at present find ourselves." The poor Letterist has no consciousness of the stage at which he has brought himself. Verily, such a plunge into bathos at starting goes beyond the worst infelicities of the Anglo-Indian press. To what base uses even great poets may come or be put! Even according to his own reading—and it is a sufficiently original reading—of the poor bard, it is difficult to catch the drift of this writer's thought. How is his "great poet" who, according to him, says "our life is but a birth and a forgetting," "certainly right" as regards Naini Tal? Where is the "birth" and where the "forgetting?" The introduction, the acquaintance ripening into friendship, and the parting, are common all the world over, and no ghost of a great poet might well have been spared the duty of furnishing a text for so obvious a homily. It is again a case of Monmouth and Macedon

But the most notable thing is the quotation. It is rich beyond compare for blundering. We certainly know no writer—poet or prosist—who has produced the remarkable thought that "our life is a birth and a forgetting." There was one bard "who uttered nothing base," who, in probably his grandest flight of poesy, sang—

Our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting;  
The Soul that rises with us, our life's Star,  
Hath had elsewhere its setting  
And cometh from afar;  
Not in entire forgetfulness  
And not in utter nakedness  
But trailing clouds of glory do we come  
From God, who is our home:  
Heaven lies about us in our infancy!

Of course, that sublime vision of the seer would not have suited the chronicler of society at Naini Tal and the philosophical analyser of picnics and polo.

AFTER having suppressed the *Praja Bandhu*, rendered historical by such suppression, and passed a law for the better safety of official secrets and the punishment of offending journalists, for the better preservation of the internal peace of the Empire, Lord Lansdowne has gone to the N. W. Frontiers to examine for himself the securities against foreign aggression and to secure the loyalty of the frontier clans and khyels. The Viceroy accompanied by Lady Lansdowne left Simla on Tuesday the 22nd October. The Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab joined the Viceregal party at Lahore and they all reached Rawalpindi in the evening of the 24th. Their Excellencies were quartered at Mr. Commissioner Smythe's. The entry at Lahore was private, yet the municipality assailed the Viceroy with an address and Sirdar Kirpal Singh and his nephew Sirdar Jujan Singh offered to commemorate the advent by the erection of a library building open to Europeans and natives which they asked permission to call the "Lansdowne Library." After replying to the municipal address and granting the prayer of the Sirdars, Lord Lansdowne held a Levee of the civil and military officers. Next morning there was a parade, and an Evening Party by the Commissioner concluded the day's programme and the visit to that military station. The same night, the Lord and Lady parted company, the Viceroy leaving for Khusalgarh where Sir James Lyall had preceded him and the Marchioness for Peshwar the next morning the 26th. The Viceregal party arrived at Kohat at midday on Saturday the 26th, and drove to the Deputy Commissioner's where the Lieutenant-Governor and all the civil and military officers of the District received the Viceroy. There was a Garden Party and a dinner at the garrison mess. On Sunday Lord Lansdowne attended divine service and drove through the city and the fort.

On Monday the 28th, there was a parade in the morning and then the Viceroy rode through the Kohat Pass, arriving at Peshawar in the afternoon, stopping at Anmal Chabutra for lunch. It was at one time feared that the Viceroy would not be able to ride for lameness caused by a kick from a pony but he would not change the programme and so rode on. There was firing too heard in the Pass, but it was attributed to tribal disputes. The party arrived safe at Peshawar at 5 in the evening. Next morning the Viceroy made a sort of triumphal progress through the city which was decorated. There was a municipal address, a Levee, a Katak dance, a Ball. The last was distinguished by a reel, two pipers of the 74th playing while about 20 officers and ladies danced to the tune. Here the Viceroy was joined by his good lady. They left Peshawar on the 30th for Ali Musjid and Luudi Kot. The next day the Viceroy visited the Khyber Pass. The carriage was driven to Jamrud where 360 Khyber Rifles welcomed the Viceroy. Ali Musjid was reached at 10-30. The Khyber Maliks had assembled and were presented to the Viceroy. On return from Luudi Kot, during breakfast, a shot was heard which was reported to be an accidental fall of a rifle, an elder of the Zakha Khel Afridis being shot in the right ankle and severely injured. The Viceroy's physician Dr. Feuü attended the wounded and the Viceroy himself, accompanied by the Commander-in-Chief, left the breakfast table to make personal enquiries—an extraordinary sacrifice for Britons. There was a grand parade of troops. The Viceregal party privately left at midnight for Attock which was reached the next morning. The Viceroy was this day to have gone down the Indus by boat to Til Kafir Kot, reaching it in three days.

The Viceregal party have been unlucky in their riding. In the tramp through the Kohat Pass, Lord Lansdowne was shabbily treated by an impudent pony. His Lordship had the pluck to disregard the pain and ride on. A more serious affair seems to be the kick which

the Private Secretary received from a horse on the way to Lundi Kotal. We are concerned to hear that he has been confined in consequence. Colonel Ardagh is a seasoned man, eminently horsey of Turkey and Egypt, and it must be a very severe accident which would disable him even for a time. We hope he will soon recover.

TAKING the cue from the Indian Code, they have passed in England a General Clauses Act which they have named the Interpretation Act, 1889, being 52 and 53 Victoria, Chapter 63—An Act for consolidating enactments relating to the Construction of Acts of Parliament and for further shortening the Language used in Acts of Parliament. [30th August, 1889.] We reproduce here section 18, which specially mentions India in various forms.

"18. In this Act, and in every Act passed after the commencement of this Act, the following expressions shall, unless the contrary intention appears, have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them, namely:—

(1) The expression 'British Islands' shall mean the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man.

(2) The expression 'British possession' shall mean any part of Her Majesty's dominions exclusive of the United Kingdom, and, where parts of such dominions are under both a central and a local legislature, all parts under the central legislature shall, for the purposes of this definition, be deemed to be one British possession.

(3) The expression 'colony' shall mean any part of Her Majesty's dominions exclusive of the British Islands, and of British India, and, where parts of such dominions are under both a central and a local legislature, all parts under the central legislature shall, for the purpose of this definition, be deemed to be one colony.

(4) The expression 'British India' shall mean all territories and places within Her Majesty's dominions which are for the time being governed by Her Majesty through the Governor-General of India, or through any Governor or other officer subordinate to the Governor-General of India.

(5) The expression "India" shall mean British India together with any territories of any native prince or chief under the suzerainty of Her Majesty exercised through the Governor-General of India, or through any governor or other officer subordinate to the Governor-General of India.

(6) The expression "governor" shall as respects Canada and India, mean the Governor-General, and include any person who for the time being has the powers of the Governor-General, and, as respects any other British possession shall include the officer for the time being administering the government of that possession.

(7) The expression 'colonial legislature' and the expression 'legislature,' when used with reference to a British possession, shall respectively mean the authority, other than the Imperial Parliament or Her Majesty the Queen in Council, competent to make laws for a British possession."

The Act comes into operation from the first day of January 1890.

This is the first time, we believe, that Parliament openly claims the suzerainty of England over the Native States.

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**REIS & RAYYET.**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1889.

#### THE OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT.

THE absorbing topic of the day is still the passing (by the Imperial Council) of the Official Secrets Act, and still more, perhaps, the strong and indignant speech made by the Viceroy on the occasion. That speech is the subject of more speculation than the law itself. A well-known Bengali journal has the characteristic distinction of having forced this rather sudden and hurried legislative movement. The publication in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* of a

confidential Foreign Office document touching the state of the Cashmere frontier is the immediate occasion of the enactment, notwithstanding anything to the contrary that apologists of the measure may urge. This publication is resented by the Government as an intolerable offence, particularly as while a part of the Foreign Secretary Sir Mortimer Durand's minute is accurately given, the rest is said to be suppressed, and in its place is inserted a passage which imputes to the Government sinister intentions with regard to Cashmere which are, of course, repudiated. The objectionable passage is as follows:—

"Altogether I think our first step should be to send up temporarily and quietly a selected military officer (Captain A. Durand of the Intelligence Department) and a junior medical officer. Both of them will have the support of the Durbar when and where it will be necessary, and they will not display any indiscretion, so that the Durbar may not have any hint of the work they are about to undertake, and they will have to obtain the consent of the Durbar in matters concerning military difficulties. Once we can establish a belief that our undertaking is nothing but the welfare of the Durbar, we are surely to attain our object. Time will show that my view is not a wrong one. In it lies, I venture to hope, the safe realisation of that object which was once contemplated in Lord Canning's time and afterwards it was abandoned after deliberation."

The Viceroy is particularly wroth at this garbled rendering of what is claimed to be an otherwise honest State paper, although, we fancy, the disclosure of any such important State matters, even if there were no misquotations or misrepresentations, would be a source of no small annoyance and vexation. The disclosure itself must be provoking, apart from its manner and circumstances, and one must naturally sympathise with the Government in its feelings in such an unpleasant situation and in its efforts to set its house in better order for the future. There are, it must be admitted, certain classes of public business in which it is essential to the public interests that counsels and confidences should be more faithfully kept, and such incidents are, indeed, a mortifying proof of human weakness and of the futility of all our methods and systems that, in spite of the utmost safe-guards, these counsels and confidences are not, as a matter of fact, so kept. Secrets, however, have such an ineradicable tendency of getting out, in all human affairs, in so many irritating ways, that, with all our natural sympathy with the Government, we cannot divest ourselves of the fear whether the proposed remedy will effectively meet the evil against which it is aimed.

It is a delicate subject, and our position with respect to it still more delicate. We fear, we have already been more outspoken in the expression of our sympathy with the Government and of our fears with regard to the measure than would be liked in the proper quarters. On the one hand, those who are responsible for the security and good government of the Empire are in serious earnest. They have put their heads together to devise how the great interests of which they are in charge could be safeguarded, and naturally look for loyal and honest expressions of public opinion with regard to their proposed measure. It is not an occasion for evading responsibility. As men of business ourselves, we can well sympathize with the needs of business. We know and maintain the sacredness of our own little confidences. How much greater must be the necessity for the maintenance of confidence in the business of a great State. On the other hand, the whole native press is up in arms against the measure, as aimed in especial against it. That press is full of fear and trembling, and we are *per force* drawn in by fellow-feeling and the sympathy of numbers. The Government of India must be armed, said the Viceroy, with "a weapon which can, if necessary, be used with ex-

emplary effect." That is ominous language in a country unprotected by a popular Chamber. Of course, the safety of the State may possibly require such measures, and in that case we shall be the first to advocate plenary powers for the Executive. But where is the necessity? Lord Lansdowne also said that "the new law is intended to be put in force in such cases, (like the *Amrita Bazar Patrika's*), and that those who publish official documents without authority will come within its scope, whether the persons by whom those documents have been divulged are discovered or not, and whether those documents themselves are published in their entirety or, as in the present instance, reproduced in a garbled and truncated form." Our position, therefore, with respect to the proposed law is almost a personal one. But however personal, delicate or embarrassing, the occasion needs honest straightforward speaking. We have already said we sympathise with the Government, the interests of which are sacred and paramount. But, nevertheless, we are of opinion that the Government would have shown itself to better advantage by maintaining dignified forbearance on the subject. The Government rests on a sufficiently broad and stable basis to have its equanimity disturbed on slight occasions—occasions which have occurred in the past, without leading to any serious consequences. There was hardly an occasion for punitive measures. Such penal laws are easily turned into engines of persecution. While one portion of the press is thrown into fear, another is almost jubilant, and this curious anomaly is significant. For the rest, such laws soon fall into disuse, and merely encumber the statute book until, at rare intervals, a new victim has to be persecuted. Misrepresentations of the actions of Government, as of private action, must be combated with other weapons. The noble vindication of the sincerity and the good will of the Government in its action towards Cashmere is the best refutation of any charges that may be laid at its door. Opportunities for placing in its true light any action of Government which the public misunderstand or misrepresent are easily found, and an official disclaimer of the kind contained in Lord Lansdowne's speech would go far more to reassure public opinion than the result of a criminal prosecution.

#### MUNICIPAL SANITATION.

THE following appears in a contemporary :—

"The Report on sanitary measures in India in 1887-88, just issued amongst the Parliamentary papers, is more than usually interesting. It contains, in an appendix, a despatch from Lord Cross to the Government of India, dated January 10, 1889, enclosing a very valuable minute from Sir Henry Yule on the subject of sanitation in India. Sir Henry complains that for the last quarter of a century these reports have been regularly made, reviewed in an able manner by the Army Sanitary Committee, and straightway forgotten. The time has now come for a new and large step forward, for the insanitary condition of India is becoming yearly a more serious political evil. It is alleged against us that cholera, however it may be diffused, is continually being generated in India; and that whilst we laugh at quarantine as useless, and point to sanitary reforms as the only effectual barriers to the spread of the disease, we in India leave these sanitary reforms substantially uneffected. Sir H. Yule adds that 'the gradual but persistent carrying out of local sanitary reforms, and the judgment of the adequacy of the provision made for that object, cannot be left to depend ultimately upon the votes of a municipal majority. It is indeed an essential part of the duty of a municipality to carry out such reforms for the benefit of the locality; but the importance of the results of such measures, and the consequence of their being neglected, extend far beyond their local bearings.'"

We think it high time to warn our municipalities that they do not wreck on this rock of sanitation. They are at best on their trial, and on this question of sanitation their conduct so far has failed to earn the confidence of the authorities. The complaint of their neglecting sanitation is an old one, and now there is a specific proposal for curtailing their powers in this respect which they have in a manner

courted so long. There is in each municipality, great or small, a clean and an unclean party—a party of advance, and another opposed to move. Representatives of backward localities and communities have always been a clog on their more favoured colleagues, and where they commanded a majority, the cause of progress was thrown back, and things remained as they were. The history of the great municipality of Calcutta no less than that of smaller municipal bodies in the country at large, affords abundant proof of this. In Calcutta, almost every great reform, whether the Drainage or the Water-Supply, has had to be carried out in the teeth of a powerful opposition. In the country at large, the reason why the repeated recommendations pressed upon municipalities by the Sanitary Officers of the Government remain uneffected is similar opposition from rural representatives. It is time this state of things should cease. The sanitary reports published year after year have been almost systematically neglected, and a part, at least, of the responsibility for this must rest on our municipalities. In the meantime, what havoc is being committed in the land by malarial fever, cholera, and other diseases! Not to go very far into the interior of the country, the villages in the metropolitan districts are at this time passing through a fearful epidemic of fever. The fate of people in the interior must be worse in the absence of even such partial sanitary provisions as exist near the metropolis. Will it be believed that as regards many tracts, there is hardly any adequate supply of drinking water, and that a water famine in summer has become a regularly recurring feature of life in the districts? To aggravate the evil, there is scarcely any provision for medical aid in these outlying tracts. These facts are highly discreditable to the administration and, though in regard to the rural areas, it is not the municipal institutions that are to blame, the responsibility must rest somewhere. Our present object is to say that where municipalities do exist, there should be no reason for the complaint of the continuance of insanitary conditions or the disregard of sanitary requirements. The municipal authorities should act in cordial harmony with sanitary officials, so as not to incur the imputation of being obstructive. If there were this harmony between them, their responsibility would be diminished and they would not come in for so much blame. It would in many cases be clear that the absence of sanitary reforms was not always due to municipal opposition or inappreciation of the importance of those reforms, but to want of sufficient funds. Where this was the case, the municipal authorities, working in conjunction with the sanitary officers, would justly escape censure. They might also reckon upon their aid in any scheme for providing the necessary funds by means of loans from the State or otherwise. But this only in respect of extensive and costly schemes of sanitary improvement. In respect of minor local works, the charge against municipalities must still lie. We therefore warn them to realise their duties in regard to the vital need of sanitation and to work in union with the Sanitary Department. Already, the impression largely prevails in official quarters that they do not attend to those duties well enough. And now here is an expression of adverse opinion from a member of the Secretary of State's Council which they cannot afford to despise.

But while we have no desire to exculpate our municipalities from the charge of neglecting sanitation, is the Sanitary Department itself above blame? Have not the Sanitary Commissioners been guilty of a perfunctoriness and want of heart in their work? Now that the subject of sanitation has attracted prominent attention, these officials may make some signs of activity; but in years past, from the way in which they had gone about their business, one could not but come to the conclusion that they considered their duties consisted in merely submitting Annual Reports to the Government. They never cared to see whether their recommendations were carried out by the local authorities concerned or not. The neglect of these authorities was never so much as noticed, and if under the circumstances the municipalities went on in their old course of apathy and indifference, the responsibility was not entirely theirs.

The reader need scarcely be reminded how repeatedly, times without number, we have pointed out the laches of municipalities as well as of the Sanitary Commissions. We showed how small was the practical good we have so long derived from the Sanitary Departments since their



creation. They have, indeed, scarcely repaid the expenditure involved in their maintenance. The inutility of the Sanitary Commissions we have, indeed, insisted upon as a charge against themselves. But the Government holds a different view and lays the blame upon the municipalities entirely. What we complained of with regard to the Sanitary Commissions was that they seemed to regard their duty began and ended with the preparation of written reports, pointing out sanitary defects and suggesting their removal. In most cases they scarcely cared to see whether their recorded recommendations were attended to or not. The Sanitary Departments, in our view, should be executive as well as consultative, and should be armed with power, under proper safeguards, to enforce their demands, and, what is more, with funds provided by the State to help the small urban and rural Committees which otherwise were often debarred by their poverty from carrying out elaborate suggestions for sanitary improvement.

#### THE MAHOMEDAN EDUCATION CONTROVERSY.

The extraordinary effusion of your Mahomedan scribe in your issue of the 5th October 1889 has roused the just indignation of the Mahomedans and those who are well acquainted with their society. His pretensions of much experience of the social and educational matters of the Mahomedans are mere sound and fury. His assertions are quite out of place and irrelevant and in most cases fabricated. He seems to have not much knowledge of the ins and outs of the society he has recklessly villified.

Your correspondent, under the garb of a philosopher made his solemn appearance and in strong terms expressed his disapproval of the "reasons of the backwardness of their co-religionists both in educational and cultural progress" hitherto given by the experienced Mahomedans. Being unacquainted with, and having no idea of, the addresses and representations made, from time to time, by the leaders of the community to the British Government on behalf of their co-religionists in matters political, religious and educational, "A Mahomedan" says that the poverty-complaint of the Mahomedans "is not generally applicable in the case of the upper and middle classes, who can well meet the expenses of their education, and who could have made up the deficiencies of school education in special branches at home." Your correspondent is quite mistaken in supposing that the chief cause assigned by the Mahomedan patriots to the backwardness of their co-religionists in educational matters "is not generally applicable" to all the sections of the community. It appears that he does not know how the Mahomedan society is formed. Those members of the upper and middle classes whom he speaks of in such high terms are mere exceptions. For the majority of the men of those classes are living from hand to mouth. Moreover, how many of the so-called rich men could be had who could uselessly expend money, on the education of their children under the existing bad and highly defective system? If the present system of education were perfect and the training were suitable to the requirements of the Mahomedans and their society, the condition of the Mahomedans would have been different. I very much doubt whether your correspondent is aware of the "deficiencies of school education" which the Mahomedan boys have to face, and which he calmly recommends to rectify by home study. Can he enlighten us with the solution of his imaginary problem by citing examples from the educational records of any of the civilized nations of the nineteenth century? I would not wish him to trouble himself by researches and bother you with his scribbles by quoting isolated individual instances which are rare and infrequent.

Owing to ignorance and short-sightedness your correspondent made disparaging and untrue statements relating to the ladies of high classes. Mahomedan ladies of the respectable and rich families are generally educated to the extent society requires them to attain. Female education is in full swing in these families. It is the general practice for an advanced lady to perform the functions of a governess in the family. And it is customary for these educated and well-behaved ladies to look after the movements and habits of the infants till the age of four and half years, when they have to undergo the *Bismilla Khani* ceremony and are placed under the charge of a tutor for instruction. Notwithstanding this new arrangement, these ladies are often required to teach these male infants orally the principles of Islam and to supervise their morals and manners till they attain the age of puberty, when they are not allowed to remain and sleep in the *zanana*. Under these circumstances one can judge how far your correspondent is correct in saying that "among the females of the high classes there is little which will further the education of the boys."

With regard to guardians he says that "by some erroneous rules of our society they are precluded from mixing with their boys" and owing to their bad and objectionable habits they keep themselves aloof from their children. He further opines that this separation resulting in the want of sympathy and love is the cause

of the ruination of the Mahomedan boys. This is an absurd idea. Indeed, the actual truth lies rather in the opposite direction. There is no absence of affection and love among the Mahomedan parents and guardians for their children. On the contrary, they are more tender, more touching, in their regard and solicitude for them than the guardians of young folk of the more advanced nations in the world. Instead of creating "a gulf of separation between the boy and his father," rather too much love and attachment often become regular obstacles in the way of proper training of the young. Overwhelming affection of the parents generally makes the boys impertinent, and with impunity they often neglect to carry out, or act according to, the instructions given to them by their tutors. It is also natural that frequent and daily meetings of the father and son excite the paternal love to a climax which does not allow the doting parent to endure the pains that might be produced by witnessing the darling punished or chastised by the tutor. To avoid the evils accruing from this the civilised nations of Europe and the wise men of other climes adopted, in the interests of their children, such plans, which separate the pupils from the family circle, and put them under proper care and training, and allow them to enjoy the company of their dear and near relatives only on special occasions and for fixed periods. Having not the mental faculty of judging and appreciating the utility and advantages of this separation between the father and son, and not knowing how this practice has become a national custom, "A Mahomedan" unhesitatingly finds fault with the Mahomedan guardians and wickedly attributes it to their social evils. The social evils which he makes so much capital of can be found in Christians, Hindus, Jews, Mahomedans, &c., including Princes, Dukes, Earls, Lords, Nawabs, Maharajas, Rajahs, Zemindars, and all the rich and wealthy men, of the Old and New worlds. Are not the politicians, statesmen, tradesmen, and the luxurious and licentious men on the same footing with each other in observing the child-separation custom above alluded to? Yes, they are so very busy about their own affairs that they scarcely get time to pay proper daily attention to the education of their children. In consequence of which they cannot but entrust to competent men what they themselves could not do in the interests of their own children. Regarding those Mahomedans and non-Mahomedans who keep their sons and relatives in boarding houses or allot separate rooms for them and meet them occasionally during their academical life, your correspondent explains their motive by stating that they "have not the courage, honor and justice to mend or improve their own manners or habits or give their evil ways up" and calls them "very cruel, unjust and indifferent to their own personal interests."

He seems to have a peculiar notion of educating the young. According to him youngsters cannot properly be educated unless the society they belong to is thoroughly free from social evils. He wants guardians to be the models of virtue, and to wield the rod themselves and be the instructors of their own wards. To follow his plan we must overhaul the Education Department and clear it of those who are not what they should be in their private lives. In the same manner, without a thought as to the practicability or possibility of the thing, he officiously advises the Mahomedans to reform their own households first and then think of the education of their own children.

Your correspondent's suggestions for remedying the existing evils are as erroneous and injurious as could be. The frequent association and companionship of the father and son during the latter's academical life should be discouraged as much as possible rather than encouraged. The boarding system at educational centres which the Government has consented to patronize should be placed on a sound basis after the English Boarding Schools and Colleges. Especial arrangements should be made to accommodate the children of the "upper ten" and give them proper education according to the requirements of Mahomedan society. Public spirited Mahomedan gentlemen should arrange for the formation of local committees for the management of these hostels and occasionally see whether the pupils are properly treated and taught. If the Mahomedans of the upper and middle classes entrust the education of their children to the local Boarding House Committee the condition of our society will be changed for the better within another generation.

A SOBER MAHOMEDAN.

NARAIL.

10th October, 1889.

SIR,—Nothing can be more satisfactory than the feeling of amity that subsists between the Hindus and Mahomedans in the rural parts of East Bengal.

Unfortunately a serious rupture has broken out between the *Chandals* and the Mahomedan cultivators of parts of our District. There are frequent fights between the two parties, armed with "lathies". This state of things is causing considerable unrest amongst the people and may extend to the whole of the District, unless strict measures are taken by the authorities to suppress it. The cause of this ill-feeling has not been found out yet.

K. C. R.



## Public Paper.

No. 1959.

From C. J. Layall, Esq., C.I.E., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India.

To the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Simla, the 21st October 1889.

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 3/9 (Confidential) dated the 23rd September 1889, submitting an explanation from Babu Tinkauri Banerji, an Assistant in the Office of the Director of Public Instruction, in regard to his connection with the *Praja Bandhu*, a vernacular newspaper published at Chandernagore. In reply, I am to communicate the following observations and orders.

2. The attention of the Government of India has been drawn to the following scurrilous and seditious articles which have recently appeared in the *Praja Bandhu* newspaper:—

- (1) that of July 12th on "the Englishman's crooked policy;"
- (2) that of the 23rd August, on the Famine Fund;
- (3) those of the 30th August—one headed "Brother, why seek to have the Raj any more?" and the other on Cashmere affairs;
- (4) that of 9th September on Cashmere;
- (5) that of the 13th September, also on Cashmere;
- (6) that of the 20th September 1889 on "Englishmen, the benefactors of India."

3. On the appearance of the first article on the "Englishman's crooked policy" a report was called for from the Bengal Government on the general character of the *Praja Bandhu* newspaper, and information was asked for as to the name, residence and occupation of the Editor and his general reputation. The report received shows that the *Praja Bandhu* is published at Chandernagore. The late Editor, Ashutosh Sen, was not long ago sentenced by the French Courts to three months' imprisonment and fine for publishing a defamatory article about a priest, and his appeal to the tribunals in France against his sentence was rejected. On the expiry of his term of imprisonment Ashutosh Sen was again employed on the staff of the *Praja Bandhu*. The nominal Editor during several months past, in which interval the articles noticed in paragraph 2 appeared, is reported to be one Nirod Chandra Mukerji. This man is said to be a cousin of Tinkauri Banerji, the Managing Proprietor, who is an Assistant in the Office of the Director of Public Instruction in Bengal. Tinkauri Banerji was called upon for an explanation of his connection with the *Praja Bandhu*. The date on which he received the call is not stated in your letter, but it was on the 5th August that the Government of India called for a report, and on the 6th September he published a declaration that he had severed his connection with the Paper and was no longer Managing Proprietor. It seems probable that between those dates he had become aware that the matter had attracted the notice of Government, but the reason which he himself assigns for having withdrawn from the management is that "the lawsuits, prosecutions, &c., in which he became involved through his connection with the paper had become unbearable." He has offered no apology for allowing his newspaper to be used for the purpose of scurrilous attacks on the Government which he serves and of promoting disaffection. The articles referred to are of such a character that if the Paper had been published within British India the Editor and Publisher would have been indicted under the Indian Penal Code. By issuing it from Chandernagore, which is Tinkauri Banerji's native town, he evades prosecution, but he has been guilty of gross misconduct and disloyalty to the Government whose pay he enjoys, and he cannot be permitted to escape altogether with impunity.

4. By becoming Proprietor of the Paper, and a *fortiori* Managing Proprietor, Tinkauri Banerji has contravened the standing orders of the Government of India as contained in Home Department Resolution No. 19—1134, dated 8th July 1875. These orders prohibit any Government servant from becoming the Proprietor of a newspaper without the previous sanction in writing of the Government he is serving, and direct that such sanction shall only be given in the case of newspapers mainly devoted to topics not of a political character. As Managing Proprietor Tinkauri Banerji is distinctly responsible both for the scurrilous tone of the Paper, and for the publication of the seditious articles 1 to 4 mentioned in paragraph 2 of this letter, as well as for earlier articles of the same character which have not been specifically quoted.

5. The Governor-General in Council directs that Tinkauri Banerji be dismissed from the service of Government, and I am to request that the necessary instructions may be issued for his immediate removal from his appointment in the Office of the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal.

6. I am to add that the Governor-General in Council has further decided to put in force against the *Praja Bandhu* the provisions of

section 19 of the Sea Customs Act, VIII of 1878, and section 60A of the Indian Post Office Act, XIV of 1866, and a notification to that effect will be published in the *Gazette of India*.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

C. J. LYALL,

*Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.*

## THE GAZETTE NOTIFICATION.

POST OFFICE, GENERAL MATTERS.

The 26th October, 1889.

No. 5419.—Under section 19 of the Sea Customs Act, 1878, the Governor-General in Council hereby prohibits the bringing or taking by sea or by land into British India of any copies of past or future issues of the newspaper styled the *Praja Bandhu* and published at the Vyás Press, Chandernagore.

## Law.

## OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT, 1889.

[52 &amp; 53 VICTORIA, CHAPTER 52.]

*An Act to prevent the Disclosure of Official Documents and Information.*

[26TH AUGUST, 1889.]

BE it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. (1) (a) Where a person for the purpose of wrongfully obtaining information—

Disclosure of information.

- (i) enters or is in any part of a place belonging to Her Majesty the Queen, being a fortress, arsenal, factory, dockyard, camp, ship, office, or other like place, in which part he is not entitled to be; or

- (ii) When lawfully or unlawfully in any such place as aforesaid, either obtains any document, sketch, plan, model, or knowledge of any thing which he is not entitled to obtain, or takes without lawful authority any sketch or plan; or

- (iii) when outside any fortress, arsenal, factory, dockyard, or camp belonging to Her Majesty the Queen, takes or attempts to take without authority given by or on behalf of Her Majesty, any sketch or plan of that fortress, arsenal, factory, dockyard, or camp; or

(b) where a person knowingly having possession of, or control over, any such document, sketch, plan, model, or knowledge as has been obtained or taken by means of any act which constitutes an offence against this Act at any time wilfully and without lawful authority communicates or attempts to communicate the same to any person to whom the same ought not, in the interest of the State, to be communicated at that time; or

(c) where a person after having been entrusted in confidence by some officer under Her Majesty the Queen with any document, sketch, plan, model, or information relating to any such place as aforesaid, or to the naval or military affairs of Her Majesty, wilfully and in breach of such confidence communicates the same when, in the interest of the State, it ought not to be communicated;

he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and on conviction be liable to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding one year, or to a fine, or to both imprisonment and a fine.

(2) Where a person having possession of any document, sketch, plan, model, or information relating to any fortress, arsenal, factory, dockyard, camp, ship, office, or other like place belonging to Her Majesty, or to the naval or military affairs of Her Majesty, in whatever manner the same has been obtained or taken, at any time wilfully communicates the same to any person to whom he knows the same ought not, in the interest of the State, to be communicated at that time, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and be liable to the same punishment as if he committed an offence under the foregoing provisions of this section.

(3) Where a person commits any act declared by this section to be a misdemeanour, he shall, if he intended to communicate to a foreign State any information, document, sketch, plan, model, or knowledge obtained or taken by him, or entrusted to him as aforesaid, or if he communicates the same to any agent of a foreign State, be guilty of felony, and on conviction be liable at the discretion of the court to penal servitude for life, or for any term not less than five years, or to imprisonment for any term not exceeding two years with or without hard labour.

2. (1) Where a person, by means of his holding or having held an office under Her Majesty the Queen, has lawfully or unlawfully either obtained possession of or control over any document, sketch, plan, or model, or acquired any information, and at any time corruptly or contrary to his official duty communicates or attempts to communicate that document, sketch, plan, model, or information to any person to whom the same ought not, in the interest of the State, or otherwise in the public interest, to be communicated at that time, he shall be guilty of a breach of official trust.

(2) A person guilty of a breach of official trust shall—

(a) if the communication was made or attempted to be made to a foreign State, be guilty of felony, and on conviction be liable at the discretion of the court to penal servitude for life, or for any term not less than five years, or to imprisonment for any term not exceeding two years, with or without hard labour; and

(b) in any other case be guilty of a misdemeanour, and on conviction be liable to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding one year, or to a fine, or to both imprisonment and a fine

(3) This section shall apply to a person holding a contract with any department of the Government of the United Kingdom, or with the holder of any office under Her Majesty the Queen as such holder, where such contract involves an obligation of secrecy, and to any person employed by any person or body of persons holding such a contract, who is under a like obligation of secrecy, as if the person holding the contract and the person so employed were respectively holders of an office under Her Majesty the Queen.

3. Any person who incites or counsels, or attempts to procure, another person to commit an offence under this Act, shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and on conviction be liable to the same punishment as if he had committed the offence.

4. The expenses of the prosecution of a misdemeanour under this Act shall be defrayed in like manner as in the case of a felony.

5. If by any law made before or after the passing of this Act by the legislature of any British possession provisions are made which appear to Her Majesty the Queen to be of the like effect as those contained in this Act, Her Majesty may, by Order in Council, suspend the operation with-in such British possession of this Act, or of any part thereof, so long as such law continues in force there, and no longer, and such order shall have effect as if it were enacted in this Act.

Provided that the suspension of this Act, or of any part thereof, in any British possession shall not extend to the holder of an office under Her Majesty the Queen who is not appointed to that office by the Government of that possession.

The expression "British possession" means any part of Her Majesty's dominions not within the United Kingdom.

6. (1) This Act shall apply to all acts made offences by this Act when committed in any part of Her Majesty's dominions, or when committed by British officers or subjects elsewhere.

(2) An offence under this Act, if alleged to have been committed out of the United Kingdom, may be inquired of, heard, and determined, in any competent British court in the place where the offence was committed, or in Her Majesty's High Court of Justice in England or the Central Criminal Court, and the Act of the forty-second year of the reign of King George the Third, chapter eighty-five, shall apply in like manner as if the offence were mentioned in that Act, and the Central Criminal Court as well as the High Court possessed the jurisdiction given by that Act to the Court of King's Bench.

(3) An offence under this Act shall not be tried by any court of general or quarter sessions, nor by the sheriff court in Scotland, nor by any court out of the United Kingdom which has not jurisdiction to try crimes which involve the greatest punishment allowed by law.

(4) The provisions of the Criminal Law and Procedure (Ireland) Act, 1887, shall not apply to any trial under the provisions of this Act.

7. (1) A prosecution for an offence against this Act shall not be instituted except by or with the consent of the Attorney-General.

(2) In this section the expression "Attorney-General" means the Attorney or Solicitor General for England; and as respects Scotland, means the Lord Advocate; and as respects Ireland, means the Attorney or Solicitor General for Ireland; and if the prosecution is instituted in any court out of the United Kingdom, means the person who in that court is Attorney-General, or exercises the like functions as the Attorney-General in England.

8. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

Any reference to a place belonging to Her Majesty the Queen includes a place belonging to any department of the Government of the United Kingdom or of any of Her Majesty's possessions, whether the place is or is not actually vested in Her Majesty;

Expressions referring to communications include any communication, whether in whole or in part, and whether the document, sketch, plan, model, or information itself or the substance or effect thereof only be communicated;

The expression "document" includes part of a document;

The expression "model" includes design, pattern, and specimen;

The expression "sketch" includes any photograph or other mode of representation of any place or thing;

The expression "office under Her Majesty the Queen" includes any office or employment in or under any department of the Government of the United Kingdom, and so far as regards any document, sketch, plan, model, or information relating to the naval or military affairs of Her Majesty, includes any office or employment in or under any department of the Government of any of Her Majesty's possessions.

9. This Act shall not exempt any person from any proceeding for an offence which is punishable at common law, or by military or naval law, or under any Act of Parliament other than this Act, so, however, that no person be punished twice for the same offence.

10. This Act may be cited as the Official Secrets Act, 1889.

Short title.

### CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

The Commissioners of Calcutta have resolved to offer to the holders of the 6 per cent. Municipal loan of 1870 for Rs. 4,00,000 repayable on the 1st January 1890, the option of exchanging such debentures to the extent of Rs. 2,85,000 for 5 per cent. debentures of the Municipal loan bearing date the 1st January 1890 and having a currency of 30 years.

The rate for the exchange is fixed at a premium of Rs. 3 per cent. payable by parties accepting the offer, on the amount of the 5 per cent. debentures that may be allotted to them.

As the amount of the 5 per cent. loan available for transfer is Rs. 2,85,000 only, it will be understood that the full amount of the 6 per cent. debentures, namely, Rs. 4,00,000 cannot be exchanged.

Holders of the 6 per cent. debentures desirous of effecting transfers should

communicate their wish in a letter to reach the Secretary to the Corporation on or before the 20th December 1889.

Such portion of the 6 per cent. debentures, as may not be exchanged, will be repaid in cash on application made on or after the 1st January 1890. Interest on these debentures will cease on the 31st December 1889.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

MUNICIPAL OFFICE :  
Calcutta, 28th October 1889. }

### THE BENAZIR FAIR— RAMPUR STATE.

#### NOTICE.

The annual Benazir Fair at Rampur will be held this year on the bank of the Kosi river, by the Rampur and Moradabad road, from the 24th to 30th November. Trades-people of all kinds have been invited with their wares from

different parts of the country, and, besides the usual assortments of imported and other miscellaneous goods, special care will be taken to have some of the notable indigenous manufactures of the Province, as of Fatehgarh, Manipuri, Tilhar, Moradabad, and Rampur itself amply represented. As an additional attraction, the Fair will this time combine an Agricultural and Cattle Show. The Director of Agriculture and Commerce has been asked to provide a set of farming implements, some of which will also be shown in working. The Cattle Show will include horses, ponies, mules, cows, bullocks, and buffaloes, and will offer a good opportunity to parties wishing to buy or sell such animals; the State itself being prepared to purchase a fair number to replace those that have become unserviceable. Fodder for cattle brought for show will be provided free of cost.

The tradesmen's stalls, and tents for visitors will form a well ordered camp, with due care for sanitation. For the amusement of visitors there will be a varied programme of wrestling, elephant and ram fights, military sports, &c., ending with the usual display of fireworks. European visitors will be very welcome, and will find every arrangement made for their comfort.

### BENGAL BONDED WAREHOUSE ASSOCIATION.

In conformity with section 5 of Act V. of 1854, a General Meeting of proprietors will be held on Wednesday the 15th instant, at noon, for the inspection of accounts for the half-year ended 31st October last, the declaration of a dividend and the transaction of any other business that may be brought forward.

S. E. J. CLARKE,  
Secretary.

CALCUTTA :  
1st Nov. 1889.

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### TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

*Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,*

BY

**SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,**

*Formerly Minister to the late*

NAWAB FARIDOO JAH BAHADOOR,  
(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,  
Behar and Orissa.)

*Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.*

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#### OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoo Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which neces-

sarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following :—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river :—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye :—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting :—[Extract].—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him.

*Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA, ENGLAND.

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Calcutta, the 28th October, 1889.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1889.

} No. 397

## THE PANDAVAS IN THE HIMALAYA.

### AN EPISODE OF HINDU MYTHOLOGY.

BY THE LATE MURAD ALI BEG *né* MITFORD.

(Concluded from p. 494.)

And when it had departed—they were two !  
Arjoon had vanished ! “Onward”—cried Yudhistir—  
“Onward ! my brother, to the Mountain Heaven !”  
And Yudhistir, and Bheem, and that gaunt dog,  
The last survivors of the Pandav band,  
Still trudged their weary way. They staggered now,  
And e’en the giant Bheem reeled to and fro,  
But Yudhistir still madly shouted out—  
“On ! ever onward to the Mountain Heaven !”  
And so they reached the summit next to them,  
And stood and looked around. Before them lay  
Another snow-flat through which sprouted rocks,  
And then another peak rose from its bounds  
To an appalling height—the last and greatest—  
No other summit rivalling it as far  
As eye could reach.

And on it from the west  
The setting sun shot clear its silvering beams,  
Making it sparkle like a diamond,  
And the quick glitter fell upon the eye  
Of Yudhistir, who raised his hand and shrieked—  
“Oh brother ! Onward ! See you not the glory  
That shines upon us from the Mountain Heaven ?  
Beyond yon summit we shall surely find it !”  
And now they went across the snowy flat  
Floundering and stumbling ‘mong the ice and snow  
Till Bheem found out he suddenly was stopped  
As if immovable.\* Another effort,  
And then he reeled and fell. And looking well,  
He saw that from his leg a foot had snapped  
Clean at the ankle. And the other’s toes  
Had also broken off, but *when* he knew not,  
Since the intense cold stopped all sense of pain.  
He tried to rise, but could not. There he lay  
Painless, but maimed and helpless, on the snow.  
Then he raved loudly, tossed himself about  
In vain but frantic struggles to go forward,  
And thus he spoke with fury—“What is this ?  
Am I—is Bheem—to die like a dog here ?

\* The whole of this seems, to a certain extent, an exaggeration at first sight. From, however, the accounts of travellers, aeronauts, &c., it does not appear improbable that a party of men, recklessly pushing forward towards the summit of the Himalayas, *might* experience the various mishaps described in the text, unless the stupor and exhaustion due to the cold and the rarification of the atmosphere, absolutely incapacitated them from proceeding before the condition of the body described was attained. In historical times, however, no one has been known rash enough to try the experiment, and if so, none at least have returned to tell the result.

I have still strength to reach the Mountain Top  
And see the Heaven Yudhistir promises.  
I yet am fitter for the march than he.  
But for the snapping of a cursed foot,  
That seems turned into glass, I must forego  
The journey, though not whelmed as Arjoon was,  
Or worn like Draupadi and Mádrée’s sons.  
And has my giant strength come to this ?  
Oh ! oh !—and then, with a wild howl, he dashed  
His mace so hard on a rock lying near  
That mace and rock alike were smashed to atoms.  
And Yudhistir looked back and sternly muttered—  
“This comes of wedding with barbarian wives !  
This comes of pampering a shameless belly !  
I fear me he will die more like an Asur  
Than one of Aryan blood.\* Let him. I go  
Alone to seek and find the Mountain Heaven !”  
Thus the last Pándav, followed by the dog,  
Moved onward on his course towards the peak.  
He gained it. As the sun dipped in the west,  
There stood Yudhistir on the highest peak  
Of the most lofty of the loftiest range  
Of mountains on the earth. Though he had left  
His toes and fingers on the ice below,  
And though the blood was oozing from his mouth,  
And from his ears and nostrils ; though his breath  
Came faint and labouring through his ice-locked jaws ;  
Though his dim eyes swam as he looked around,  
And saw on either hand, like plains spread out,  
A never-varying sea of mountain tops—  
He gained the summit—sank upon the rocks—  
And cried in all his bitterness of heart—  
“Where, Source of all things, is the Mountain Heaven ?”  
And then a mist grew round him, and he saw  
The gaunt dog changing to a monstrous form,  
All rich and gay with colors and with gems.  
And the form said to him—“Oh Yudhistir !  
I come to take thee to the highest Heaven  
Which thou so well hast earned by perseverance,  
And justice, and devotion. I am Yam !  
Fear me not. I am kind unto the Just.  
I followed thee from Bharatkhand to see  
What thou wouldst do, and aid at this thy end,  
And as a dog I served thee.” Yudhistir  
Asked but one question, and ’twas this—“Are those  
My brothers four, is Draupadi awaiting

\* Bheem, the Ajax of the “Great War,” is throughout its whole history (although not without some good qualities) made out to be the fiercest, most barbarous, most sensual, gluttonous, and at the same time, obstinate, obtuse, and imperturbable of the Pándavas. He is, as Yudhistir says in the text, the most “un-Aryan” of the lot. His strength is that of the clown, his mind that of the usual character ascribed to giants. In short, he has more affinity to the Rákshas, whose daughters he marries, than to his own people.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

Me in the Heaven thou namest?"\* Then said Yam,  
 "No! They have all been subject unto nature  
 And to its frailties. And for thee, thou art  
 As thyself knowest—a Godhead's incarnation,  
 Dharma in person." Answered he, "I left  
 My wife and brothers on the path behind  
 To find a heaven for *all* and not for *one*.  
 Hence! I will none of you. Where *they* are gone,  
 There I too will depart, to meet their souls  
 And those of Kunti, and my father, and  
 The goodly heroes that once grouped themselves  
 Within the palace of Hastinapur!  
 Hence! Is Vyás not here, to drive him off?"  
 Then darkness fell upon him. In an hour,  
 Unmarked by mortal eye, on that lone summit  
 Lay stretched a stiffened corpse upon the snow,  
 O'er which a gaunt dog, faithful to the last,  
 Howled in his agony.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

ACCORDING to the last official report, dated the 19th October, the distress in the Patna Division is now confined to the flooded area, and the resources at the Commissioner's disposal are ample to meet all existing requirements. Orders have been issued for closing gratuitous relief as far as possible, and it will be continued, if at all, in the shape of works.

PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR does not go to Travancore, as previously arranged. The Durbar has already been put to the expense of Rs. 50,000 for preparations already made. It is, however, saved the subsequent expenditure. That ought now to console the Maharaja for the honor withdrawn.

LORD LANSDOWNE has paid Rs. 500 to the 15th Bengal Cavalry men who furnished the mounts for the Viceregal party during their visit to Lundi Kotal, and Rs. 400 to the Artillery men who drove His Excellency to Ali Masjid. The men doubtless regard the payments as presents. By a bad old custom, both men and beasts are always at the disposal of the "big wigs" who want their services. And the "distinguished visitors" not unoften work the poor horses to lameness or worse.

A YOUNG Swiss woman, Miss Emily Kempen, successfully graduated herself in the Zurich University as a Doctor of Laws. But her own country which granted the degree gave her no opportunity of practising the profession she had chosen. She therefore went over to the New World, where there are no old world prejudices against women, and set herself up in Broadway, New York, where she has been for several years. The New York State, while allowing women to practise law, has no institution where they could study it. Miss Kempen, in grateful recognition of the welcome given her by that State, has taken upon herself to supply the desideratum. She has received sufficient encouragement from lawyers, clergymen and well-known women. A building too has been secured. Already applications have been received from eleven candidates for admission.

SIR DONALD MACKENZIE WALLACE has arrived in England and settled down in London, Victoria Street.

DURING 1888-89, Rs. 1,31,000 gold was tendered to the Calcutta mint for coinage, and 15,073 mohurs valued at Rs. 2,26,100 were coined.

\* A similar incident is recorded of one of the Northern Barbarians when (in the decline of the Roman Empire) whole tribes embraced Christianity *en masse*. A bishop was baptising the horde, and it came to the shrewd old Norseman's turn. "Bishop," said he, "before I am sprinkled, I want to ask a question." "Ask!" "Tell me, Bishop, whether in the Christians' Heaven which you promise I shall meet the souls of all the good warriors of my tribe dead before me?" "Oh, no!" said the Bishop, "they were heathens and are in hell." "Then," growled the old warrior, drawing back, "I would rather be in hell with my fathers than in Heaven with Christian strangers, and I shall do nothing that may place a barrier between us." This story is evidently the Western analogue of that of Yudhistir, and is one of those many but strange coincidences of Eastern and European Folklore often met with.

THE Resident is being banquetted in Hyderabad. On Saturday the 26th October, there was a Minister's state dinner in the Bashir Bagh Palace. On Wednesday following, Munir-ul-Mulk entertained the Resident. The week closed with a breakfast by the Nazim to the Resident.

THE Gaekwar of Baroda has founded a chair of Therapeutics in the Grant Medical College, at a cost of Rs. 30,000. The first appointment goes to Dr. Bahadurji as Professor of Chemical Medicine and Pharmacology. He had been to England and the Continent and studied in London, Vienna, Berlin and Paris.

THE *Indigo Planters' Gazette* is developing enterprise in a new direction. In these days of official jealousy of the Press, it is no small credit to our contemporary to bring to light interesting, if not "secret," official papers not yet published in the *Gazette*. In its issue of November 5, the *Indigo Planters' Gazette* publishes a valuable report of a Collector under the head of "An Account of the Burdwan Raj Estate as Reported by Mr. Oldham." We can guess with tolerable certainty that it will next come out with the interesting annual report on the Cuttack Mehals—unless our contemporary is childish enough to prove us a false prophet at the expense of its readers.

THE Governor-General in Council has determined that of the "corrupt" Mamludars in the Crawford Scandal, Lakshman Moreshwar Deshpande, Lakshman Chintaman Phadke, Rámchandra Yashwant Chaulbal, Bákrishna Govind Sindekar, Devráo Kacheshwar Chincholikar, Ganesh Pandurang Thakár, Vishnu Raghunáth Kelkar, Moro Raghunáth Bivalkar, Vásudev Rámchandra Patvardhan, Sakhárám Chinnáji Joshi, Janárdan Eknáth Sahasrabudhe, and Rámráo Hanmant Rájguru need not be dismissed from the public service.

THE existing grant of the four extra pensions of £100 per annum each, yearly, to senior officers of the Indian Medical Department, in the proportion of two for the Bengal and one each for the Madras and Bombay Medical Services, as compensation for the withdrawal from Sanitary Commissioners of the rank and privilege of a Deputy Surgeon-General, will not apply to officers who may be appointed to the Service on and after the examination of August 1889.

THE Governor-General in Council has ruled that a candidate for the Secretariat Clerical Service is competent to compete simultaneously for vacancies in the Secretariat Clerical Service of both the Governments of India and Bengal. On passing the examinations successfully, a candidate's name will be placed on the lists of the passed of both the Governments. The names of selected candidates will remain on the lists until they are provided with appointments or until they become liable to have their names removed from the list under Rule 11 of the Rules published in Home Department Notification No. 1817, dated the 3rd July 1888, and in the Government of Bengal Notification dated 29th April 1889.

AT the instance of the Director of Public Instruction, the Bengal Government has revised the rules for the award of junior and senior scholarships. There will be 150 junior scholarships, for the Bengal schools, namely, 10 first grade with monthly stipends of Rs. 20; 49 second grade at Rs. 15; and 94 third grade at Rs. 10, besides the two specials—one second grade and one third grade—established in 1879 for the sole benefit of the Rungpore zilla school. The 150 are tenable for two years in the affiliated colleges in Bengal and in the United Kingdom, always subject to good conduct and satisfactory progress. But no candidate will be eligible for a scholarship who has not studied for the whole session previous to the examination in the school to which he belongs at the time of presenting himself at the

*Holloway's Pills.*—When inclement weather checks to a considerable extent the action of the skin, an alternative is required to compensate the body by means of other channels. Holloway's Pills can be confidently recommended as the easiest, surest, and safest means of attaining this desirable end without weakening the most delicate or incommencing the most feeble. When from frequently recurring chills or the inhalation of impure air the blood becomes foul and the secretions vitiated, these Pills present a ready and efficient means of cleansing the former and correcting the latter. By this salutary proceeding disease is arrested at its outset, its pains and inconveniences averted, and the nervous structures saved from the depressing effects entailed upon them by an illness.



Entrance Examination, unless he has been transferred within that period with the sanction of the Circle Inspector. The first grade scholarships are the reward of the ten candidates who obtain the highest aggregate marks. The second and third are distributed among several Commissionerships thus :—

Burdwan Division	... 2nd grade.	6	3rd grade.	12
Town of Calcutta	... "	6	"	11
Presidency Division	... "	6	"	12
Rajshahye	... "	5	"	9
Dacca	... "	6	"	12
Chittagong	... "	2	"	6
Patna	... "	6	"	12
Bhagalpore	... "	3	"	9
Orissa	... "	4	"	6
Chota Nagpore,,	... "	2	"	5

The allotment to each district will be notified before September in each year by the Commissioner of the Division in consultation with the Circle Inspector. This as regards the third grade, the second grade scholarships will be the prize of the best students in the division from whatever districts. Scholarships not taken up will be at the disposal of the Director of Public Instruction for deserving candidates from other divisions to stimulate collegiate education in the backward districts. The primary condition exacted of scholarship-holders is to be able to read and write with facility and correctness one of the vernacular languages of Bengal. They will be further required to pay the usual schooling fees in Government Colleges but never more than Rs. 10.

Besides the 150, the Rules provide for 20 special scholarships of Rs. 7 for Mahomedan students passing the Entrance Examination and failing to obtain any more valuable exhibition, and for three, one of each grade, open annually to female candidates, educated in any school in Bengal, and tenable in any collegiate institution approved by the Director of Public Instruction.

The senior scholarships are fifty in number, 10 of the first grade at Rs. 25 and 40 of the second at Rs. 20, and tenable for two years, with the sanction of the Director, in any affiliated college in Bengal to be selected by the holder, and in the United Kingdom, subject to good conduct and satisfactory progress. The first grade scholarships are open to general competition, the second being restricted to the Divisions of the Province—in the proportion of 10 to Calcutta, 4 to the Presidency Division, 8 to Burdwan, 3 to Rajshahye, 7 to Dacca and Chittagong, 6 to Patna and Bhagalpore, and 2 to Orissa. The second grade scholarships are not awardable to first grade holders but payable only to the respective divisional students passing in the first or the second division, excepting Behar and Orissa. In special cases, candidates from the last two territorial divisions falling below the second literary division may be rewarded. Senior scholars will not be excused the usual schooling fees, in whole or in part.

The Mahomedans, again, have the special advantage of 20 additional scholarships—ten of Rs. 10 and ten of Rs. 7; and the female scholars of two, one of each grade.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

BLOOD is thicker than water, and the Chesneys have, after all, succumbed to the everlasting truth. Passing over the names of Colonel Williams, R. E.,—recommended by the retired member, General Strachey himself—Sir Theodore Hope, Sir Juland Danvers, the present Public Works Secretary at the India Office, General William Trevor, late Public Works Secretary in India, and Sir Guilford Molesworth, the *Pioneer* very naturally nominates General Chesney for the vacant seat on the India Council. "It seems quite possible," it says, "however, that Lord Cross may look beyond the local circle, and strengthen his Council by the addition of General Chesney, a prominent Public Works officer before he joined the Military Department, who might, or might not, be found willing to leave the post in this country that could badly spare him."

NOT, at any rate, till Captain Hearsey has exhausted his energies and resources in his pursuit of justice against the *Pioneer*. The same afternoon that Mr. Justice Norris threw out the complaint of the Captain in the last criminal sessions against the chief editor of the *Pioneer*, General Chesney commemorated the paternal relief on the release of his own by an afternoon tea party at his office at Simla, at which he received the congratulations of the highest ladies and

gentlemen and rulers in the land. To the trial itself he gave what assistance he could—of rather a left-handed kind. The Calcutta Military Department was subpoenaed to produce documents and wrote for instructions to Simla. The order was not to produce before the Court any official paper on the ground of there being no orders of Government on that behalf. Next day, the head of the Department telegraphed for all the papers in the Calcutta office relating to the Captain.

It has dawned upon Government that "the basis of compensation to be awarded for revenue-paying lands taken up under the provisions of Act X of 1870 is intended by the said Act to be the actual price for which the land, subject to all its burdens, and, among others, to the burden of the payment of land revenue, would sell in the market." It has therefore found it expedient to revise the rules on that behalf with reference to the new light. It has been ruled accordingly that the proprietor shall, except as provided in Rule VI, be relieved of liability to pay revenue to the extent of the Government demand upon the said land to be taken up under the Act. The principle of partial abatement of revenue is thus laid down :—

"IV.—If the land be not liable for a specific amount of revenue, but be a portion of an estate or tenure which is liable for a specific amount, the proportion of Government revenue to be deemed payable in respect of the land taken shall be ascertained under the following rules :—

1st—When an estate has, within twenty years next preceding the date of the commencement of proceedings for the acquisition of any land situate therein, been subjected to a detailed settlement, or has formed portion of an estate brought under division under Regulation XIX of 1814 (superseded in Bengal by Bengal Act VIII of 1876), made after inquiry into and record of the assets of the estate, the Government revenue to be deemed payable in respect of the said land shall bear to the assets of the said land the same proportion as the Government revenue of the whole estate bears to the assets of the whole estate, as shown in the settlement or division proceedings.

2nd—When there may have been no such settlement or division as aforesaid, then, if the area of the estate is known with accuracy, the amount of Government revenue to be deemed payable in respect of the portion of the land taken shall bear to the Government revenue of the whole estate the same proportion as the area of the said portion bears to the area of the whole estate.

3rd—When the Government revenue deemed payable in respect of the land taken cannot be determined by either of the above rules, one-fourth of the net rent (*i.e.*, the gross rental less a deduction of 10 per cent. for the expenses of collection) of the said land shall be taken to be the amount of Government revenue thereon chargeable.

V.—In determining the amount of compensation to be tendered, the Collector shall take into consideration the fact that the land acquired is subject to the burden of the payment of Government revenue."

The exception alluded to above runs in these words :—

"VI.—In the event of the proprietor declining to accept an abatement of revenue, such circumstance shall not entitle him to any compensation over and above the amount tendered on the original basis of calculation. In cases, however, in which the area of the portion of land acquired does not exceed one-twentieth part of the area of the estate, it shall be competent to the Revenue authorities, if the proprietor of the estate so desire, to pay to the proprietor the computed value of the revenue deemed payable in respect of such portion, on the condition of his continuing to pay the revenue of the entire estate without abatement : provided that, in computing the value of the revenue so assigned, the basis of calculation shall not exceed the number of years' purchase, (if known), upon which the market-value of the proprietor's profits, *i.e.*, the tender of compensation has been determined. Thus, if the market-value of the said profits has been computed at 12 years' purchase, the capitalized value of the revenue deemed payable in respect of the portion of land acquired shall be calculated at not more than 12 years' purchase of the amount of revenue in question."

THE Calcutta municipal Act (II. B. C. of 1888) Section 132 requires that "the valuation made by the Commissioners subject to such alterations as may from time to time thereafter be duly made, shall be entered in the assessment book, and the assessment calculated on the said valuation shall, subject to such alterations as aforesaid, be deemed to be the amount payable during the whole period for which the valuation is in force, and this period shall be calculated from the commencement of the quarter next succeeding that in which any such amendment shall be so authenticated; and until such date the old valuation shall continue in force, notwithstanding that the period for which it was made may have expired." The section has been the subject of discussion in the municipal office, and various opinions were expressed as to amounts of the rates to be collected when a new valuation has been made and objected or appealed to. The Advocate-General was applied to in the last instance, and here is his opinion :—

"Under Section 129 of Act II of 1888 (B. C.) the Commissioners are directed to enter the valuation made by them in the assessment book. If no objection is raised to any such valuation, and therefore no appeal against it (see Section 137) the assessment calculated on such

valuation shall be deemed to be the amount payable during the whole period for which the valuation is in force.

If there should be an objection made against the valuation and the objection being overruled either wholly or in part, there should be an appeal, the amount adjudicated on appeal, which is final and binding, should be entered without delay in the assessment book, and in that case the time from which the assessment in the new valuation is to be made will run from the commencement of the quarter next succeeding that in which the entry of the new valuation shall have been made. Similarly, where an objection has been raised and either allowed or overruled and no appeal is preferred in the latter case, the assessment on the new valuation will run from the commencement of the next quarter next succeeding the entry made in such objection.

If the objections and appeals are altogether unsuccessful, so that no amendment or alteration of the valuation is possible, the assessment calculated in the valuation shall be the amount payable during the time for which the valuation is in force."

Specific questions were put to Sir Charles Paul, as in the following:—

"*Case No. 1.* Suppose a house is valued at Rs. 1,000 a year. The valuation of the district in which it is situated (Section 129) expires in the first quarter of 1889-90, during that quarter the Commissioners revalue it under Sections 129 to 132 at Rs. 1,500. The owner objects under Section 135, the objection is heard in the second quarter of the year and the valuation reduced to Rs. 1,300; the owner appeals under Section 137 and the appeal is decided in the fourth quarter of the year, the valuation being reduced to Rs. 1,200. On what valuation are the rates to be levied during the second, third and fourth quarters? Some say Rs. 1,500 the second, Rs. 1,300 the third and fourth, and Rs. 1,200 from the first quarter of 1890-91. Others say Rs. 1,000 for the second, third and fourth quarters and then Rs. 1,200.

"*Case No. 2.*—A new house is built and completed in the last quarter of 1888-89. In the first quarter of 1889-90 it is valued under Section 125 at Rs. 2,000. On objection it is reduced in the second quarter to Rs. 1,800, and on appeal in the fourth quarter to Rs. 1,500, should no rates be levied during the second, third and fourth quarters, or should they be levied on Rs. 2,000, 1,800 and 1,500 respectively?

"*Case No. 3.*—Same facts as case 1 except that on objection the valuation of Rs. 1,500 is sustained in the second quarter and on appeal it is again sustained in the fourth quarter. Should the rates during the second, third and fourth quarters be calculated on Rs. 1,000 or on Rs. 1,500?

"*Case No. 4.*—Same facts as case 2 except that the objection is unsuccessful in the second quarter and the appeal unsuccessful in the fourth. Should the rates during the second, third and fourth quarters be calculated on Rs. 2,000 or no rates be levied?"

His answers are:—

"*Answer to Case 1.*—Rs. 1,000 for the second, third and fourth quarters and then Rs. 1,200.

"*Answer to Case 2.*—According to the terms of Section 139, no rates can be levied for the second, third and fourth quarters, there having been no previous or old valuation.

"*Answer to Case 3.*—The valuation being sustained in both stages there can be no alteration or amendment provided for in Section 139, therefore the rates should be calculated on Rs. 1,500 during the second, third and fourth quarters.

"*Answer to Case 4.*—In this case the valuation being unaltered, there can be no amendment or alteration provided in Section 139, therefore the rates should be calculated on Rs. 2,000 for the second, third and fourth quarters."

It is plain, the old assessment must rule until the new has been finally fixed, and no new valuation is to be entered in the Assessment Book until it—for the period of valuation—is binding after the disposal of the objection and the appeal, if any, from the decision on objection of the Chairman, the new valuation taking effect from the subsequent quarter.

ARABI the unblest is pining away in his exile, as well he may. There is no torture to the high soul conscious of the power—the capacity and the will—to do great things as forced inaction. A correspondent of the *Birmingham Post*, who has spent sometime in Colombo, thus describes the Egyptian patriot:—

"A few years ago he was altogether a jovial and well conditioned fellow; now he looks dyspeptic and unhappy, and wears his forty-nine years as though they were many more. While his companions seem to live in ease and comfort, and are determined to enjoy the life to which fate has for a while consigned them, Arabi is restless, unhappy, and oppressed with a morbid fear that he will die in exile. Occasionally he exhibits a little interest in the possibility of growing Ceylon products in Egypt, but he soon relapses into his now habitual state. In the ordinary amusements of the isle he takes little interest, and the monotony of his life seems to be only varied by occasional drives to the houses of the more popular members of Colombo society, a visit to the cinnamon gardens, or an infrequent stroll along the Galle Face beach. His family take life more easily. His wife, and his sons, and his daughters (one son excepted) spend a considerable time in Egypt; but the one son, a young fellow of twenty-seven, remains permanently with his father."

Whatever the political necessity of the hour for shipping the patriot out of his country, that necessity, we hope, no longer exists. If it be still inexpedient to restore him to Egypt, there can be no reason for permanently depriving Islam of one of her best sons. The Sultan might be persuaded to pardon the Egyptian patriot, and he might be

of service to the Porte. At any rate, he might be given a home in Asiatic Turkey. Abdul Kader had, after all, a better fate. And he was a more formidable foe of the Power that treacherously captured, imprisoned and exiled him.

ACCORDING to the *Home News*, Sir Lepel Griffin is engaged to Miss Marie Leupold, the daughter of a Goanese and Naples merchant. She is described as a fascinating young lady of twenty-two. He met her at Homberg where she was staying the last summer on a visit with her grandmother, who is a daughter of Mr. Gray of Dilston and sister of Mrs. Tell Meuricoffre, of Naples, and Mrs. Josephine Butler. We wish Sir Lepel happiness and the young lady joy. If the marriage could have been arranged two years earlier, he would not have lost the Lieutenant-Governorship of the Punjab.

A GREAT journalist, who was a scholar of equal merit and modesty as well as a sterling man, has passed away in Mr. George Eliot Ranken. He will be forgotten as the editor, for fifteen long years, of the well-known Roman Catholic organ, the *Tablet*. Had he written a sensational novel or a successful burlesque, or bungled as a Colonial Governor, or led his regiments to useless massacre, he would have had a chance of some sort of immortality. Born in 1828 and educated at Eton and Oxford, he had a brilliant academic career. He joined Oxford at the height of the Tractarian movement and was, like so many of the best men of the period, drawn in the Catholic revival. More truly honest than many of the originators of that movement, young Ranken, at the age of 21, declared himself and formally joined the Roman Catholic Church. His tutor, the more worldly Arthur Penhryn Stanley, who had cherished the most splendid dream of renown and prosperity for his favorite pupil, was shocked. His family and personal friends were inconsolable. He did not care; nor complained, even though he actually lost a big fortune by his act of fidelity to his conscience. He was called to the bar, we believe, but did not join it. For sometime he acted as a clerk or private secretary at the War Office. Afterwards he went to Rome where he was made a Privy Chamberlain by the late Pope. His fine English mind wearied of the petty employment in a suffocating Italian atmosphere. So he finally came back to England and assumed the charge of the *Tablet* in 1871, resigning it on account of ill-health in 1886. That protracted illness was his last.

A CASE of great interest to commercial people has been just decided in England. So long ago as 1879, the then new firm of Hasse & Co., butter and margarine men, engaged one Bilbee, a butter and margarine man of twenty-five years' standing, on his offer to tout for orders for them on commission. "As regards your commission," wrote Hasse & Co. to Bilbee, "we hereby agree to allow you one and a half per cent. upon all orders executed by us and paid for by the customers arising from your introduction." It proved a fine connection. Hasse & Co. flourished under the flow of orders of Bilbee's customers. But prosperity and wealth do not dispose men to righteousness and grace. Hasse & Co. seem to have more and more conceived a grudge against Bilbee as they filled their coffers from his business connections and his activity and address. At last, in the beginning of last year, they thought themselves long-established and strong enough to kick their old ladder. In February 1888, the commission agent was suddenly dismissed. Bilbee, of course, ceased to attend their place or work for them, but he nonetheless claimed his usual commission on their business from the customers he had procured them. They declined payment, and Bilbee went to court. The moral obligation is clear to all minds with a tincture of the moral sense. But the resisting *goules* relied upon the law. And well they might in a country in which, often enough, Law is one thing and Equity another. It was so long since Bilbee had brought them many of their customers, that they hoped that the court might declare his equitable claim on them lapsed. They doubtless fully expected that at the worst a matter-of-fact British tribunal would not go the length of endowing their dismissed man—a mere servant as they chose to regard him—with a perpetual profit on the future orders of the customers he had introduced to their house, even after they had severed their connection with him, as no longer requiring it. They have been totally disappointed. The court proved too subtle for their oleaginous baseness. Lord Justice Lopes held them down to their bond. According to the terms of their agreement they must continue to pay

Bilbee his one and half per cent. on all the customers he had ever brought them, so long as they might choose to supply them.

WE see that Mr. Moore has revived his evening theatrical paper *The Bee*. The literary conduct is good—better than ever. Small as is the space reserved for the editor, he gives delectable reading. So far as we have seen in this country, such papers are mere advertisers—for the theatre and the opera to begin with, the blank space being filled with some theatrical notices copied from other newspapers or anecdotes of the drama and music culled from some book. *The Bee* is more of a genuine Saturday evening sheet on a small scale, with interesting jottings and spicy paragraphs occasionally swelling to the dignity of "leaders." It is rather an impudent fly, the *Bee*, and it has commenced with poking irreverent fun at its elders, but an evening literary "artiste" must be smart at any rate—even at the sacrifice of friends. We are not concerned of the antics of the *Bee* on its noble horns. But its "chaff" shoots quite above the head of the new *Herald*, we are afraid. It is, however, capable of superior things. Thus the ever-watchful *Bee* has caught the great James Payn of the *Englishman* in the act—of dishing up one of old Lavator's physiognomical stories as a fresh phrenological anecdote. That would be a feather in the cap of more important publications.

THE *Bee* lately stood up for the honor of the hive against the common notion that the Anglo-Indian papers of Upper and Northern India had the monopoly of literary excellence, and instanced in proof of its protest an article in the *Indian Daily News* of the 25th October. That was really an admirable "leader" in our morning contemporary, and if "fadists" and philanthropists could be silenced by sound sense vigorously and smartly put, the Quixotic India reformers in England would receive their *quietus* from such an exposure. We may add that not long ago we read a charming article in the *Statesman* on Marlowe, the precursor of Shakespeare, which would have been embraced with open arms by those who "boss" the *Saturday Review* or the *Spectator* and would have done either paper honor. And only the day before yesterday we read in the *Englishman* one of the ablest, wisest things we ever recollect on the Liquor Traffic. We are accustomed to associate the Indian press with illiberality, unreasonableness and rancour; but such an article, so calm and moderate, so well reasoned, with all the essential facts stated, nothing extenuated nor ought set down in malice, could scarcely be expected in Great Britain, where not only politics in general but even scientific questions of finance and currency are the sport of party.

WHILE staying in the Poona Royal Family hotel, Mr. Malabari, of the *Indian Spectator*, was despoiled of his despatch box containing about Rs. 4,000. For this loss, John Renton Denning and George Goggin, non-commissioned officers of the Bombay Army on the Attached List, were committed by the City Magistrate Mr. Plunkett and tried for theft of the box and its contents by Mr. Crowe, Sessions Judge of Poona. The prisoners admitted the abstraction but with no dishonest intention, saying the whole thing was a practical joke. Evidence was adduced as to character which was spoken of very highly by Colonel Dundas, Assistant Adjutant-General of the Bombay Army, and Colonel Chard, commanding the 2nd Battalion Royal Fusiliers. The Assessors—two Europeans and one native—were impressed by the evidence and found both the accused not guilty in the absence of dishonest intention. The Judge was not so easily taken in. He disagreed with the Assessors and was so convinced of the guilt of the accused that he sentenced each of them to six months' rigorous imprisonment. The matter will be taken up to the Bombay High Court, and a subscription is being raised to pay the law expenses.

THE King Luis of Portugal is dead. His eldest son Prince Carlos, Duke of Braganza, has been proclaimed King as Carlos First.

THE British South African Company have obtained a Charter from Queen Victoria to exploit the region between Bechuanaland, the Transvaal, and Portuguese territory. It, however, reserves the right to the Crown to take over and administer the territory after twenty-five years.

MR. Bradlaugh has had a relapse, but he is now pronounced out of danger. He has been medically advised an Indian tour. He has refused the offer of a public subscription to meet the expenses.

ON the release from jail of Orator Surendranath Banerjee, they raised a Fund which they called National now amounting to only Rs. 19,303-0-11, namely, donation Rs. 16,928-7-7 and interest on Government securities Rs. 2,374-9-4. The Fund Holders have now transferred the Fund to themselves as Indian Associationists, by a resolution, which, imitating the will of Peter Isaac Thellusson, leaves the fund to grow until it reaches the maximum of Rs. 50,000, by fresh donations but not by accumulation of interest. The interest on Rs. 16,000 will be applied by the Indian Association to uses which it thinks national, but no part of the fund is to be devoted to any purpose, national or otherwise, unless you have put into the hands of the Association another Rs. 34,000. It took 6 years to raise the Rs. 16,000 and, at that rate, it will take another 7 years to come up to the required figure, provided Surendranath libelled another Judge of the High Court and were again sent to prison.

THE event of the week in Europe is the visit of the German Emperor to the Sick Man. His Majesty who had been to Athens, left that city on the 31st October, for Constantinople, escorted by the German Squadron, and next evening passed through the Dardanelles. Grand preparations had been made by the Sultan. Their Majesties dined together on Saturday over a most cordial conversation. On the 4th, there was a grand banquet at the Yildig Palace, which over, the Sultan took and introduced the Empress to his daughters and the ladies of the harem. At the banquet, the Emperor personally invested the Sultan with the Hohenzollern Order. The Sultan, in return, expressed his deep gratitude for the honor and loaded the Emperor and Empress with the costliest gifts. On the 6th, the Imperial guests took leave of the Sultan and sailed for Venice.

IN March, 1886, the Maharaja of Scindhia, for the cantonment of Morar restored to him, ceded to the British Government in full sovereignty the town and fort of Jhansi with certain adjacent land. To bring them within British laws, the Jhansi and Morar Act XVII of 1886 was passed incorporating the ceded places with the rest of the Jhansi district which has been British since 1853. A question has now cropped up whether the Indian Councils Act, 1861, under which the Jhansi Act of 1886 was passed, gives the Governor-General's Council authority to pass such a law. Section 22 empowers the making of laws for the "Indian territories now under the dominion of Her Majesty." It is therefore contended that the Indian Council is not competent to make laws for places and territories which were not at the passing of the law of 1861 British dominion. By the use of the word "now," the Council is precluded from legislating for subsequent acquisition of territory. The question has been set down for the Full Bench of the Allahabad High Court, and will be argued next week.

MR. Hume has threatened to withdraw from the Indian National Congress, unless, at its sitting in Bombay next December, Rs. 40,000, the expenses of the Indian Political Agency in London, for the year 1870, are guaranteed. He writes:—

"If all these good and worthy men cannot so combine as to effect the raising, yearly, promptly and without my having to dun you for every rupee, of the paltry sum of thirty thousand or forty thousand rupees required for that primary essential, the English Agency, then it simply means that you and I have been wrong, and our opponents who declare us unfit for self-government right, and the sooner I gave up the vain attempt of making ropes of what I have hitherto believed to be good fibre, but which, tried by the money test, seems threatening to turn out something very like sand, the better it will be for all of us."

The withdrawal of the General Secretary means the extinction of the Congress, which never had any vitality of its own. What at almost any time would have been of doubtful policy, was forced into premature birth and hitherto maintained by the ambition and purse of some perturbed spirits, and the noise of notoriety hunting or duped understrappers. Mr. Hume has now discovered his mistake of attempting to make bricks out of straw.

THE Mohunt of Tirputi has been committed on charges of criminal breach of trust and criminal misappropriation.

## REIS &amp; RAYYET.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1889.

## THE OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT.

## A CONFESSION.

WE have to-day a humiliating task to perform—to make an important recantation. It is always a torture to human vanity to confess defeat or error. But it has to be done sometimes. Duty must be done at any cost. As, in the long run, it is pleasanter to think well of our neighbours rather than ill, we hope, notwithstanding the sorry figure we may cut before the public, we shall not be without a set-off of internal satisfaction, under the self-inflicted operation. At any rate, we cannot carry the burden of wrong-doing in an important matter. For it is no light thing to wrong the Fountain of Law and authority. And we *have* blundered into that offence. There is no getting over it, the case is so clear. Writing during our holiday, far away in the country, on the Official Secrets Act, in dependence chiefly on the exposition of it in the Council, with our natural jealousy of every measure purporting to curtail the liberty of publication, we were frightened by a bugbear of invasion of our dearest rights as British subjects. We raised the cry of “wolf!” in all good faith and seriousness, but it was in reality nothing better than the fabled warning, so far as any hostile raid into the fold or flock was concerned. We armed ourselves *cap-a-pie* and stepped valiantly forward to fight and even commenced to fire and hack away at the enemy, but we were warring with a windmill of our own fancy. On coming to town and looking into the matter, and examining the Act, we discover the great mistake we committed. We find it a harmless enough thing. It *might* be put to bad uses, but that is a different question. That suggestion is bred of jealousy of Indian officials. But it is forgotten that the terrible Indian Bureaucracy had nothing to do with the inception of the measure. It is an emanation of British statesmanship *khas* and pure, and has run the gauntlet of party and radical criticism at Home. There are all the necessary safeguards against abuse. As for this country, it was already law in it when the Government of India introduced it here. It had already passed in England for all British Possessions. The Indian Act is simply a reenactment. The Hon’ble Mr. Scoble said as much, but we gentlemen of the Press—not very much different from Bismarck’s gentlemen of the *pave*, perhaps—we were not going to take a member of Council’s word on trust. In justice to us all, we must say that the Lord President put us on the wrong scent. (Is it possible His Excellency meant to apply a practical test to gauge the perspicacity of the Indian Press?) Indeed, the Indian Act is a trifle milder than its prototype of the Mother Country. So far as the Press is concerned, there is not a shadow of menace against it. Nay, there is not a word about journals or journalists, publishers or printers. All our rage has gone for nothing. And we, for one, must gulph down our humble pie with as good a face as we can command.

## ITALY IN THE COMING STRUGGLE.

THE October number of the *Contemporary Review* contains an article headed “The Triple Alliance and Italy’s Place in it,” signed “Outidands.” It is generally attributed to the fertile pen of the Grand Old Man of infinite energy and work. Apart from the personality of the supposed author, there is

nothing very remarkable in it. As a mere anonymous essay, or even as one published in the name of any ordinary literary man, it would not have attracted particular notice. It shows no special knowledge but presents the facts known to all newspaper readers. It is only Mr. Gladstone’s name that makes people call it a powerful exposure of the Alliance as a combination that makes for war. The writer argues against the pretensions of the Alliance as a League for the maintenance of peace by showing that the Alliance of the Three Powers leaves the Powers against whose combination it is directed not only free but also able to make war. That in itself is not a very recondite proposition. Nor is it made out in any subtle Gladstonian way. The ordinary daily and weekly press might have been left to make the obvious suggestion and point out the glaring facts, as indeed they were doing. The pith of the case is contained in the following :—

“Granting that the German army is at this moment the first army in Europe, it seems not an unreasonable opinion that the Russian and the French, or the French and the Russian, armies are the second and the third, and that Austria and, in the fifth place, Italy, have to take rank behind them. Suppose we attempt roughly to measure relative strength by the threefold test of (1) numerical amount of army ‘with the colours’ and navy, (2) population, and (3) revenue, we obtain, on resort to popular sources of information, something like the following results :—

	Germany with Austria and Italy.	France and Russia.
Army and Navy ...	1,652,000	1,578,000
Population (Europe only) ...	113,000,000	125,000,000
Revenue ...	£279,000,000	£237,000,000

There is nothing in these figures demonstrative of gross disparity, or of an incapacity on either side to wage, if so minded, a deliberate and determined struggle.”

That is a mere statistician’s argument; it may be even a financier’s; but it is certainly no statesman’s. It is nations that make and maintain wars, and are nations mere populations and revenues? According to this writer’s way of thinking, China would be perhaps the greatest Power in the world. Nor is it the view of a soldier or a strategist. At any rate, this view is no argument against the Powers of Central Europe coming to a mutual understanding and compact for defensive and offensive purposes, in view of possible eventualities from the combined hostility of their powerful neighbours in front and rear. On the writer’s own showing, the German Powers were quite right in forming the League he deprecates and embracing within it the Mediterranean Power.

Perhaps the only distinct piece of internal evidence to connect the Great Liberal Leader with the authorship is in the Italian portion of the thesis. The remarks on Italy and specially their tone seem to betray the Roman—or shall we say the Neapolitan—hand of the politician whose revelations of King Bomba’s courts and prison-houses were the handwriting on the wall preceding the downfall of the petty sovereignties whose existence was in the way of Italian nationality. Be the writer who he may, he is inconsolable at the idea of Italy joining the League. He upbraids her for her impertinence. He chides her for her rashness. He actually abuses her for her insensate behaviour. Lastly, he appeals to her honour. Why on earth should she make common cause with her hereditary task master and oppressor? The writer says :—

“Every maxim of policy, every suggestion of commonsense, and the dictates of a necessity nothing less than trumpet-tongued, forbid to Italy all intermixture in Cisalpine antipathies or conflicts. It is best to be plain on these occasions. We will therefore scruple to say that the appearance of Italy in the Triple Alliance is no better than a gigantic piece of political tomfoolery, which is so strange as to be grotesque, and which would even be comic if it were not ruinous. But there she is, and the fact of her presence is perhaps the most signal illustration ever yet afforded, in the political sphere, of the proverbial remark that fact is stranger than fiction. When, by the greatest master-stroke of the last half-century, the illustrious Cavour sent 15,000 men to the Crimea, and thus secured for his country, at almost no cost or risk, a contingent place among the Great Powers of Europe, a result was

achieved which was nothing less than stupendous with reference to the means employed. Never was there such a case of good brickmaking without straw."

That is, at any rate, a legitimate treatment of the subject. It essays a practical argument with practical men on a practical subject. The case, however, can hardly be said to be made out. On the contrary, the example adduced makes for the directly opposite policy—that which Italy has adopted—not the one that is sought in the *Contemporary* to be enforced. Signor Crispi may well claim to be treading in the footsteps of his great predecessor. On the face of it, there was no more reason for Cavour to plunge his country into the vortex of the Crimean War than for the present ministry to undertake the risks of a party to the coming European struggle. Nay, there was far less reason. We are old enough to remember the amused surprise with which Cavour's negotiation to have the honour of being permitted to send his 15,000 unfortunate mercenaries to perish on the heaths and rocks of Krim Tartary, was received by the world at large. By all indeed save perhaps a few experts in affairs, it was regarded more as the fancy of a mad patriot than the sober step of a sane statesman. For it should be borne in mind, that at that time there was no Italy. It was the petty principal-ity of Sardinia that thus sought to pay this costly *nuzur*—honorary—for the glory of being admitted into the Councils of the Western Powers—as a younger little sister. Had the War been with the Powers of Central Europe, or had Prussia or, better, Austria sided with Russia, or shown any distinct preference for her, there might be some, however, inadequate cause—at least a sentimental reason—for poor Sardinia, by a hazardous alliance, to show her pique against the hereditary task-master of the illustrious but then unhappily disunited Peninsula. But that was not so, whatever the secret leanings of the Court and Cabinet of Vienna. But the statesmanship of the move was vindicated by the event. Cavour's calculations proved correct to the farthing. England has always sympathised with Italian aspirations after nationality, and France repaid her obligation with interest. Italy was freed from the Alps to the Adriatic. At this day, surely a United Italy might, with far greater propriety as with much more confidence, tread the maze of international affairs and put herself forward as a party to war and peace.

But what shall we say of such grandmotherly counsel as this?—

"Plainly, she ought to recollect the great service rendered her in 1866 by Germany, and the yet greater service which she received from France in 1859; a service still greater than that of 1866, because he that breaks the first link of the captive's chains makes the most effectual contribution towards his complete and final freedom."

Herein, we confess, we discern something like the inspiration of the Grand Old Preacher. Here, if anywhere, is Mr. Gladstone in his effusive side. It would no doubt be unseemly and unfortunate if Italy should range herself against her liberator, but France did not assist the Italians without a price. In fact, the liberation was paid for before, as we have seen, and afterwards, as is well known, by the treaty of March 24, 1860. Nations have got to look to the present and the future. Such a reminder is as little to the purpose as would be an appeal to the panLatin sentiment.

#### THE DEVASTATIONS OF MALARIA IN LOWER BENGAL.

A REMINISCENCE OF INDIVIDUAL NATIVE GENIUS AND AN EXAMPLE OF NATIONAL INDIFFERENCE.

THE *Mirror's* London Correspondent, noticing a paragraph in the Society paper, the *Hawk*, expres-

sive of surprise at the fearful mortality in Bengal from malarious fever from the blocking of the drainage of the country by railway embankments, writes:—

"So far back as 1872, if I remember rightly, the whole question of this continuous and cruel depopulation of a portion of the Lower Provinces of Bengal was demonstratively traced to the railways of the country by the late Rajah Degumber Mitter, the author of the five thousand rupees Prize Essay on the subject. It might be useful, Mr. Editor, to refer to that essay in the present controversy."

The writer is quite off in his dates and facts. There is no such brochure by the late Raja Degumber Mitter—that is, no Prize Essay, successful or unsuccessful. The deceased Bengali gentleman received no prize, because he competed for none. He published largely enough, and with rare intelligence on the subject of the depopulation of the country from malarious fever, but not as the author of a Prize Essay.

The whole question of the devastations of the Epidemic Fever in Bengal was of a much earlier date than 1872. A dozen years before, it had been pressed on the attention of Government, until, in 1864, a Commission was appointed to inquire into this cause of fearful mortality and the best means of combatting it. Three European medical officers and one lay Baboo were charged with this important commission. That layman was the lamented Degumber Mitter, since made C. S. I. and finally Raja. The working of that Commission affords a crucial example of the value of native assistance, rightly chosen, in the administration. The Commission visited the affected parts, and others too. But, while the foreigners found themselves at sea, the native was able to see clearly into the matter. For once, the doctors did not disagree—except with their lay colleague. The medical Commissioners suggested all possible causes without being able to fix their minds on any prime adequate cause. Not so Baboo Degumber Mitter. With his knowledge of the topography of the country and his early experience at Cossimbazar, he arrived at the conclusion that the disease was due to augmented dampness of the soil arising from obstructed drainage, itself chiefly owing to the multiplication of roads and embankments and the construction of railways. This view of the minority was contained in a memorandum by Baboo Degumber Mitter which appeared as an appendix to the Report of the Epidemic Commission. We remember its treatment on the publication of the Report. It was not to be endured that a mere Baboo should hit upon the truth which had for years eluded all the European officers, executive and medical, of the administration, and had just escaped the elaborate inquiry of the faculty. Nor was the complaint against road-making and railway construction as introducers of fever into the country to be listened to by the engineers. It was, in fine, against the European grain. Accordingly, both faculties and British officials and non-officials all combined laughed the brilliant deduction—supported as it was by so much knowledge and such a mass of facts—out of court. But they had no idea of the persistence of their Bengali. Baboo Degumber Mitter, having seized what he conceived to be the truth, devoted himself to its recognition by the public. His effort were at last crowned with success. A determined man of a single idea is a very formidable customer. Opposition with all its weapons of ridicule and special pleading gradually wanes before his singleness of purpose. So it was. Baboo Degumber knew the importance of his discovery to his poor country with its population prostrate by disease and killed off by thousands, and he never rested till he had converted the public and the Government. He caused Government to circulate his Memorandum and call for th



opinions of the Divisional and District officers. He caused it to institute fresh inquiries. Both the Local and Supreme Governments, relying on the reports of doctors and engineers, decided against him. But he never lost heart. His native friends joined him in the dissemination of what was the truth, if not quite the full truth. Among one or two others, we recollect with satisfaction having ourselves, in more than one journal, political and medical, espoused the cause and pointed out the evils of a general obstruction of rural drainage. Then came Dr. Sircar into the field and did the cause yeoman's service. He did not give easy adhesion to it, but hesitated long while he examined the question himself, but, when he was once convinced, he advocated the theory loyally, with all his enthusiasm. The author of the theory himself defended it ably in the columns of a weekly paper, and afterwards republished his six articles with a preface in pamphlet. The London writer under notice has possibly this tract—*The Epidemic Fever in Bengal*—in his mind. It was not long after that the engineers were silenced and the doctors in chorus sang—

It is—it is the cause, my soul!

As a matter of course, the Government adopted it. From having been the crochet of an unprofessional Babbo, it became the orthodox creed that the gradual obstruction, during a long series of years if not ages, to the natural drainage of the country, latterly aggravated by activity in making roads and embankments for railways and other objects, by causing a permanent extraordinary increase of dampness in the soil, caused the virulent type of malarious fever which devastated the land.

Unfortunately, nothing was done. Indeed, it was not easy to do anything adequate to the demands of the situation. Accordingly, there was a fresh outbreak of the Epidemic in 1875, and again and again has the monster of death and disease made its appearance in the peaceful villages of Lower Bengal. Indeed, the area of malarial influence has gradually extended, until most parts of the Delta are now embraced. The Government cannot be charged with neglect of duty. The people are more to blame—specially the propertied and thinking classes. The remedy lies in a national awakening.

#### DACCA.

November 5, 1889.

The Rev. Mr. Hay of the Baptist Mission is a zealous preacher of Christianity. He is an intelligent, kindly disposed man and can well influence the hearts of his congregation. He takes an interest in the native students. Some time ago, he and some other gentlemen started an association for the moral improvement of the Dacca schoolboys. But his recent baptism of a student of the Dacca Jubilee School has given him a bad name with the people. The boy, it appears, attended the Bible class held in the Baptist Mission Church, for more than a year, and was gradually won over to Christianity. After the baptism, he was sent away to Burisal. In the meantime, the guardian of the boy brought a charge against the Rev. gentleman of kidnapping or secreting. The boy appeared and said that he had embraced Christianity of his own accord and had no mind to return to his father. The Magistrate, however, kept him with Babu Gopi Nath Sen of the New Dispensation Church, and permitted his elder brother to live with him. The following day, the boy went home with the Magistrate's permission. He has, now, we hear, given up his new faith. It seems to be the fashion of the day to fall foul of Christian missionaries, whether they have really done amiss or not; and Mr. Hay's lot has not proved an exception. But our countrymen would do well to take care of their own children before they proceed to abusing missionaries and others. Mr. Hay, after all, is not so much to blame as some of us are pleased to imagine.

It is a healthy sign that the educated people of Dacca have learned to take an interest in manly exercises. Through the exer-

tions of some energetic young men of the town, a wrestling was arranged to take place the day before yesterday, between two Punjabis and two well-known Dungeers of Dacca. People began to gather at the spot from an early hour, and as the day advanced the crowds grew thick. Several influential gentlemen, both Hindu and Mahomedan, were present. The spectators numbered about three thousand. Constables were appointed to maintain order, but to no purpose. Every one was trying his best to occupy a prominent place. As the arrangements were not very wisely made, there was little space left for the wrestlers to move in. Disorder and utter confusion prevailed amongst the spectators; consequently, the wrestling could not take place at all. So every one had to come home disappointed at about 4 or 5 O'clock. It is not yet definitely known when the wrestling is to take place again.

The price of rice which had been so high, has fallen a little. The prospects of crops are favourable, and the general health is good. Winter has begun to set in. On the 27th of October, we experienced very bad weather. Rain and storm continued the whole day, and the water, which had begun to retire, rose very high all on a sudden.

SARADA KANTA GUHA.

### Public Paper.

#### MR. HOPKIN'S REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE TRIBUTARY MEHALS OF ORISSA FOR 1888-89.

Having assumed charge of the Tributary Mehals at the end of February last, I was during the remaining portion of the year busy in mastering office details and in inspecting Balasore. My predecessor, Mr. Worsley, has furnished the following note about his Gurjat tour:—

"In the last week of 1887-88 I had marched to Angul, and was there, on the 1st April 1888, examining settlement questions with the tehsildar and his assistant. I visited the public institutions at Angul, viz., the hospital, police-station, jail, and school, and distributed prizes to the schoolboys. On the 4th April I left Angul for Dhenkanal, marching along the Sumbulpore-Cuttack road, and through Hindole state, the Chief of which I met, to Bhowpur (37 miles), whence I followed a fairly good road of 13 miles in length in the Dhenkanal state, arriving at Dhenkanal on 7th. There I stayed till 12th, holding sessions and making the usual inspections, and returned to Cuttack by 14th idem. From 7th to 19th September I was engaged in marching to and from Dhenkanal and in holding sessions in that state. On this occasion I again visited the public institutions, and I had the pleasure of distributing prizes to the boys and girls of two good local schools. From Balasore I accompanied His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to Nilgiri state on 27th November, and returned to Cuttack the next day. On the 10th December I commenced my cold-weather tour. I first visited the western part of Cuttack district, including Banki, and then struck into the tributary states, marching up the right bank of the Mahanuddy through Khandpara state to Belpada in Dasappa state; then crossing the river, and travelling down its left bank through the states of Narsingpore, Baramba, Tigris, and Athgur, and recrossing the river at Kukhur Ghât, four miles from Cuttack, on 28th. At Kantillo, in Khandpara state, the Rajah met me, and from that place I visited his capital, which is about seven miles to the south, and is prettily situated at the foot of some hills. The Rajah's authority and power struck me as being particularly great among his people. He is fond of horses and of sport, and takes much interest in his gardens, which are well kept and contain some choice fruit-trees. I had no time to inspect his office, my tour having been undertaken mainly for the purposes of inspecting the states of Narsingpore and Baramba, which are under direct management, and of getting a general knowledge of other states and of their inhabitants. From Kantillo I proceeded to Belpada, where I was met by the Rajah of Dasappa. This Chief has not exercised any civil and criminal jurisdiction for some time, this power being exercised by a manager, Baboo Jugga Mohan Ghose, whose appointment was sanctioned in Government letter No. 86P.D. (Political), dated 21st June 1888. The Rajah acutely feels his present position, and owing to his loss of power little outward respect is shown to him by his people, whose behaviour towards him during my visit contrasted strongly with the submissive conduct of the people of Khandpara towards their Chief. A careful inspection of the Dasappa and Khandpara offices was, I believe, made by the Assistant Superintendent, Baboo Nanda Kishore Dass, in the last quarter of the year. I reached Narsingpore, which is six miles north of Belpada, on 18th December, and inspected the Manager's office and registers, and the jail, thannah, and dispensary. The new jail is a good substantial building. I found collections of rent to be greatly in arrear owing to the short outturn of the saradh harvest and to the pressure which had prevailed for some months by reason of high prices. While I was encamped at Narsingpore I



visited Moraripur (five miles east) to see the site of a proposed embankment,  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile long, estimated to cost Rs. 8,200. It appeared to me that the utility of such an embankment was questionable under any circumstances, but that in the existing financial condition of the state the undertaking of such a work could not be justified; and I accordingly made a report to Government to this effect (letter No. 12P.W., dated 5th January 1889), and my views were approved (letter No. N-5-2, dated 12th February 1889). The young Rajah is an exceedingly intelligent and attractive boy of five or six years of age. On 20th December I marched to Champeswar, six miles east from Narsingpore and near the boundary of Baramba state. An excellent bungalow has been recently built here at a cost of Rs. 2,000, and it is situated at the foot of a very beautiful hill. The following day I moved on to Baramba, 12 miles east, along a very fair road. The Manager's office here had been burnt down a few days before my arrival, and most of the state records had been destroyed. There was therefore little to inspect in the shape of papers. I visited the thannah, the dispensary, and the new jail, which is being built on the plan of the jail at Narsingpore, and distributed prizes to the boys of the middle vernacular school, which is also attended by six girls, one being the daughter of the Manager and another the daughter of his amlah. A proposal had been made by my predecessor to build a new house for the Raj family at Ogalpur, six miles south-west from Baramba, and to make Ogalpur their chief place of residence, and a sum of Rs. 6,000 had been sanctioned towards the construction of the building; but finding the family much opposed to the project, I visited Ogalpur and came to the conclusion that it would be best to retain and repair thoroughly the old family house at Baramba, and to build only a small summer-house at Ogalpur. The site chosen for the new house is a fine one, being on the top of a low hill near the Mahanuddy and commanding a view of Banki eastwards and of Kantillo westwards on the opposite bank of the river. But apart from natural scenery and an old temple on the bank of the river, where the presiding goddess of the family is supposed to reside, there is little in the neighbourhood to interest the family, and nothing to compensate them for the loss of old associations and surroundings. I therefore submitted a proposal to Government in accordance with the views and wishes of the family. The young Rajah and his half-sister, aged nine and seven respectively, are fine, strong, healthy children, but shy and silent—very different from the lively and chattering little Chief of Narsingpore.

"On 24th December I marched from Baramba to Tigris, 12 miles north-east. In Tigris state there is more open country and more cultivated land comparatively than in any state I have seen. The Rajah of this state is a young man of feeble character, very timid and reticent, and is evidently under the complete control of his uncle, a shrewd and grasping old man. The Rajbari is an insignificant building in the midst of a jungle, which is commonly reported to be kept up as a refuge for the Raj family in the event of an invasion. An examination of the office registers and verbal enquiries showed that few cases, either criminal or civil, are tried during the year, and that the state of police administration is very defective. I subsequently addressed a letter to the Rajah upon this subject. On the 26th December I marched to Athgur, 12 miles from Tigris. The Rajah of this state I had seen on several occasions on my journeys to and from Dhenkanal. He keeps a good body of police for a native state, but is a grasping Chief, and does not take sufficient interest in his people. A school at Athgur, which some years ago was one of the best in the tributary states, has fallen off greatly during his time. Though pleasant enough in private life, he is very obstructive in official matters."

The Assistant Superintendent, Baboo Nanda Kishore Dass, was out on tour for 104 days during the year.

In April he went to Dhubalesur, in Athgur, to take up a criminal case which arose out of a boundary dispute between the native state of Keunjhar and the Sukinda Peschush mehal in Cuttack. After going into the case he found that it involved an intricate question about jurisdiction, and on his suggestion it was referred to the Magistrate of Cuttack, who could take it up either as Magistrate of that district or under the sanction of the Superintendent, Tributary Mehals, given under section 188, Criminal Procedure Code.

In June and July the Assistant Superintendent was engaged in marching to and from Dhenkanal and in holding sessions and hearing appeals in that state, and during the first week of August he was similarly engaged at Berhampur, in Athgur.

On 25th August the Assistant Superintendent proceeded on a visit to Baramba and Narsingpore to make enquiries about the condition of the people and the prospect of crops, which, owing to want of sufficient and seasonable rainfall, threatened to be failures. He found that the prospects in both the states, specially in Baramba, were not very encouraging; but as there was still time to make another effort by transplantation of seedlings, he made tuccavi advances for the purpose, and otherwise gave such help to the tenantry as seemed needed. In this work he was occupied till the 4th September 1888.

Owing to the death of the late Rajah of Pal Lehera and minority of his son and successor, it became necessary to take charge

of the state, and the Assistant Superintendent was deputed there for the purpose. He was engaged in this work from the 11th of September to the 4th of October.

On the 9th January last the Assistant Superintendent commenced his cold-weather tour. He first proceeded to Dhenkanal, and remained there till the 15th idem, holding sessions, hearing appeals, and disposing of original civil cases. He did not inspect the Manager's office or the public institutions, as Mr. Worsley intended to visit the state shortly after for that purpose, which, however, he was unable to do.

From Dhenkanal the Assistant Superintendent proceeded to Angul, inspected the tehsildar's office, the local dispensary, the middle vernacular school and some of the primary schools, and made enquiries regarding the condition of the people. He found that pergunnahs Taras and Purnagar had suffered much from loss of crops. There had been more or less failure of the rice crop throughout the estate. He therefore recommended remission and suspension of the collection of rent, opening relief works, continuing the concession that had already been granted of gathering edible natural products from the reserved forests, and later on making tuccavi advances.

From Angul the Assistant Superintendent proceeded to Atmullik. He found that there had been failure of crops during two successive years and distress was apprehended, but the Rajah seemed quite alive to the necessity of relieving distress when it appeared, and was doing all that was needed. He carefully considered all the relief measures adopted or proposed by the Chief, and gave him necessary advice. He then inspected the Rajah's office, jail, school, and dispensary, and then proceeded to the Road state.

In Road the Assistant Superintendent made the usual inspection of the Rajah's office, school, jail, and dispensary, and was glad to find that the Rajah had established a female school, in which his and his Dewan's daughters with others were being taught. He was, however, chiefly occupied in enquiring into the general management of the state, which from certain information received in the office did not appear to have been going on satisfactorily, and also in enquiring into the condition of the people. After careful local enquiry he came to the conclusion that the last crop had been a very poor one and the people had to contend against two successive bad harvests, and generally where there was a crop the produce was very small. From all that he saw of the people, he felt no doubt that in two or three months more there would be great suffering amongst the people. He found that the Rajah had rendered some relief in the shape of remission of rent, grain advances, etc., and urged upon him to mature his plans for future relief operations, which he said he had under consideration, without delay.

As regards the general management of the state, he found that the Rajah was not taking any personal interest, and the examination of the records of a number of cases showed that the Dewan, in whose hands the administration of justice practically rested, had shown want of judgment and ordinary common sense. Both Rajah and the Dewan were warned by me, and I understand that the former is since attending office and is taking a share in the administrative work.

From Road the Assistant Superintendent proceeded to the Khondmals. He made the usual inspection of the public offices, schools, and communications.

He found that in the Khondmals, as in the neighbouring native states, the outturn of the last rice crop had been a poor one, and the cold-weather crops had not been good. It was therefore apprehended that from April till the harvesting of the next crop there would be distress; but he had no reason to think that there would be serious calamity if the mango and mohul crops were good, and in that case it was only for the "pans" that some assistance in the shape of public works was needed.

From Khondmal the Assistant Superintendent proceeded to Daspalla by the Metcalf ghatti. He found that a part of the ghatti had been cleared, but much yet remained to be done, and, in consideration of the heavy expense the work involved, it had been stopped by Mr. Worsley.

In Daspalla he found that the Rajah and the Dewan were on good terms, and the latter was not only carrying on the judicial administration of the state, but had also been entrusted by the Rajah with the management of the state revenue. Here also he found that the crops had failed and distress was apprehended, and he advised the Rajah to adopt early measures of relief. He then made the usual inspection of the Rajah's office and jail, and proceeded to Nyagurh. Here he examined the Rajah's office, jail, dispensary, and school. He made enquiries regarding an agrarian rising that had taken place, and took necessary action in the matter. Here the last rice crop did not appear to have been so great a failure, but everybody whom he questioned said that the failure had been great, and some people had already emigrated in search of food. He exhorted the Rajah to open relief works, and as the latter had no money he advised him to ask Government for a loan.

From Nyagurh the Assistant Superintendent proceeded to Ranpur, where he made enquiries regarding a serious combination that had

been formed by certain influential parties against the present administration, which he succeeded in breaking up. He then inspected the Rajah's office, jail, schools, dispensary, and some of the public works executed at the head-quarters and in the interior of the state. He found the Dewan had effected various improvements. He particularly noticed the several roads and the irrigation works that had been constructed, and the neat and cleanly appearance of the town. He noticed that there had been partial failure of crops and distress was apprehended in certain parts of the state. He prepared, in consultation with the Dewan, a scheme of relief operations, and then returned to Cuttack.

Mr. Wylly, Manager of Mourbhunj, was away from his head-quarters for 74 days during the year. On the 13th November 1888 he made a short tour through the pergunnahs Deuli, Majholbhag, Barpada, Mantri, Kottadiha, Rahanda, and Sathilo, and inspected the crops reported to have been seriously damaged by early cessation of the rains. He found that the extent of damage had been much exaggerated, and that nowhere in these pergunnahs had the cultivators lost more than five annas of their crops. He returned to his head-quarters on the 17th November 1888, and on the 24th idem came to Balasore on account of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor's visit to that town. He returned to Baripada on the 28th November. On the 15th of December he marched through pergunnahs Uperbhag, Bamunghati, and Panchpir. This time he was absent from Baripada for a month, i. e., till the 15th of January 1889. During this period he inspected the subdivisional offices at Bamunghati and Panchpir, and also the settlement work of Bamunghati and the public works completed and under construction. On the 2nd February 1889 he again went on a tour through the pergunnahs lying on the west and east of the Borabalang river, and returned to Baripada on the 23rd of February. In the second week of March 1889 he came to see me at Balasore, and returned on the 11th of that month. From the 18th to 23rd March he was in camp in pergunnah Rahanda. The subdivisional officers of Bamunghati and Panchpir in Mourbhunj visited every important place in their jurisdiction at least once, and sometimes oftener.

The Manager of Dhenkanal was out in camp for 85 days, during which he visited almost every part of the state with the exception of one bisa (pergunnah) only out of the 24 bisas of which the state is composed. While on tour he made enquiries into the state of crops and the condition of the people. He travelled through the interior of the state, visiting the Bysinga subdivision. He made enquiries regarding the boundary disputes between Dhenkanal and the neighbouring states of Athgur and Hindole and the zemindary mahal of Killa Sukinda in the Cuttack district. He also inspected the state dams and other public works, held local enquiries into village boundary disputes, and disposed of several applications for remission or reduction of rent. The Assistant Manager in charge of the Bysinga subdivision in Dhenkanal spent 94 days on tour during the year. He visited almost all the parts of the subdivision.

The Manager of Baramba spent 33 days on tour, during which he was chiefly employed in making enquiries into the state of crops and the condition of the people, and in supervising the relief works.

The Manager of Narsingpore was on tour for 106 days during the year, including 19 days occupied in coming to Cuttack to attend the durbar of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. During the 87 days he was in the interior of the state he enquired into the state of crops and of the people, disposed of a number of petty cases on the spot, and also inspected the state dams and water reservoirs.

The tehsildar of Angul, who is also the settlement officer of the estate, was out on tour for 133 days during the year. He visited almost all the pergunnahs in the estate, inspecting schools and pathsalas, holding local enquiries into cases, and also into the condition of the people, and performing various duties in connection with settlement of the estate.

Mr. Taylor, tehsildar of the Khondmals, was in camp for 147 days during the year. He thoroughly visited the eastern half of the estate. He inspected the road works, and decided several disputes about land after personal local enquiries.

## CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

*The 8th Ordinary Monthly Meeting  
OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CALCUTTA,  
under Act II. (B. C.) of 1888,  
WILL BE HELD IN THE TOWN HALL,  
on Thursday next, the 14th November 1889,*

1. To consider the Quarterly Report and Accounts for the 2nd quarter of 1889-90.
2. To consider the items of business left undisposed of at the Special Meeting of the Commissioners held on the 26th September last.
3. The Chairman to lay upon the table the Resolution recorded by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor on the Administration Report of the Corporation for the year 1888-89.
4. To confirm the Resolutions of the General Committee at Meetings held on the 21st and 28th September and 12th October.
5. To confirm the Resolutions of the Suburban Improvement Committee at a Meeting held on the 23rd September.
6. To confirm the proceedings of the Complaint Committee at a Meeting held on the 25th September 1889.
7. To confirm the proceedings of the Market Committee at a Meeting held on the 18th September 1889.
8. To confirm the recommendation of the General Committee at a Meeting held on the 12th October 1889, sanctioning a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,000 to meet the expenses of the proposed entertainment to the Viceroy and Prince Albert Victor and of preparing an Address to be presented in a casket to the latter subject to the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor.
9. Vital statistics for the months of August and September 1889.

JOHN COWIE,

*Secretary to the Corporation.*

8th November 1889.

## CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

The Commissioners of Calcutta have resolved to offer to the holders of the 6 per cent. Municipal loan of 1870 for

Rs. 4,00,000 repayable on the 1st January 1890, the option of exchanging such debentures to the extent of Rs. 2,85,000 for 5 per cent. debentures of the Municipal loan bearing date the 1st January 1890 and having a currency of 30 years.

The rate for the exchange is fixed at a premium of Rs. 3 per cent. payable by parties accepting the offer, on the amount of the 5 per cent. debentures that may be allotted to them.

As the amount of the 5 per cent. loan available for transfer is Rs. 2,85,000 only, it will be understood that the full amount of the 6 per cent. debentures, namely, Rs. 4,00,000 cannot be exchanged.

Holders of the 6 per cent. debentures desirous of effecting transfers should communicate their wish in a letter to reach the Secretary to the Corporation on or before the 20th December 1889.

Such portion of the 6 per cent. debentures, as may not be exchanged, will be repaid in cash on application made on or after the 1st January 1890. Interest on these debentures will cease on the 31st December 1889.

JOHN COWIE,

*Secretary to the Corporation.*

MUNICIPAL OFFICE :  
Calcutta, 28th October 1889. }

## THE BENAZIR FAIR—

RAMPUR STATE.

NOTICE.

The annual Benazir Fair at Rampur will be held this year on the bank of the Kosi river, by the Rampur and Moradabad road, from the 24th to 30th November. Trades-people of all kinds have been invited with their wares from different parts of the country, and, besides the usual assortments of imported and other miscellaneous goods, special care will be taken to have some of the notable indigenous manufac-

tures of the Province, as of Fatehgarh, Manipuri, Tilhar, Moradabad, and Rampur itself amply represented. As an additional attraction, the Fair will this time combine an Agricultural and Cattle Show. The Director of Agriculture and Commerce has been asked to provide a set of farming implements, some of which will also be shown in working. The Cattle Show will include horses, ponies, mules, cows, bullocks, and buffaloes, and will offer a good opportunity to parties wishing to buy or sell such animals; the State itself being prepared to purchase a fair number to replace those that have become unserviceable. Fodder for cattle brought for show will be provided free of cost.

The tradesmen's stalls, and tents for visitors will form a well ordered camp, with due care for sanitation. For the amusement of visitors there will be a varied programme of wrestling, elephant and ram fights, military sports, &c., ending with the usual display of fireworks. European visitors will be very welcome, and will find every arrangement made for their comfort.

THE

## Pran Kissen Chowdry Fund

FOR SUPPLYING

INDIA WITH NATIVE SCIENTIFIC  
MEN OF EUROPEAN TRAINING.

Under a benevolent Scheme now in operation for several years, started by Baboo Pran Kissen Chowdry, for assisting meritorious but poor Indian students, under certain conditions, to go to Europe for competing for the Indian Service, there is now room for a native student, of sound health, who, having passed the Calcutta Government Medical College, may desire to compete for the Covenanted Indian Medical Service. Passage and expenses for two years' residence in England will be paid out of the fund of the Scheme.

Apply to Dr. Sambhu C. Mookenjee,

*Reis & Rayyet Office,*

1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street,  
Calcutta.

### BENGAL BONDED WAREHOUSE ASSOCIATION.

In conformity with section 5 of Act V. of 1854, a General Meeting of proprietors will be held on Wednesday the 15th instant, at noon, for the inspection of accounts for the half-year ended 31st October last, the declaration of a dividend and the transaction of any other business that may be brought forward.

S. E. J. CLARKE,  
Secretary.

CALCUTTA :  
1st Nov. 1889.

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### TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,

BY

**SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,**

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDOON JAH BAHADOOR,

(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

Apply to M. nager, "REIS & RAYYET"

1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street,  
CALCUTTA.

#### OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridood Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which neces-

sarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract.]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. S. C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him.

*Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1889.

No. 398

## THE FAREWELL OF THE ROYAL JOGEE\*

BY THE LATE MURAD ALI BEG and MITFORD.

### Argument.

Bhartrihari, brother of the celebrated Vikramāditya, whose era is still the current era of most of Hindoo India, was also a renowned king of Oojein. Owing to the discovery of the infidelity of Mungala, one of his wives, with a certain Jogee, he abandoned the world and became an ascetic himself, making over the throne to Vikramāditya. The traditional ballads of India assert that when about to set out for the woods, Vikramāditya and Pingala (another of his wives) attempted to dissuade him from his purpose, but in vain. The common belief is that he succeeded in eating the "Amrit-Phal" or "Fruit of Life," and consequently being immortal is wandering about India till this day, *à la* the Wandering Jew, King Arthur, Barbarossa, Thomas the Rhymer, &c.

The Hindoo or Mahomedan ascetic when addressing a woman calls her "Mae" (Mother). This, with the well-known Indian custom of "word-relationships" (Mookh bole Suggae) under which it is held disgraceful to entertain any feelings towards a woman once called from German "her" or "Sister," other than those appropriate to a son or brother, is the basis of the speech to Pingala.

Stand from my path, oh brother! check me not!  
What wilt thou barter for my new-gained freedom?  
The pomp and state I lately flung from me?  
Am I not sick of it? The richest mess  
Will cloy the mouth of one who hungers not,  
And what desire have I not sated oft?  
Wealth, power, glory, from my childhood up,  
Have been attained by me without an effort,  
And luxury has hung round me uncalled for.  
The luscious wine frenzy—the clasp of woman—  
The patter of mailed hosts behind their leader  
The wild breast-heave amidst the din of victory—  
The melting love-languor of choicest music—  
Sweet cup, rich meal, soft raiment, poet's praise,  
And statesman's flattery—all these were for me.  
Sweeter than these the unchecked will of one  
Who knew no master—found no obstacle—  
And sweeter still the rapture of revenge,  
As one by one, they who but dared to dream  
Of hate to me, or mine, were all swept down.  
Until, sweetest of all, the burning rage  
Of jealousy was cooled the other night  
By the hot blood of Mangala and her lover  
Dripping along my sabre-edge.\* Away!  
Rest thou among the rose-bowers of my gardens!  
Sit thou upon the golden cushioned seat,  
With all the slaves and sycophants of Oojein  
Prating their lies around thee! Listen thou  
To the soft songs of dancing-girls and bombast  
Of mercenary bards! And let thy tongue

\* Bhartrihari, suspecting his wife's fidelity, watched one night instead of sleeping as usual. He saw her leave the palace, swim a river, and go to visit a Jogee who, notwithstanding her abject protestations of affection, insulted and reviled her until, bribed by sundry offerings she had brought with her, he at length complied with her wishes. Having satisfied himself of the reality of his wife's guilt, Bhartrihari broke from his concealment and cut both to pieces. Then, returning to his palace, he next morning resigned the kingdom to Vikramāditya, became himself a Jogee, and has never since been heard of.

Give forth the sentence, nine times out of ten  
As far from justice as is hell from heaven!  
There are enough of curses on my head  
Earned while I reigned, without wishing for more!  
Sayest thou—'A prince should always justice deal,  
And then he would be loved, and never cursed'?  
Boy thou! thou knowest nought! When thou hast reigned  
For a short six months, thou wilt find the truth!  
No judge, except a prostitute in place,  
(And those who sell themselves for gold are few indeed)  
Aught purposes but to discharge his trust.  
But lying witnesses, and cunning tales,  
And all the strange phenomena of life,  
Make justice hard to mete or get. The rich,  
The reckless, the most skilful—these are they  
Who win; even when wrong. In every clime,  
In every age, and under every form  
Of government, the weakest has the best baggage lay un-  
In this world is no justice. Even He—  
The immortal Lord of all—but seldom helps  
The righteous, poor and helpless, while his sword  
Flames in the vanguard of the strongest host,  
Ominous of triumph! 'Tis a glorious dream  
For a young king to muse o'er all the good  
What he will do his people: No more crime!  
No more gaunt famine! no more foul oppression!  
But all prosperity, content, and joy!  
Yes! let him try it—after a few years  
Ask him *how* he has sped and *what* he thinks.  
Ha! Ha! Ha!  
And thou too, Pingala! I have called thee "mother"  
And all is o'er between us! Hie thee back,  
And think of me until another lover  
Shall make the love-flash twinkle in your eyes,  
And the hot love-breath pant from your red lips.  
Vain are thy tears, and claspings of my feet,  
And furious vowings you will die with me.  
Either thy love is false or true. If false,  
Parting will cost thee nothing. When you go,  
You will but laugh among your confidants  
At the great skill with which you played this farce.  
If true—'twould be a monstrous crime in me  
To take thee, nursed in luxury, to the jungle,  
With one whose heart has no more room for love.  
A dozen days of weeping will console thee,  
And after some few months of quiet sorrow,  
Another love will win your thoughts from Bharthari.

\* The Cretan and Polish Insurrections, the Fenians, Mentana, Capromonte, Puebla, Sedan, the first and second sieges of Paris and, not to mention other wars and battles further back, notably,—Copenhagen and Waterloo.

+ It is to be observed that I have not come across any *written* mention of this lady, though "Mangala" is often mentioned. Oral tradition (ballads, &c.) mentions her as a wife of Bhartrihari who much opposed his abandonment of the world. As such I introduce her.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

'T is not in human nature to live lonely  
 For either man or woman, whatso'ever.  
 The foolish poets, or more foolish moralists  
 May prate of constancy, or chastity,  
 Or love unchangeable. Ah ! These are but dreams  
 Of a perfection unattainable, vain,  
 Put forth by those who rather search their brains  
 For some recondite theory of love\*  
 As a pure faculty of Soul, instead  
 Of what it is—a matter-prompted instinct  
 Fed by fair forms and close companionship,  
 Full diet and young blood. Nay, loose my garment !  
 I tell thee I am flying to the wilds  
 From thee and such as thee, and all their follies ;  
 And shall I carry with me half Earth's troubles  
 And burdens in a woman ? If thou art  
 True in thy protestations, weep not for me,  
 But feed my faithful horse with thine own hands.  
 That was a faithful friend ! A pleasure ever  
 Without alloy, to mount his glist'ning back  
 And hear his snort of welcome ! My Goo-roo  
 Has told me I shall drink the Amrit-Cup,  
 And traverse this fair land for ever, now  
 Here and now there, through countless generations  
 And changing dynasties, but much I doubt  
 Whether I e'er shall feel such joy as twice  
 I have—when first in boyhood I rode out,  
 And when I slew the Jogee, Mangalá loved.  
 Fool ! What have I with pleasure ? I—  
 The restless heritor of deathlessness—  
 The Royal Incarnation of satiety ?—  
 What but to watch in calm and listless thought  
 The ceaseless current of unbounded time—  
 The All which ends in Nothing ! This it is  
 To which we come at last. My wife and brother,  
**MARVELOUS** as happy-as you can,  
 this wonderful **M**an you never shall see more.  
 Back with you to the Palaces of Oojein.  
 And leave me to the wilds.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE Lieutenant-Governor arrives at Calcutta next Monday.

A LONDON telegram says that on the 11th, in Mexico, General Corona, Governor of the State of Taluco, was stabbed with a poniard and killed by a lunatic.

THE new feature in the revenue administration of Hyderabad is the concession granted to rayyets for the encouragement of arboriculture and gardening.

BY a Gazette notification, the rules for the regulation of appointments in the Secretariat Clerical Service of the Bengal Government and attached offices, are made not to apply to the office of the Superintending Engineer, Sone Circle, when vacancies are filled by recruitment of officers who have already served on the permanent establishment of any Public Works Office in the Sone Circle for not less than seven years.

TWELVE candidates from the Burdwan Division, 2 from the Presidency, 28 from the Rajshahye, 19 from the Dacca, 4 from the Chittagong, 24 from the Patna, 5 from the Bhagulpore, 3 from the Orissa and 2 from the Chota Nagpore Divisions have passed the Revenue Agent's Examination of August 1889.

AS a matter of course, Mr. J. S. Armstrong, Collector of Customs, Calcutta, whose term as a Port Commissioner expires on the 22nd instant, has been given another term on that Trust. The notification is dated the 12th. Who shall say now that the Bengal Government is dilatory ?

\* Byron's lines in "Don Juan"—

"Oh Plato, Plato ! Thou hast paved the way  
 By those confounded fantasies of thyne," &c., &c.

It would be highly satisfactory to the public, as it would be a step towards a better administration of law and authority, if appointments made and authorities conferred on officers were Gazetted before the actual working of those orders.

THE *Calcutta Gazette* of the 13th November 1889, publishes the price-lists of staple food-crops in the local areas of Bengal, prepared under Section 39 (1) of the Bengal Tenancy Act, VIII of 1885, for the period from the 1st April to the 30th June 1889 as approved by the Board of Revenue.

IT will be remembered how the great English swimmer Captain Webb lost his life in attempting to beard the lion of cataracts. A go-a-head American has now succeeded in the desperate feat. Walter Campbell is his name. He was not all alone, but his faithful dog, inappropriately named Jumbo, bore him company. With no more than an ordinary cork belt, he launched himself in a boat from the Maid of the Mist *Ghat* and reached the Canadian waters safe and sound, without so much as a scratch. Jumbo was not hurt either. Of course, they could not maintain themselves in their vessel. And towards the end the man had fainted. As the exploit is so extraordinary, we better give the pith of the account in the *New York Herald* :—

"As the first heavy waves of the whirlpool rapids were met the boat was swamped and Campbell and his trembling 'Jumbo' were thrown into the torrent. The adventurer clung to his boat a moment and then he was swept along in the boiling surge. A cry of horror went up from the spectators. The swimmer went dashing through the mass of foaming water, but little was seen of the dog, and Campbell was hidden occasionally by the white caps which covered him with clouds of spray. When he came in view he was seen pawing the waves in an effort to swim, but the water tossed him about so that in the four or five minutes he spent shooting the rapids it did him little good. The skiff shot out into the whirlpool ahead of Campbell and the dog also led him a little. Both man and dog circled around the boat trying to swim ; but when Campbell was swept near shore his friends succeeded in saving him. Campbell, who claimed to have been conscious up to this time, fainted, but was quickly revived with whisky. He was rubbed down, and taken to the Suspension Bridge. The dog had preceded him by half a minute."

HERE is an anecdote showing how in the West, as in the East, it is the correct thing to make a present of an article which particularly catches the fancy of a friend :—

"Rachel, the famous tragedienne, was as avaricious as she was gifted. On one occasion she was invited to dine at the house of a wealthy Parisian who worshipped her genius. Observing a magnificent bouquet of flowers that adorned the centre of the table, she exclaimed, 'How lovely !' 'Pardon, mademoiselle,' said her host, with true French gallantry, 'permit me to give it to you,' at the same time lifting the flowers out of the massive silver vase in which they rested. 'But, monsieur,' said Rachel, 'twas the vase that I admired.' 'It is yours also,' said the ever polite host. When the repast was finished she asked her friend to send her home in his own carriage, as she was afraid some one might rob her of her silver vase if she returned in a public cab. He assented readily, but as he handed her into the vehicle he said imploringly, 'You will at least return my carriage, will you not, mademoiselle ?'

A very proper admonition ! What a pity that beauty should be base and genius wedded to avarice !

HERE is a pretty romance in real life :—

"A highly romantic incident occurred a few days ago at Huber's, the well-known Vienna photographer. An elderly gentleman, apparently a foreigner, went to have his portrait taken ; but as he had to wait a few minutes for the usual preparations, an album of specimen photographs was handed to him. All at once the employes in the next room heard a shriek, and, hurrying to the salon where the stranger was waiting, they found him lying senseless on the floor. When he came to himself he explained that the album at which he had been looking contained a photograph which he was convinced was that of his daughter, whom he had not seen for twenty-one years. The features were so like those of his wife that he could not be mistaken. He said that unfortunate circumstances had compelled him to leave her twenty-one years ago, at a time when his daughter was only three years of age. He had made every effort to find out the whereabouts of his family a few years later, but had not been able to discover any trace of them. He had long since acquired the conviction that they were both dead. The photographer told him that the portrait in question was that of a teacher of the pianoforte residing in Vienna, giving her name and address. It was arranged that the stranger, Herr M—, of New York, should call on her the next day, and that in the meantime she should be warned of his intended visit. The lady turned out to be his daughter, and has already left Vienna with her father for the United States. He is a wealthy speculator, and the poor music-mistress has suddenly found herself heiress to a fortune of several millions of dollars. Herr M—, prior to his departure, presented Herr Huber with a splendid diamond breast-pin."

The Fictionists of England who have of late been going in for plots with a pleasant ending, may make something of that.



BABU Hurro Chunder Chowdhry of Sherpur-Town, Maimensing, is truly a modest man. Although a man of progress and of munificence, he loves to hide his light under the bushel—of his own kith and kin. According to the *East*, he has established a dispensary and called it, after his eldest son, Hem, —a newspaper press named Charu, his second son,—a library, named Hemanga, his third son,—a school named Hirun, his fourth son, and—an *Atithsala* named after his mother Srimuty Tara Money Chowdhurnay. They are all good works, if not all of them charities, and it is a pleasure to see a great landlord in the back districts showing such an example of useful liberality and healthy activity. The list, we remark, omits the wife, or the mother of the children who give names to the “institutions.”

MR. HENNIKER HEATON, M.P., has issued a small pamphlet for the reform of the English postal system, entitled “Sixty Reasons for an Enquiry.” It is no system at all, if he is to be believed, and he gives substantial reasons for faith in him, but an administrative Banian tree, the growth of years and of blind chance, watered by neglect and incompetence. Thick as leaves in Vallombrosa are the anomalies of this magnificent botanical monster. We reproduce the following summary from the *Times of India* :—

“The postage of letters from England to Australia, for instance, costs £1.792 per ton, while the same quantity of newspapers goes for £37. The carriage of 200 letters costs £5, while a parcel of the same weight is carried by the same ship for three shillings and sixpence. The postage of a newspaper to Australia is one penny, but a letter of the same weight is charged 4s. A newspaper under 4oz. in weight is charged 1½d. to Ceylon, and only 1d. to Sydney, 5,000 miles further, although the Australian mail steamers actually call at Ceylon. While England can only send to Australia a paper of less than 4oz. for 1d., one weighing 11oz. is brought from Australia for the same charge. New Zealand letters by the Peninsula and Oriental or Orient Lines are carried for 4d. the half-ounce, while if they go by the New Zealand Company's ships the rate is 6d., although they are all shipped at Plymouth, and the four-penny post is often quicker of the two. The postage from England to British India, Ceylon, Hongkong, Labuan, the Cape, and many other parts of the world is just twice as great as the rate charged to the same parts in Germany and France. A letter from Germany to Australia or New Guinea can be sent for less than 2½d., but from England to Australia only the cost is 4d. At Shanghai and at Zanzibar a letter sent to England through the English Post Office costs 3s., while if it is sent through the French or German office the charge is only 2½d. One firm alone in England saves £1,300 a year by sending its correspondence from France instead of from home. Still more absurd is the fact that a letter from New York to Singapore via England goes for 2½d., while one from England only, carried in the same mail steamer, is charged twice as much. Again, a letter from England to Australia is charged 6d., but if it is sent on another thousand miles to New Caledonia the postage is only 4d., and this is 1½d. more than the French Post Office asks. From England to Queensland, via Brindisi, a 6d. stamp is required, while the answer travelling by the same route can come for 4d. From Fiji to England is 10d., while from England to Fiji the postage is sixpence.”

We hope some one would take the trouble to institute a searching inquiry into the Indian Post office. The postage rates between India and Europe are still too high.

ACCORDING to a Russian analyst, pure tea colours cold water only slightly when well shaken in a glass, whereas the adulterated gives a strong infusion.

THEY have organized a plan to drive out from Canada the French language. It has been decided that, instead of the French, the English language shall be taught and spoken in the schools.

A GERMAN Bank is to be opened in the East. The principal German banks have organized the new Deutsche-Asiatische, with a capital of 5,000,000 taels (£1,125,000), which commences operations from January next at Shanghai. There is a similar Bank in Brazil.

THE Judicial Commissioner has confirmed the sentence of death to which Tantia has been condemned. He was given a counsel at last, but too late and to no purpose. There is yet another step—the refusal of a reprieve—to send the bold spirit to his eternal rest.

THE raising of the age limit—above 21 and below 23—in the Civil Service examination, comes into operation from 1st April, 1892. We find a Bengali—Basanta Kumar Mullick—in the list of the last appointments for the Bengal Civil Service.

THE Hon'ble Dr. Gooroo Das Banerjee has taken one month's medical furlough to the 15th December. Next week, he performs his mother's *shraddh* which could not be done in proper time owing to his illness. The “assembly” of friends and the public takes place on the 8th Agra-hayan=22nd November. On the same day, will be held the ceremony of the consecration of the cow.

MR. J. WESTLAND, C.S.I., retired from the Bengal Civil Service from the 30th October 1889, unwept and unsung.

THE *Gazette of India* of this day notifies that

“Sir H. M. Durand, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, is granted furlough for one year, under Article 340 of the Civil Service Regulations, and with effect from the 22nd November, 1889.

The furlough granted to Sir H. M. Durand, in Foreign Department Notification, No. 73-C.G., dated the 26th November, 1887, is converted into special leave under Articles 264 and 348 of the Civil Service Regulations.”

The second paragraph is too much for mortals not initiated in the mysteries of the Foreign Office. The furlough granted two years back is now converted into special leave.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR is now in our midst. His Royal Highness reached Bombay last Saturday, the birthday of the Prince of Wales. The *Oceana* bringing the prince arrived in the harbour at eight in the morning—several hours before time, and caught Bombay napping. So there was some delay in landing the prince which could not be done before noon and even then without all arrangements being complete and all persons and personages being present. Such of the Municipal Commissioners as could be present presented him an address. After replying to the address, the royal visitor drove to the Secretariat, by way of the Queen's statue, and, after a halt of few minutes, to the railway station, where a special train was ready to start for Kirkee. In the hurry to attend to the Prince, the royal baggage lay uncared for which again delayed by two hours the start for Kirkee, which was reached at 6-30. At Kirkee there was no and the punishment of not known when the special would arrive. In the evening there was a dress dinner at the Government House in honor of the occasion. Two toasts were drunk—of the Queen and the Prince of Wales. In giving the latter, the Governor welcomed Prince Albert Victor to India. After the dinner, the prince received in the banquetting hall the Raja of Kolhapur and the chiefs of Akalkote, Mirajkar, Bhore and Phultan and the prince of Bhownugger. The next day, the Prince attended divine service at All Saint's Church, the Bishop of Bombay preaching the sermon, which was based on the 24th and 25th verses of the 3rd Chapter of Daniel. The subject dwelt on was freedom, to attain which, the Bishop said, one must strive after self-control, contentment and obedience. In the afternoon, the prince held a reception of native gentlemen, with whom he freely chatted. Next day, Monday the 11th, the prince visited the Parbuti-hill and the temples. The same evening Poona was illuminated. The 12th was opened with a review of troops on the general parade ground and concluded with a state ball at Ganeshkhind, the prince dancing the state quadrille with lady Reay. There was a parade too of the cavalry the next morning, the 13th. In the evening, there was dinner at the Magdala House and a torchlight tattoo. “The latter,” says the special correspondent of the *Englishman*, “provided a grand sight, which was witnessed by some thousands of spectators. The men belonging to the eight Regiments at present in garrison assembled at Ghorpuri shortly after nine o'clock, and with massed bands, preceded by the cavalry, marched to Magdala House. The approach to the house itself and New Magdala House were literally covered with *buttis*, arranged most artistically, the extent and magnificence of the illumination quite baffling description. The troops arrived a little past ten o'clock and marched with flaring torches through the grounds of New Magdala House to the compound of the Duke's residence, where crowds of guests were accommodated in a huge shamiana.” The prince was allowed perfect rest on the 14. In the afternoon he took leave of the Governor and left for Hyderabad at 7 in the evening in a special train provided by the Nizam.

The special was late by an hour-and-a-half and reached its destination at about noon. The station was elaborately decorated. The Nizam himself, the Resident, the minister and all the high state officers received

the prince. He then drove in the Nizam's State carriage to the Bashir Bagh. In the afternoon, the Nizam and his minister visited His Royal Highness, who then returned the visit to the Nizam driving through the city to the Palace. There, the Nizam showed the prince through the stables, and then the State jewels were displayed. In the evening, there was a ball at the Residency which was illuminated.

SOME reproach has been cast on Madras for her lukewarmness in respect of the visit of the Prince. But it was scarcely deserved. His Royal Highness is sure of a cordial welcome wherever he goes throughout Her Majesty's wide dominions in India, and Madras is no exception. There was no occasion for going into anticipatory loyal fits at the very sound of the "advent." Madras, like Calcutta, has now come forward and is preparing. Rangoon has voted Rs. 10,000.

The nature and conditions of the visit point to the suitability of moderation in the reception. Gush towards a contingent second future sovereign is the very *reductio ad absurdum* of Loyalty. Fuss on any scale is forbidden by the private character of the Tour. That character was announced from the first and has been maintained, so far as it has been possible to maintain against the importunity of uninstructed loyalty or the officiousness of restless wealth.

The Visit was evidently planned as a Tour for amusement and edification. Perhaps full regard was not paid, in the arrangements, to even Oriental requirements, or at least to the satisfaction of Oriental impressions. The Prince's Toshakhana will hardly strike his Imperial Grand-mamma's subjects as very princely, we are afraid. The wardrobe is just that of a travelling *shikari* of the military profession—say, a cavalry officer. Here is the inventory given in the English papers of the kit of the head of the royal party.

"One uniform of the 10th Hussars, two suits of green Junga cloth for hunting in the jungle, and a suit of pig-sticking riding clothes made of light leather."

LORD KNUTSFORD has taken the start of Lord Cross in Constitutional Reform in the East. A step at any rate has been taken in Ceylon. A small step to be sure, but something is better than nothing. And anything for a beginning. The Legislative Council of Ceylon was composed back with you to thirteen, eight official and six unofficial ones, under the ~~and~~ Governor President. The chiefs of the principal public departments and Provinces were ex-officio members, namely, the Major-General, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, the Treasurer, the Government Agents of the Western and Central Provinces and the Surveyor-General. Of the six unofficial members, three were representatives of the Singhalese, the Tamils and the Burghers, and an equal number of representatives of the mercantile, planting and general sections of the European community. This Council has now been enlarged by the addition of three members, one official and two non-officials. Of the latter, one is to be taken from the Singhalese of Kandy, and the Mahomedans have, for the first time, got a representative. The Head Collector of Customs is the official added to the Council. The appointments are all made by Government and the unofficial members are not necessarily unconnected with Government. A Singhalese gentleman, now acting as Police Magistrate of Gompola Panabokka, Ratamahatmeya, has been chosen by the Governor to represent the Kandyans. It is satisfactory to learn that both his appointment and that of Abdul Rahman as representative of the Mahomedan community have given equal general satisfaction.

THE High Court Long Vacation closed on Friday the 15th. The Judges resume work on Monday the 18th. Mr. Justice Wilson presides at the Original Side. Mr. Justice O'Kinealy and Mr. Justice Trevelyan have been set down for the Criminal Appellate Bench. The Chief Justice has associated with himself Mr. Justice Norris for the Patna Group.

THE *Dacca Prakash* defamation case is on the Monday's board. We hope the advocate for the editor will not fail to put before the Court the treatment he was subjected to after the order for bail, as evidence of the spirit in which the lower Court viewed the interference of the High Court in the matter.

THE Jhansi Full Bench case was argued on Monday last by Mr. A. Strachey on behalf of Government, as *amicus curie*. It did not

take him long. It was the business of a moment to charm and be charmed. He supplied the Judges with printed copies of argument he had drawn up. After a short discussion, the Chief Justice, who had come down the same morning prepared to decide against the Government, was quite overpowered. Convinced against the grain, he stopped the counsel in the midst of his address, the other Judges being also of the same mind, and decided in favour of Mr. Strachey. No body, we see, argued the case on the other side.

WE heartily congratulate Mr. W. C. Bonnerjea on the success of his daughter Nolini at the London University Entrance Examination. We are also glad that this will not be the end of her education, but she will join the Ladies College at Cambridge, Girtton. The Bonnerjeas should cultivate their fair flower to the utmost, if only to see what the Indian female genius is in these days capable of. Though the lady is a Christian, both are pure and excellent Hindus by birth, and they are engaged in an interesting experiment. When we come to think of the end of it all, we confess we are overpowered with sadness. They are only raising at great cost a hot-house rose, to be admired and smelled by foreigners, out of the senses of their own countrymen, far away from India. She may take Sanskrit for a language, but at the best she will lisped like Europeans. What a fate for the daughter of a hundred Rishis! Certainly, the most spirited Bengali lyric will waken in her no thrill. In fine, she will not know her own and be ashamed of them if she knows, and hate them accordingly.

A Dacca paper condemns the practice of extensive adulteration of the ordinary articles of food in the city of the Nawabs—Abdul Ghuni and Ashanoola, specially naming ghee, oil, milk, sugar, sweetmeats, bread, rice, mutton and salt. It calls the practice criminal and calls for the aid of the police. No number of prosecutions can make our food pure, or secure us, in this age of commerce and cheapness, genuine or healthy articles for diet or wear, unless our people are in a position to pay for them or prefer the more expensive to the cheaper and unhealthier articles.

As for Dacca, it has always been a wretched place—since, at any rate, the *debris* of the genuine Nawabate was swept away. No respectable Hindus were ever domiciled there, and now a parvenu House, founded by a 'cute adventurer, has established itself on the ruins of the old Mahomedan families. Its ruins are Dacca's most respectable contents—from the silted Booree Ganga to its miserable fort. Its great gun is—a rusty piece of ordnance, recalling the glories of the past. The river still flows and, for four months in the year, presents a noble front. The City of the Great Mogul's Nawarah is still rich in its boating rather than shipping. All else is mean and disagreeable. It is an Eastern Colonge (of Coleridge's epigram). Dirty sights meet you at every turn and horrid smells attack your nose. Its birds are crows which are endless and keep caw-cawing from before early dawn till far into the evening. Its air is heavy and its water foul. Its morals are no more pure. It has a bad name for mercenary ruffians, secretly employed by the citizens for insulting and licking each other in the street. It abounds in drunkenness and prostitution. It is about the only Mahomedan city—Lucknow not excepted—where *send* and *sharddkhoree* are no reproach. Its magistracy is bad—its municipality the worst in India. It has not even the usual recommendation of a country town—cheap living. It consumes more liquor than any other place—it certainly contains more liquor shops than Chandernagore, the French town of free liquor, and it imports all the worst abominations of Radha Bazar, Calcutta. Everything is *dear* and nasty. For good meat you have neck-beef in plenty. The milk is poor. Fuel is scarce. And Ghee is not to be had for love or money. And this is the City of the so-called Pilaw-eaters. And such is Dacca—the City of the Twa Nawabs! What wonder that the older inhabitants sigh for the days of poor Ghaziooddin Hyder!

THE Bangalore European paper has a long notice of Mr. Justice Thumboo Chetty's late address at the distribution of prizes of Rai Bahadoor Arcot Narainswamy Moodelliar's High School. The article is set off with several quotations, hackneyed perhaps but not inappropriate, from writers sacred and profane, from the Psalmist and the Apostle to Shakespeare and Tennyson. We cannot however say that the writer quite escapes the risks of the dangerous game of this literary

embellishment—in rash dependence on the memory. The only quotation which is at all fresh—although even that occurs in Byron at the head of one of his most popular shorter pieces—is thus marred :—

“———now stand aloof,  
Like cliffs that have been rent asunder,—  
A dreary sea now flows between.”

Coleridge has it thus :—

They stood aloof, the scars remaining,  
Like cliffs, which had been rent asunder ;  
A dreary sea now flows between.

MISS Emily Baring, who is favourably remembered in India as the daughter of our former Governor-General Lord Northbrook, is engaged to Colonel Crichton. We are not told if he is an Admirable one of that ilk. The uniform and epaulets have confessedly a charm for the fair sex, but every

Captain or Colonel, or Knight in arms,

Whose chance on *some* defenceless doors may seize,  
is not necessarily a desirable match. The lucky suitor in the present case is presumably a gentleman of mature years. He is certainly no unfledged bachelor. He is, rather, an expert. He has run the gauntlet—passed through the experiment. He is peculiarly fortunate in having gone through it unscathed. He has tasted the sweets of matrimony, and retains its relish. He, at any rate, did not find it a Dead Sea apple. He has loved and lost, and is again to the fore to love. He is probably just the man to lead an unsophisticated young damsel through the joys and sorrows, and guide her in the duties of married life. This seasoned widower has but one disadvantage that we can discern. He is handicapped with half a dozen children. It is perhaps on that account that he now prudently loves—a Baring. A London correspondent says, hitherto she kept house for her father, now she will do so for the Colonel. And why not?—Unless the noble lord re-eives the Colonel on his establishment as a “domestic son-in-law.” Otherwise, who will keep house for him now? Is he going to marry too? He is not too old for wedlock for an Englishman.

Warrents Knight of the *Indian Mirror* now and again delights to bully the British if they do not listen to him. He threatened Government with insurrection if the Doorga Pooja holidays of the Bengali clerks of Calcutta were curtailed. He has now discovered that the Bengali are no good, and the Government knows it. It appears that in Bengal there is one Policeman to 2,601 inhabitants, in the North-West Provinces one to 1,323, and in Madras one to 1,456. In the Punjab and Bombay, the proportion is even more adverse to the character of the population for love of order.

OUR contemporary informs its readers, with evident pleasure, that its *l'ère noire*, Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace, has quietly settled down in a street in H———as Ruskin calls the thoroughfare in London which goes by Her Majesty's name.

SIR MORTIMER DURAND is still tarrying in India and hesitates to sail for Europe. He is now at Allahabad on his way to Bombay. Although much improved, it is said he is still in a critical condition. Sir Mortimer is unwilling to go, but the doctors insist on the voyage. The patient sometimes proves the better physician than the attending sawbones.

MR. ALLAN HUME is progressing apace. He was last heard of as the National Congress. He has now constituted himself India. In his new capacity he has been telegraphing to Miss Bradlaugh—

“India sorrowing. Universal prayer for your father's recovery.”

Except for such identity, or at least on the supposition of Mr. Hume's *bona fide* belief in such identity, that telegram and its wording would be a grave offence against society and a sin against the very God of Prayer. We have not heard if the Churches in India have set apart a day of mourning for the benefit of the sturdy atheist. Mr. Hume doubtless knows his own society. But certainly Mr. Bradlaugh's name has not been heard in any mosque or *devdlaya*. A more prudent man would have taken care to secure some structure of justification. Why did not Mr. Hume himself send a Dali to Holy Kalighat to appease the grim gory goddess, consort meet for the dread Destroyer? It were not a great matter. As he has already paid Rs. 10,000 towards last year's expenses of the Congress *Jatra* a few more would not have mattered.

THE Coryphæus of the Congress has recovered his temper. His trials have been enough to break the heart. But he cannot in honor abandon

the bantling of his own bringing-forth and up bringing. He only acted in a huff after a famous Padre President of the Bethune Society, who at a stormy meeting left the chair and the society in a huff to keep himself in readiness for the intercession of his followers, in his carriage at the door, like

A violet by a mossy stone

Half-hidden from the eye!

As might be expected, he has been drawn out of his pouting place. And now the ephemeris of the party—the *Mirror*—informs us that he has left Simla and is on the way to Bombay for the coming fray.

As a poor man just living on his brains, Mr. Bradlaugh should not be allowed to be a loser by his visit to India. He is a public lecturer by profession, but in India no body would go to a lecture by paying an admission of a Rupee or two. Under these ideas, his Indian friends talked of raising a fund to reimburse him. Mr. D. Gostling in the *Indian Spectator* of the 11th instant wrote—

“It is no use, therefore, for any committee to invite Mr. Bradlaugh to India, unless we are prepared to put our hands in our pockets. The least we could offer him for a three or four months' absence from England would be Rs. 3,000, and including travelling expenses it ought to be Rs. 4,000. I am prepared to subscribe Rs. 150 to Rs. 200, if these amounts can be made up.”

Mr. Bradlaugh has, however, declined the offer of his Indian friends to pay the expenses of his Indian tour. All anxiety on that score has, happily, been removed by the present of £200 by a brother M. P., Mr. McEwain.

Mr. Bradlaugh has done right. He knows England. Many a promising politician has been ruined directly he has been known to touch pelf.

WE are truly concerned at the latest bulletins regarding Mr. Bradlaugh's health. At first it seemed that he fell diplomatically ill to find a decent excuse for stumping it in India at a time when his constituents must need his presence at home. How else could we understand the announcement that his doctor had advised him to go to India. A direction for change to a Southern or warm climate would have passed unchallenged. Besides, the tone and statements of the journals of the party precluded the idea of anything like an invalid's landing or convalescent's trip. Mr. Bradlaugh was coming as a *figure of Rajit* twelve labours for the regeneration of India and the punishment of the horrible British on the spot. So much for overzealous friends. There is no longer room for doubt that the matter is serious with the new friend of India. An abscess has appeared in the left leg. He is not only bedridden but loses strength. Complete rest has been enjoined.

FOR picking a leaf—valued for purposes of prosecution at 4 annas—from a plantain tree in the garden of a reverend gentleman, and at his instance, an old servant of his named Krishna Gopal has been sentenced, by the Bombay Esplanade Police Court, to as many days' rigorous imprisonment. Here, verily, is a precious brace of inexorables! Both the reverend prosecutor and the lay judge are to be congratulated on the feat accomplished. The ephemeral flimsy plantain is one of the commonest and cheapest plants, and, admitting of transplantation at any stage of life, it may be easily replaced. Throughout the country, strangers are freely allowed to take the leaves from the trees for use as temporary vessels for putting their rice and curry or bread or sweetmeats upon. It was only by a stretch of judicial fiction that a leaf or two could be valued at 4 annas, where one sixteenth of the sum would have been preposterous. What would have been the measure of punishment, if, instead of the leaf, Krishna Gopal were bold enough to denude the tree of its fruit and deprive the reverend owner of the pleasure of his dessert of an evening? And to think of the sanguinary result of cutting down the precious ecclesiastical plantain—parent of the fruit of the sacred repast!

Well may Christianity be at a discount with such exemplars of the sublime precept to offer your neighbour your left if he smite you on your right cheek! And with such luminaries on the bench, what wonder that it is growing into a custom for suitors to leave court with the compliment of a slippering to the judge!

The case under notice is far from singular in its brutal injustice. We deliberately say injustice rather than severity. It is rank injustice to award substantial punishment—punishment at all—where the demands of the most scrupulous judicature might be satisfied by discharging the poor accused with a reprimand. It is bad enough to be under a microscopic and exacting system of law which makes mountains of mole-hills and permits the heaviest punishments for the simplest transgressions. If the discretion under such a Code is exercisable by a magistracy without discretion, the people may be deemed doomed.

THE Municipal Commissioners met for the first time after the holidays on Thursday. They had a heavy file to dispose off, but they stuck to one item of business—the last annual report, which has already been resolved upon by the local Government. Of the 31 members present, five complained that it was useless to discuss a matter which had already been disposed of by the Chairman in consultation with a committee appointed for the purpose, and that it was a farce to deliberate on a thing past recall. Mr. Gasper, as the mouthpiece of the Five, actually proposed a vote of censure on the Chairman. There was a hot debate, and Mr. Gasper's motion was lost. The Commissioners, by a resolution, however, justified the action of the Chairman, recording their opinion against a future practice of the kind. Mr. Gasper was technically right, no doubt. But he chose a wrong occasion to rake up a question which undelay this opposition—the strained feeling between the Chairman and the Health Officer. The Chairman was out with his in the following strain:—

"I say, then, in the first place, that there is no personal squabble whatever between Dr. Simpson and myself. (Applause). I was one of the most active in bringing Dr. Simpson out to India. When Dr. Simpson first came out he lived in my own house with me. He has always been a personal friend of mine. I appreciate as much as anybody can the single-minded devotion with which he attends to his business, the one object which he sets before him—the well-being and the health of Calcutta. Gentlemen, the position between Dr. Simpson and myself is simply this, that, soon after Dr. Simpson came out, he adopted what I considered an injudicious line. Instead of giving the Commissioners credit for the good work they did and adding to that the work that remains to be done, he adopted a particularly fault-finding policy and allied himself more particularly with that party of the town, whose special object it is to run down the Commissioners, and whom you know in your heart of hearts to be hostile to your well-being (Great Applause). Gentlemen, I regret—I most sincerely regret—that your Health Officer has adopted that policy. I think it a mistaken one. Instead of trying to convince your reason, he has tried to run you down outside (Applause)—tried to run you down in the Press—tried to run you down by getting gentlemen to make sensational remarks against the administration of the Corporation (Applause), simply because he thought it the best way of gaining his purpose. Gentlemen, so far as Dr. Simpson's honesty of purpose is concerned no one can say a single word against it. (Applause). It is simply a question of tact. Did he go the right way about the care of the sanitation of the town? Gentlemen, he did not. My views differ but very little from his. When I found he was pressing those views in an unofficial manner, in an unpracticable manner, when I found he was pressing those views in a way which made you shrink back from the abyss of expenditure which lay before you, what was my duty? What was I to do under those circumstances? I stood as a go-between. The result has been that Dr. Simpson's friends, because I have endeavoured my very best to recommend his schemes to you in a practicable way, have, in what I must describe as the meanest way, turned upon me, and accused me of stopping the path of progress. You know, gentlemen, that a fouler libel has never appeared in the Press. I am ashamed indeed that Dr. Simpson's friends can stoop to taunt me in that way by misrepresenting me as they have done (Applause). I have tried to get many of Dr. Simpson's schemes accepted by you; I have tried to throw oil on every occasion on which your feelings were hurt, but at the same time I have known it was idle to treat Calcutta as if it were a city as wealthy as Birmingham, Liverpool, or Bristol. We must cut our coat according to our cloth. We must also conciliate the feelings of the people. We cannot lightly treat those feelings which have sunk deep into the hearts and sentiments of the people of this country for years and years. These, gentlemen, are the causes of the difference between Dr. Simpson and myself, and I must say I am astonished to see how Baboo Notendia Nath Sen, who himself opposed him, can to-day pose as the friend of Dr. Simpson. It is one of those things which may well surprise us (Applause). Gentlemen, I need not say, for you know it very well, how up to the very last moment I advocated almost everything that Dr. Simpson put before you. (Applause). Have I not done violence to my feelings because I felt the necessity of supporting him? He is the Health Officer, and he must be supported."

If Sir Henry Harrison has introduced into the country and cherished in his bosom such a viper, he has our fullest sympathy. What says Dr. Sircar? In any case, even a Health Officer in an Eastern city ought not to be condemned unheard. There is the complaint. We must allow a reasonable time for the answer.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1889.

### THE SULTAN AND HIS VIEWS ON THE EASTERN QUESTION.

#### THE ROOT OF TURKISH ADMINISTRATIVE DIFFICULTY.

WHATEVER may be the Sultan's deficiencies as a master or as head of the Turkish administration, His Majesty is no fool. He is not, though, the typical able or wise Oriental Prince who has the

vaguest possible idea of the outside world and of other countries and Powers and is at the mercy of political forces from without. It will be remembered that, not long ago, Professor Vambery, the great traveller and linguist, paid a visit to Constantinople where he delivered a striking Lecture on Islamite Culture. During his visit he had a private interview with the Sovereign, and was understood to have met with a cordial reception. A Hungarian journal, the *Pest Lloyd*, appears to have interviewed the professor on his return. Extracts are given in the British Press from the account published in that paper. The Sultan seems to have talked very freely on most of the burning points of the Eastern Question of the hour. There is no reason to distrust the report; in fact, the subsequent course of events confirms its accuracy. Thus, with regard to the Triple Alliance, according to Mons. Vambery,

"the Sultan thinks he had better adhere to the policy of strict neutrality, which at least saves him from being hampered by the well-meant but sometimes disagreeable counsels of an ally, as was the case in former periods. The forthcoming visit of the German Emperor the Sultan looks forward to as a happy event of the greatest importance. This opinion has been shared by those high officials at the palace and at the Porte who know the efforts Russian diplomacy has made for some time past to interfere with the projected visit. The Sultan's views on the Bulgarian question are that Bulgarian affairs are taking a quiet course, and that events in Bulgaria are not likely to have any influence affecting his dominions. His Majesty abstained from uttering any opinion on the question of the Bulgarian throne."

The Emperor of Germany has since come and gone, and Turkey has not joined the Alliance. The Kaiser was wise enough not to draw the Sultan into it. He also gave him sound advice—to rely rather on the natural allies of Turkey, and, for the rest, to avoid giving offence to its natural enemy, Russia.

At that time the Sultan was happy to see that Shakir Pasha had brought Crete round to submission and quiet. As for the "atrocities," they were evidently of Greek invention, specially as the Russian Government itself, through their Ambassador, had congratulated Shakir on the restoration of order in the island.

The Sultan spoke with feeling on the Armenian agitation. He was bitter against the Gladstonians who clearly seemed essaying to make a second Bulgaria of Armenia. But where is Armenia? "All my subjects," said the Monarch,

"are equally dear to me, but those who speak of Armenian autonomy should first create an Armenia in which this autonomy could be introduced. There exists an Armenia in Europe, but none in Asia Minor, where, in the five villages of Erzeroum, Van, Moush, Bklis, and Diarbekir, the Mahomedans form two-thirds, the Armenians only one-third, of the population; whereas in Bulgaria the Mahomedans form only one-fourth of the inhabitants. It would be the greatest injustice to exterminate all Kurds and Turks, in order, out of one-third of the population, to form an autonomous Armenia."

Of course, His Majesty would with his whole strength resist such a policy.

All that shows that Turkey is now ruled by a sovereign who knows his affairs and is conversant with the politics of Europe at large.

We only hope that His Majesty will only grant the necessary reforms in administration in Kurdistan and all legitimate relief to his Christian subjects, who, as he confessed, are equally dear to him—as sovereign—with those of his own persuasion. An able Armenian journalist has lately written on the Armenian question with great vigor and effect. There is a vein of exaggeration throughout the article, and it is not difficult for even outsiders like ourself to point out its weak points. But on the whole he makes out a strong case. The truth is that the complaints mostly touch defects that are common to the Turkish administration. Such, for instance, is corruption. It is rampant throughout the Empire in

AMERICA is a New World, undreamt of by the enlightened Greeks, the conquering Romans, or even the far-navigating Tyrians or Carthaginians. It was unknown to Europe of the Middle Ages, though unrecording Scandinavian mariners may have drifted to its shores. It was by an accident that Columbus discovered it, in 1492. It was peopled by adventurers, corsairs, runaways, and other restless spirits from the Old World. The United States were no exception, and these now are not only the domicile of the most prosperous and enlightened citizens in that Hemisphere but constitute one of the foremost nations of the world. The country is now one still—a land of colonists and settlers—of parvenus, if you will. But it has already passed

After all, the best commemoration for all time and all the world came from the hand of a British woman. It is yet so handy that we are able to present it to each of our readers —

The ocean-eagle soared  
From his nest by the white wave's foam,  
And the rocking pines of the forest roared--  
This was their welcome home !



There were men with hoary hair,  
Amidst that pilgrim-band—  
Why had they come to wither there  
Away from their childhood's land?

There was woman's fearless eye,  
Lit by her deep love's truth;  
There was manhood's brow serenely high,  
And the fiery heart of youth.

What sought they thus afar?  
Bright jewels of the mine?  
The wealth of seas, the spoils of war?  
—They sought a faith's pure shrine!

Ay, call it holy ground,  
The soil where first they trod!  
They have left unstained what there they found—  
Freedom to worship God!

No American has written on the subject half so well.  
We wish this poetry might stir the soul of India.

### MR. CURRIE AND THE HOWRAH MUNICIPALITY.

THE Howrah municipal prosecutions against the late assistant Tax Collector Chunilal Mullick, which had created a considerable stir in local society, have all ended in acquittal. Torn by factions, over all which the Magistrate-Chairman rides the high horse, the Howrah Municipality presents the extraordinary spectacle of rewarding incompetence and persecuting ability and devotion. Before the late prosecutions began, Chunilal Mullick, in view of the large arrears of taxes, had been asked by the Vice-Chairman to suspend his work at the desk and assist the Sircars in the work of collection. Working with honest zeal, Chunilal succeeded in realising more than Rs. 10,000 within a short time, including demands which had been barred by limitation. Some of the Commissioned Officers, who had been the greatest defaulters, seeing those views in it inconsistent with their dignity and privilege to pay their dues regularly like ordinary rate-payers. It may easily be conceived how some of these men regarded the honest zeal of their servant in applying the same law to themselves and their constituents equally. The Vice-Chairman was too high to be touched. But not so the poor assistant Tax-collector. A thick crop of charges of corruption against this poor man startled the town one morning. A strong and sensible Chairman would have at once seen through the devise. Unfortunately, it was Mr. Currie of bumptious repute that was called upon to exercise his discretion in the matter of these accusations. With that singular felicity which this officer always displays when the question is how to override the law, he united the functions of Magistrate and Chairman in almost all the orders he issued on the case. The charges were made over for "judicial enquiry" by Mr. Currie to some of his inexperienced Deputies and Sub-Deputies. With no more knowledge of the law and procedure than could be expected from officers of their standing in the service, these men submitted extraordinary reports recommending the prosecution of Chunilal Mullick. All the cases were tried by Mr. C. N. Banerjee. The accused was defended by Baboo Ambica Churn Bose, of the High Court, who did not spare Mr. Currie during the conduct of the trial, pointing out at each instance the singular mistakes and misconceptions of the Magistrate-Chairman. One of the cases against Chunilal requires particular mention. In course of his rounds for collection, the *khatta* books of a 'native firm' showed a debit entry of Rs. 15 in the name of "Hridaya Baboo." The Assistant Assessor of the Howrah Municipality is named Hridaya Kristo Banerjee. Chunilal, probably suspecting that the "Hridaya Baboo" of the *khatta* books was no other than Hridaya Kristo Banerjee, the Assistant Assessor, placed a copy of the entry with the date in the hands of two of the local Commissioners. The latter inspected and marked the books and addressed the Municipal Secretary to move the Chairman for an enquiry. Mr. Currie had recourse to his "judicial enquiry." The name of the Deputy who conducted the enquiry should not be permitted to remain unknown. Baboo Haripada Bhattacharjee,

for that is the gentleman's name, recommended the prosecution of Chunilal on the charge of having given 'false information' to a public officer. One of the partners of the firm, a released convict, stated that the "Hridaya Baboo" of his *khatta* books was not Baboo Hridaya Kristo Banerjee the Assessor. No effort was made by the enquiring officer for the production of this "Hridaya Baboo." No question was asked about his whereabouts or personal description, or even about the full circumstances of the payment to him. The statement by the municipal Secretary, who is also the Assessor, that his Assistant Hridaya Kristo Banerjee is a very honest servant, although the Secretary's knowledge of the person dates from only three years or three years and a half back, was regarded as sufficient to exonerate the Assistant Assessor from all suspicion, and inculcate Chunilal in having given "false information." Mr. Currie accepted the report and ordered a prosecution. The trying Magistrate, Mr. C. N. Banerjee, treated with just disdain the story of an unknown "Hridaya Baboo" having come to the poor firm at Sulkeah for purchasing corrugated iron sheets and depositing at once Rs. 20, and of his having subsequently come again for return of his money when Rs. 15 only could be handed over to him, the balance not having been available. This "Hridaya Baboo" must have dropped from the clouds, for nobody at Sulkeah knew or knows anything about him. The receipt said to have been given him by the managing partner of the firm set forth his name as "Hridaya Baboo." No question was asked him at the time as to his surname although he was a Bengali. He never turned up for claiming the balance. The firm does not ordinarily deal in corrugated iron. And yet this "Hridaya Baboo" had selected this firm for purchasing that article. Mr. Currie's order for his production at the trial could not be carried out. Altogether, the story was preposterous in the extreme and could not impose on the gullibility of a chit. Traces of tampering with the accounts were obvious. A Magistrate of ordinary penetration would have dismissed the case immediately after the deposition of the managing partner of the firm. Mr. C. N. Banerjee, however, although his judgment has given general satisfaction, allowed the proceedings to drag on from day to day and week after week, and by the time he acquitted the accused, the latter became a ruined man. Perhaps Mr. Banerjee could not do otherwise, seeing that it was his official superior who had ordered the prosecution and that the case itself had attracted considerable attention. The deposition of Baboo Haripada Bhattacharjee under cross-examination promised at one time some curious disclosures. That convenient section, however, of the Indian Evidence Act which foolishly protects official confidences of every sort, served to conceal the true facts of the case. Magistrates may hold all manner of consultations with their Deputies actually entrusted with the trial of cases in which they (the Magistrates) are themselves the real prosecutors. But section 124 of the Indian Evidence Act prevents the disclosure of what is settled in these consultations! This is the law of the land, and we submit! All is well, however, that ends well. Chunilal has got his character back but not yet his situation. He is a ruined man, for his debts amount to more than he possesses in land and movables. That, however, is the inevitable result of the laws under which we live. Who is to pay the poor man his expenses? The beauty of the whole affair, is that, although Chunilal has not yet got his situation from which he was illegally suspended (for though a municipal employé on more than Rs. 20 a month, he was suspended by the Chairman in his executive capacity and without the slightest reference to the Commissioners at a meeting), Hridaya Kristo Banerjee, the Assistant-Assessor, has got an increase of pay. I do not mean to even insinuate that he and the "Hridaya Baboo" of the suspicious *khatta* books are identical. All that, however, I do mean to say is that the circumstances of the case are extraordinary and that Mr. Currie, to be consistent with himself, should have ordered a "judicial enquiry" for spotting the "Hridaya Baboo" of the case before considering the matter to have terminated, and before allowing an increase to Hridaya Kristo Banerjee, the Assistant Assessor, whose reputation must be held to be under a cloud till something more is definitely known of the extraordinary "Hridaya Baboo" of the *khatta* books, whose personality constituted a problem which, to say the least, was not clearly solved.

G.



THE "CORRUPT" MAMLUTDARS.  
ACT NO. XIV OF 1889.

*An Act to indemnify certain witnesses.*

Whereas by an order, dated the sixteenth day of October, 1888 a Commission was appointed by the Governor of Bombay in Council under Act XXXVII of 1850 (*for regulating Inquiries into the behaviour of Public Servants*) for the purpose of enquiring into certain imputations of misbehaviour by a public servant;

And whereas in the course of the proceedings before the said Commission, and of certain enquiries preliminary to or connected with the said proceedings and undertaken by direction of the said Governor in Council, and in the investigation and trial of certain criminal charges against one Hunmuntrao Raghavendra, statements were made and evidence given by public servants and other persons, by reason of which statements or evidence the said public servants and other persons became or might become liable to suits, prosecutions or penalties under the Statute 49 Geo. III, Chapter 126, or the Indian Penal Code, or otherwise;

And whereas it is expedient to free the said public servants and other persons from all liability to civil or criminal proceedings in respect of any cause of action or charge arising out of any admission of an offence in any statements made or evidence given as aforesaid;

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. No suit, prosecution or other proceeding shall be commenced or continued against any person in respect of any cause of action or charge arising out of any offence admitted by him in any statement made or evidence given before the said Commission, or in any enquiry undertaken by direction of the said Governor in Council preliminary to or in connection with the proceedings of the said Commission or in the course of the said investigation and trial.

No. 1527.

From C. J. Lyall, Esq., C.I.E., Offg. Secretary to the Government of India,

To the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Simla, the 28th October 1889.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 16994 dated the 17th ultimo (with enclosures), submitting for consideration and orders (1) the cases of certain native officials incriminated by the disclosures made in connection with the enquiry into the charges against Mr. A. T. Crawford, and (2) proposals for the award of compensation to the officers who may be dismissed.

A copy of a petition from Yashwant Ballal També, one of the officials already dismissed on the recommendation of the Government of Bombay, is also submitted with the remark that although no effect can be given to the requests preferred in it as regards an official placed in the category of those who volunteered the payment of bribes to secure their own objects, the Government of India might deem it advisable, in case it thinks any other officials should be placed in that category, to obtain from such persons a written explanation.

2. In reply, I am to say that the Commissioners' report on each case with which they dealt, the evidence recorded in their Proceedings, your letter under acknowledgment and its enclosures, and, where Sir Raymond West has referred to individual cases, the observations on them contained in his minute, have been carefully perused by the Governor-General in Council. It appears to His Excellency in Council that the incriminated officials who need not be dismissed may be divided into two classes, namely, men who paid under actual and extreme pressure, and men whose payments were made for some personal benefits or to avoid some evils, but yet do not clearly come within the purview of the Statute 49 George III, Cap. 126.

As regards the suggestion that each man to be dismissed should have a further opportunity of offering a written explanation, I am to point out that every person who had paid a bribe, even if he has not offended against the Statute, has committed an offence under the Indian Penal Code. This being so, every such person has rendered himself liable to dismissal, and cannot claim to be reheard or formally tried as to the amount of pressure put upon him. Each official has either before the Commission or in the inquiries which preceded its meetings made statements inculcating himself. The statements made before the Commission have been formally weighed and examined by the Commissioners, and those which were made in the preliminary investigation by officers not called before the Commission may be accepted as true as against those who made them. If the circumstances disclosed in these statements appear in any

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cases to justify condonation, the offence can be condoned as an act of grace, but the Government of India is unable to countenance any further protracted inquiries in the matter. Should there be, however, any individual cases not yet decided in which the Bombay Government has become aware of any special extenuating circumstances, it is at liberty to bring them before the Government of India; and, on the other hand, it can withhold compensation from any of the men dismissed with regard to whom it can be affirmed that they actually spoke untruths before the Commission and thereby violated the condition on which they received guarantees of indemnity.

3. With these preliminary remarks, I am to convey the orders of the Government of India regarding the case of each official mentioned in your letter under reply:—

(1) Lakshman Moreswar Deshpande—The Commissioners did not wholly negative the view that he paid money to Hanmantrao under threats of ruin. They did indeed think his fear of Hanmantrao's influence over Mr. Crawford somewhat exaggerated, but it seems impossible to doubt that Hanmant was really regarded as Mr. Crawford's agent and able to carry out his threats as to fulfil his promises. Deshpande swears that he paid most reluctantly after repeated demands and threats, and the Governor-General in Council accepts this view and the recommendation of the Bombay Government that he should be placed in the category of officials who paid only under extreme pressure in order to avoid unmerited degradation, or to ward off some other evil consequence. The Governor in Council should, however, endeavour to arrange that Deshpande is not retained in any specific office for the sake of which he seems to have paid money, and this should be regarded as an essential principle in the case of every one of the incriminated officials who is allowed to remain in the public service.

(2) Bhagwant Balwant Pradhan—The Commissioners did not believe his story, nor the evidence of his witness Atmarám. According to Hanmantrao's version Pradhan's payments were made in order to secure promotion. If Hanmantrao's statement was true, Pradhan did not tell the whole truth, but whether judged by his own story or that of Hanmantrao he comes within the first category. The Governor-General in Council cannot accept the doctrine that his conviction that "unless he followed the general example and paid a bribe his claims would not be recognized" is enough to make the case one of extortion and not of voluntary corruption. It is evident that no one would pay for what he can obtain without paying, and on his own statements Pradhan clearly purchased his office corruptly. He should be dismissed.

(3) Lakshman Chintaman Phadke—He appears to have first paid a sum of Rs. 500 to procure the cancellation of an order involving his transfer and reduction, for which there does not seem to have been any justification. His second payment was made with a view to obtain favourable consideration of a complaint made against him to the effect that he had withheld the pay of certain village officers in order to induce them to submit their accounts without delay. In this matter he clearly acted *bona fide*, though perhaps from an excess of zeal, to enforce punctuality, and the Government of India cannot regard the charge against him as serious or one for which his suspension for three months was not ample punishment. In Phadke's action in this case the Governor General in Council is inclined to think that he was influenced by the fear of similar treatment to that experienced by him in the first case, which was one of virtual extortion. In consideration of this circumstance, and as it is questionable whether the case comes under the Statute, His Excellency in Council accepts the Bombay Government's recommendation that he should be placed in the second category.

(4) Rámchandra Yashwant Chaulal—His case appears to have been clearly one of extortion. He engaged, however, to pay Rs. 1,500 if he could be confirmed as a mamlatdar, and he paid Rs. 500 on account; but Mr. Crawford was suspended a week later and he did not obtain what he had bargained for. He appears to be still a mamlatdar, and to avoid his holding a post for which he is legally disqualified, he should be transferred to some other appointment of equal emolument.

(5) Bákrishna Govind Sindekar—The payment made by him was in order to obtain cancellation of a transfer from the Nasik District, where his home is, and where he wished to remain. It is not clear that this is an offence against the Statute, and he may be excused from dismissal, but in the opinion of the Government of India he should be permanently debarred from serving in the Nasik District.

- (6) Devráo Kacheshwar Chincholikar---His case closely resembles Sindekar's, as he paid for cancelment of a transfer or to obtain a better station. He should not be allowed to remain at Shirpur, but he need not be dismissed.
- (7) Ganesh Pandurang Thakár---His case is considered by the Bombay Government as one of a forced loan, asked for by Mr. Crawford himself and paid through Hanmantrao. The Government of India is unable to accept this view, or to believe that Thakár ever expected to be repaid; but having regard to all the circumstances disclosed in Thakár's evidence, and to the high character which he appears to have borne, it will not insist on his absolute dismissal. It must, however, be clearly understood that under no circumstances is he to be made a Deputy Collector.
- (8) Wáman Dáji Nagarkar---This officer paid two sums of Rs. 500 each, the first to obtain a transfer from an unhealthy station, the second for promotion. He too calls these payments "advances," but he says he did not take any acknowledgment of them or make any arrangement for their repayment. At the same time he admits that he went to see Hanmantrao "in consequence of what he had heard." The Governor-General in Council sees no reason for removing him from the first category. He should be dismissed.
- (9) Vishnu Raghunáth Kelkar---His case appears to have been one of extortion. He made two payments in order to avoid "vexatious removals and possibly degradation." Although the Commissioners remark that he was not persecuted but well looked after, it is observed that he was transferred five times in six months. He may be placed in the second category.
- (10) Vithal Tikáji Uplap---He was implicated while employed as Karbhari in the Akalkot State in the payment of a bribe of Rs. 10,000 by the Chief of that State to Mr. Crawford, but denied the matter persistently till he found it could not be concealed, or thought it better policy to speak out. He did not receive any guarantee of indemnity. There does not appear to be any doubt about his guilt, as he sought Hanmantrao and brought him to the Raja, and settled that the latter should pay Rs. 10,000 for his powers, and, though it is asserted that he acted most reluctantly, he was promised and obtained extraordinary promotion on his own account and he himself paid the money on every occasion. His own promotion followed immediately on the first instalment, whereas the Raja's powers were not given till the payment was complete. He should be dismissed. As he received no guarantee, the question of granting him compensation does not arise.
- (11) and (12) Rámchandra Govind Mangrulkar and Vishnu Bápuji Soman---These officials having retired on pension, the only question in their case is the indemnity against suits, &c.; and as, under the Act as passed, the indemnity extends to every one implicated, no orders are called for in connection with them.
- (13) Moro Raghunáth Bivalkar---His case is one of clear payment for promotion, but there were extenuating circumstances which seem to justify his being placed in the second class. The Governor-General in Council is, however, of opinion that it would be well if he were given some other post equivalent to a mamlatdarship, or, if this cannot be arranged, at all events transferred to another Division.
- (14) Váshudev Rámchandra Patvardhan---Being ill, he agreed to pay for transfer to a cool climate (Poona). As he is no longer there, he may be left in office.
- (15) Sakhárám Chimnáji Joshi---His chief object in agreeing to pay was apparently a healthy station. His services may be retained.
- (16) Káshináth Vináyak Bháve---This officer distinctly bargained in person for office and confirmation, and he is rumoured to be corrupt. His "disappointments" were due to the rule that alternate promotions should go to graduates, and he can only mention one supersession. His services should be dispensed with.
- (17) Rámráo Hanmant Rájguru---Rájguru is not a mamlatdar but only Deputy Ch'tnis. He is a young man, and if he is to be believed, he had nothing to do with the bribery himself, and as he has not been promoted, and will not be, in consideration of the payment, he may be allowed to retain his old office.
- (18) Janárdan Eknáth Sahasrabudhe---He was suspended by the District Magistrate of Satara, and when the case came up to the Commissioner for disposal he made his first payment to Hanmantrao in order to procure a successful issue. The second payment was made upon his being threatened with removal to a bad climate. Allowance may be made for the apprehensions he was under and for his belief that Mr. Crawford was really corrupt, and as there is some doubt if a payment under such circumstances by a man already in office comes within the Statute, Sahasrabudhe may be retained in the public service.
3. As regards the question of the compensation to be allowed to the dismissed officials who received a guarantee, it is proposed in paragraph 27 of your letter under acknowledgment---
- (1) that they should be placed on a separate list (not as employes of Government), and that each should be granted for the present a monthly stipend equal to the pay of which he was before his dismissal in receipt;
- (2) that when in the natural course the turn of the dismissed official for promotion to a higher grade would arrive had he remained in the service, his stipend should be raised to the amount of salary payable to an officer in that grade;
- (3) that as soon as the officer would, had he continued in Government employ, be entitled to pension, he should be treated as if he had retired, his stipend being reduced accordingly;
- (4) that in the event of any of the officers referred to obtaining other public or quasi-public employment or a salaried post, the rules under which officers are lent to foreign service should, if this could be conveniently done, be applied by analogy to his case, and the payment or salary received by him in such employ should go in reduction or discontinuance of the Government stipend, but he should be allowed to retain his pensionary rights.
- I am to say that, with one exception, the proposals made in your letter appear to the Government of India to be unobjectionable. The grant of increments of stipend to the dismissed officials does not commend itself to the Governor-General in Council, who is of opinion that the requirements of the case will be fully met by the continuance to each officer of his existing salary. It must be remembered that he will perform no duties and that it will be open to him to add to his income by private work. His Excellency in Council is accordingly pleased to sanction the first of the above proposals, which has also received the approval of Her Majesty's Secretary of State. The third and fourth proposals are also sanctioned by the Government of India.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

C. J. LYALL,

Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

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#### THE BENAZIR FAIR—

RAMPUR STATE.

#### NOTICE.

The annual Benazir Fair at Rampur will be held this year on the bank of the Kosi river, by the Rampur and Moradabad road, from the 24th to 30th November. Trades-people of all kinds have been invited with their wares from different parts of the country, and, besides the usual assortments of imported and other miscellaneous goods, special care will be taken to have some of the notable indigenous manufactures of the Province, as of Fatehgarh, Manifpuri, Tilhar, Moradabad, and Rampur itself, amply represented. As an additional attraction, the Fair will this time combine an Agricultural and Cattle Show. The Director of

Agriculture and Commerce has been asked to provide a set of farming implements, some of which will also be shown in working. The Cattle Show will include horses, ponies, mules, cows, bullocks, and buffaloes, and will offer a good opportunity to parties wishing to buy or sell such animals; the State itself being prepared to purchase a fair number to replace those that have become unserviceable. Fodder for cattle brought for show will be provided free of cost.

The tradesmen's stalls, and tents for visitors will form a well ordered camp, with due care for sanitation. For the amusement of visitors there will be a varied programme of wrestling, elephant and ram fights, military sports, &c., ending with the usual display of fireworks. European visitors will be very welcome, and will find every arrangement made for their comfort.

# BENGAL BONDED WAREHOUSE ASSOCIATION.

## NOTICE.

The adjourned Half-yearly General Meeting of Proprietors will be held at noon, on Wednesday next, the 20th November current, at the office of this Association.

13th Nov. 1889. S. E. J. CLARKE,  
Secretary.

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## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; and those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which neces-

sarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract].—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "Last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him.

*Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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It destroys moss and weeds on gravel paths and exterminates worms from lawns.

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This Company's Steamer "BARODA" will leave Calcutta for Assam on Friday, the 15th inst.

All cargo for shipment by the above vessel should be sent to the Company's Godowns at Juggannauth Ghat, not later than Thursday, the 14th inst.

### CACHAR LINE.

The steamers of this line will run to Cachar as usual, for which cargo will be received until Tuesday evening.

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A Daily service is maintained from Goalundo and Dhubri for passengers and light goods traffic, i. e., packages not weighing over a ton:—The steamer leaves Goalundo on arrival of the previous night's 9-30 P. M. (Madras time) trains from Scaldah, and Dhubri on arrival of the mails.

Goods Upward or Downward from and to almost all stations can be booked through from or to Calcutta via Goalundo or Kannaia with the Eastern Bengal State and connected Railways:—Passengers and Parcels via Kannaia only.

All particulars as to rates of freight and passage by all the above mentioned Services to be had on application to—

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Calcutta, the 14th November, 1889.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1889.

No. 399

## CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

### THE GRAVE OF LOVE.

[From Mrs. Elizabeth Akers's *The Silver Bridge, and other Poems.*  
Boston and New York.]

Come, let us make his pleasant grave  
Upon this shady shore,  
Where the sad river, wave on wave,  
Shall grieve for evermore ;  
Oh, long and sweet shall be his dream,  
Lulled by its soothing flow—  
Sigh softly, softly, shining stream,  
Because he loved you so !

Fair blossom daughters of the May,  
So lovely in your bloom,  
Your ran' must stand aside to-day,  
To give our darling room ;  
These dew-drops which you shed in showers  
Are loving tears, I know—  
Bloom brightly, brightly, grateful flowers,  
Because he loved you so !

Here all the warm, long summer days,  
The yellow bees shall come,  
Coquetting down the blossomy ways  
With loud and ringing hum ;  
While warbling in the sunny trees  
The birds flit to and fro—  
Sing sweetly, sweetly, birds and bees,  
Because he loved you so !

Here with their soft and cautious tread,  
The light feet of the shower  
Shall walk about his grassy bed,  
And cool the sultry hour ;  
Yet may not wake to smiles again  
The eyes which sleep below—  
Fall lightly, lightly, pleasant rain,  
Because he loved you so !

And when the summer's voice is dumb,  
And lost her blooming grace,  
When sighing autumn tempests come  
To weep above the place,  
Till all the forest boughs are thinned,  
Their leafy pride laid low—  
Grieve gently, gently, wailing wind,  
Because he loved you so !

And when beneath the chilly light  
That crowns the winter day,  
The storms shall clothe his grave in white,  
And shut the world away—

Above his sweet untroubled rest  
Fall soft, caressing snow—  
Drift tenderly across his breast,  
Because he loved you so !

### AUTUMN, 1885.\*

Yes, Autumn comes again and finds me here,  
Last year I thought I should be elsewhere  
Than 'mid these fading falling leaves ; for there,  
Beneath life's tree whose leaves are never sere  
But green throughout the great eternal year  
I thought to lie, and breathe the tranquil air,  
And see my boy who, being for earth too fair,  
Is fairer still in that celestial sphere.

Perchance for me his little heart did yearn ;  
Haply to meet me at the golden gate  
He oft would wander, stand awhile, and turn  
Away to cry " My father's fingers laid  
Content thee, little one ; my heart doth burn  
For thee as thine for me, but God says " Wait ! "

### OUR DREAM.\*

Perchance to men it may not be given  
To know things real from things that seem ;  
If, living on earth, we dream of heaven,  
Why, then, I hold it better to dream.

Let us dream on 'mid the splendid shadows  
That make existence a gladsome thing,  
The dim deep woods and the flowery meadows  
Where fairies frolic and skylarks sing ;

Where bright shapes linger, and angel faces  
Glow in the gleam of a visioned day,  
And o'er the uplands on grassy spaces  
Fond lovers wander, fair children play.

Let us dream still, then, nor strive to sever  
Things that are real from things that seem,  
Let us slumber on for ever and ever  
And know no waking from life's glad dream.

\*Verses of a Prose Writer. By James Ashcroft Noble. (D. Douglas, Edinburgh.)

*Holloway's Pills.*—Indigestion.—How much thought has been bestowed, and what voluminous treatises have been written upon this universal and distressing disease, which is with certainty and safety dispelled without fear of relapse by a course of this purifying, soothing and tonic medicine ! It acts directly on the stomach, liver and bowels—then indirectly, though no less effectively, on the brain, nerves, vessels, and glands, introducing such order throughout the entire system that harmony dwells between each organ and its functions. Dyspepsia need no longer be the bugbear of the public, since Holloway's Pills are fully competent to subdue the most chronic and distressing cases of impaired digestion, and to restore the miserable sufferer to health, strength, and cheerfulness.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

GENERAL Bradford, in charge of Prince Albert Victor in India, has, before he has delivered back his royal charge, been honored with the appointment of A.-D.-C. to the Queen. That may also serve as an additional incentive to Indian loyalty in the reception of the royal visitor.

MR. Bradlaugh—we are relieved to learn—is better again. He has permission of the doctors to take drives and to visit India.

HERE is a telegraphic puzzle from Lushai Land which amuses the *Pioneer* :—

"Send also six Babus, male, about seven feet long and 6 inches round. None procurable here."

That "specimen of telegraphic literature," as our contemporary calls it, does not at any rate proceed from the unspeakable Baboo. It seems to disclose a desperate situation at camp. No doubt, they made a great mistake by starting without a proper complement of so needful an article. The Baboos who gave the Empire to Great Britain cannot yet be dispensed with. Jack Sepoy and Jack Baboo are the two pillars of State to whom the British are strangely ungrateful. Nevertheless, half a dozen Baboo giants are too much of a good thing for such a trumpery business as the Lushai affair. A scarecrow or two from Chittagong would suffice.

DELAWARE seems the most Liberal if not the least barbarous of the United States. It lashes without compunction brutes guilty of ill usage to women or children. The discipline is effective—so far at least that no one is ever brought up for a second offence. Not that they are charmed into chivalry by the cat, but the victims of the infliction immediately leave the State—"for good." By this style of administration, the State is enabled to dispense with a prison.

THE Punjab University has secured a new privilege to the Viceroy and Governor-General of India. Lord Dufferin was honored with the Degree of Doctor of Literature of that University. Lord Lansdowne is the Oriental Bait.

MAHARANI SURNOMOYEE, of Cossimbazar—God bless her and her worthy counsellors!—has come to the rescue of the Sanskrit College, Calcutta. She has agreed to pay annually, for five years, Rs. 600 for a number of free studentships.

FORT William is to be sewered. Mr. G. W. Winckler, A.M.I.C.E., late of the Public Works Department, lately visited the place on behalf of Messrs. Shone and Ault, to draw up a project. We hope the Calcutta Drainage system will not be repeated. It is time to devise an inodorous and innocuous scheme.

THEY are starting a company at Bombay for the manufacture of boilers, engines and economisers. This is a step in progress. Here, in Bengal, our Zemindar-Engineer Mr. B. Pal Chowdry is already supplying brass things to the railways and others.

GOVERNMENT has offered a reward of Rs. 500 for the discovery of the murderer of one Shaik Selim, of Gouripore, two miles distant from the Dum Dum Cantonment, and free pardon to the accomplice, for giving up the murderer. The culprit is said to be a European soldier who has given the slip to the Police.

ON the retirement of the Duke of Connaught, Major-General Sir George Greaves comes to the Bombay Command.

MR. E. J. SINKINSON, Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Finance and Commerce, goes to Burma on private affairs, on a leave of about six weeks from the 8th December next, rejoining on the 20th January.

THE Maharaja of Vizianagram has gone for a stay of two months at Madras, where he arrived on the 13th instant.

ONE Bahadr Rai Kedarnath Chatterjee has been succeeded by another Bahadr Rai Abinash Chandra Banerjee in the chair of the Balli Municipality. These two "braves" between them have long ruled the roast.

\*\*\*

THREE more Honorary Magistrates for the Presidency town of Calcutta—Moulvie Mahomed, Mr. R. Y. Remfry and Mr. E. O. Moses. The old groove again! Now that the List is being cleared of the dead, the absent and the absents, we should like some fresh blood to be introduced. Why is the Department of Science and Education, for instance, so systematically neglected to hug to the bosom only tuft hunters? Some of the brightest men in the country, native and European, belong to it. It is invidious to give names, but one may be hazarded. Professor Wood-Mason, a good classic and a great man of science, who had originally studied for the bar, who as scientific traveller and navigator has come in contact with the masses, and as Superintendent of the Indian Museum has departmentally to enquire into many complaints, including theft cases, would be an acquisition to any honorary bench in any country.

UNDER a new ruling, taking effect from the next financial year, a license for the sale of opium or of an intoxicating drug or of poppy-heads is ordinarily liable to cancellation with forfeiture of the sum advanced, unless the shop be opened within the 15th April. The licensee nevertheless continues liable for the license fee for the month. The Collector is also given the power to cancel for any cause specified in it, the license or permit granted by him to a druggist, entailing the loss of the fee paid or payable for the month.

IN September last, there were from Calcutta 2,215 emigrants to the Colonies: 1,064 to Demerara, 533 to Trinidad and 618 to Mauritius.

THE *Indian Daily News* calls the members of the Calcutta Corporation Municipal Registrars—evidently as registerers of the decrees of the Chairman or the General Committee. This is no reproach to the general body of Commissioners. The tendency of modern municipal legislation has been to ignore the Commissioners as a body leaving to the General Committee of 18 Commissioners and the Chairman the entire business of the Corporation. The Chairman by himself is empowered to "exercise all the powers vested by the Act in the Commissioners. Provided that he shall not exercise any power which by the Act is directed to be exercised only by the Commissioners in meeting. Nor shall he act in opposition to, or in contravention of, any orders passed by the Commissioners at a meeting; and if any order passed by him under the authority vested in the Commissioners is brought before a meeting of the Commissioners and modified or disapproved of by them, the Chairman shall, as far as possible, modify or cancel such order so as to bring it into conformity with the order of the Commissioners in meeting." Again, "when the Chairman and the majority of the General Committee are in accord, and inconvenience is likely to result from delay, it shall not be necessary before action is taken to wait for the confirmation of the Commissioners in meeting, but if the Commissioners in meeting do not confirm the action of the General Committee, such steps shall be taken to carry out the orders of the Commissioners as may still be practicable." At the same time, "it is competent to the General Committee—which is the Budget and Finance Committee of the Corporation—to deal with all matters which "may be expressly referred to it by the Corporation, or as may not be referred to any other standing or Special Committee."

\*\*\*

THE Governor-General in Council has sanctioned the separation of the Calcutta Naval Artillery Volunteers from the Volunteer land forces of India, and the conversion of the Battery into a Naval corps, to be designated the Calcutta Naval Volunteers under the orders of the General Officer Commanding the Presidency District.

ITALY has publicly announced her assumption of Protectorate over the coast northward of Vismayu, two and-a-half degrees north.

THE last number of the *Edinburgh Review* publishes the following anecdote in illustration of the "internal economy" of Russia :—

"A very eminent German diplomatist, who represented his Government at St. Petersburg during the reign of the late Emperor, received



one day a scrap of paper written by a man who said he was a German, and that, without a trial or accusation of any kind, he had been put into a gang of convicts, and was being marched to Siberia. The Minister went to the Imperial Foreign Office, and begged that inquiry might be made into the truth of the story, which was promised, but nothing came of it, though he continued to press his demand. One day, happening to meet the Emperor, he seized the opportunity of telling the story. The Emperor readily promised that inquiry should be made, and the wrath of the Imperial Chancellerie was 'intense'; but at last the truth came out. It proved that a prisoner had escaped from a convoy bound to Siberia, which consequently arrived at a small town in the interior one short of its proper number, and the officer in charge, knowing that he would be in a scrape if he did not deliver his proper tally, adopted the simple expedient of laying hold of some one else to take the place of the missing man. Unfortunately for him, the substitute happened to be a German. The man was, of course, at once released, though of this it may well be believed that he would not have had the slightest chance if he had happened to be a Russian."

\* \*

UNDER the head of Bengal, we read in a Mysore paper the following remarkable paragraph, apparently taken from one of our contemporaries on this side:—

"A rising young artist.—We are glad to hear that Baboo [we won't advertise him *gratis*], about whose talents we had the pleasure of speaking some time ago, has just been complimented by H. E. the Viceroy on his ability as a painter from photographs. The painting of the Viceroy, executed by this young artist is a good likeness, and speaks highly of his skill. It is always a pleasing duty to us to encourage Indian art, and we congratulate Baboo—on his success as an artist."

Our Bengal journalists are not famous for appreciation or knowledge of art. Who, then, among them, has been making this extraordinary discovery of a new painter, we wonder? Is it our new and not unpromising contemporary which, out-Reising *Reis and Rayyet*, has commenced a "Newspaper and Review of Politics, Literature, Society"—"and Art"?

We, for our part, though always on the *qui vive* for the least symptoms of art culture or artistic talent among our countrymen, have not yet come upon the new genius. A genius he must be who has been complimented by such a hereditary *connaisseur* and patron as the Viceroy. We should like to see a true copy of the viceregal autograph. If this is the artist who exhibited a portrait in oil of Lord Dufferin at the Town Hall on the occasion of the Mahomedan Literary Society's *braverson* last year, he must have made a prodigious leap towards perfection in a trice.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Calcutta Corporation, to begin with, has voted Rs. 2,000 towards the reception in the metropolis of the Prince now touring in India. That sum is intended to meet the cost of an illuminated address and the casket to be presented. Public bodies and persons will be invited to concert other measures for entertaining the Prince while in Calcutta. It was at first proposed to invite him to visit the Pulta Water Works—the first of its kind in India and perfectly Indian in character, and a vote for Rs. 10,000 was asked for. But the Commissioners in meeting thought differently. One legal Commissioner pointed out that, though belonging to the Calcutta Corporation, the Pulta Water Works were situate beyond the limits of municipal Calcutta, and the law limited any expenditure for entertainments to Calcutta. By the present programme, the Prince is due here after his visit to Burma, on Friday the 3rd January in the afternoon, and will remain till Monday the 13th when he leaves by the mail train for Benares.

FOR the Hathras Junction accident, resulting in the death of 18 persons and injury to 39, the pointsman Juggunnath has been sentenced, by the Joint-Magistrate Mr. Forbes of Aligarh, to three months' simple imprisonment. The good Magistrate viewed the omission as the act "more of the weakness of human nature than active negligence." It was not "deliberate and active negligence." The *Indian Daily News* takes Mr. Forbes to task for so leniently disposing of the case. If pointsmen cannot be more heroic, our contemporary advises "all sufferers by the accidents which negligence entails to sue the Company responsible for swinging damages."

THE Punjab supplies the newest matrimonial sensation. Three persons—Ismail, Araf and Amir—each claimed one Khatun to be his legally wedded wife. The first claim was laid by Ismail in the Court of the Magistrate of Jhang, who was applied to to order restitution

of conjugal rights. Araf applied at Mooltan, and the two suits were heard together by the Jhang Magistrate. The woman denied that she was the wife of Ismail, accepting Araf as his lawful husband. The Magistrate accordingly rejected Ismail's suit and gave Khatun to Araf. A third claimant now appeared in Amir, who accused both Ismail and Araf of imposition upon the Court and of conspiracy to deprive him of his own—his lawful prize, the same Mussamut Khatun. While this complaint was maturing for a hearing, Ismail took up his grievance to the District Court and ultimately to the Chief Court, which last called for fresh report. Sir Meredyth Plowden has now decided that neither Ismail nor Araf has any claim to Khatun to whom they were never married. He also holds that the marriage contracts and registers are forgeries. He has further ordered the confiscation of the documents and prosecution of Ismail and Araf for forgery and perjury, and of the two mullas for making false entries and giving false evidence. What of the suit of Amir? Is poor Khatun to have none left out of her multitude of husbands?

A LAWYER-political may sound an anomaly. But it is just the thing. We do not mean a mere Nisi Prius man able to bamboozle juries into verdicts and heavy damages in his favour, but an educated man grounded in the principles of jurisprudence and of English and Indian law. The late lamented Evans Bell once read a paper before the East India Association in which he traced much of the wrong-doing of the Residencies—the frequent pragmatical interference of British agents accredited to native princes with the internal administration of native states—to the gross ignorance of international law prevailing in the *Corps Diplomatique*. Many doubtless regarded the opinion as a paradox, but no one, we are persuaded, can candidly study the subject without coming to the same conclusion. We for one, at any rate, have always been of the same view. Accordingly, we hailed the appointment of a practised administrator who had served as Secretary to the Legislative Council to the head of the important Residency of Hyderabad. As a good man as well as able officer, Mr. Fitzpatrick went and won all hearts. His opportunity for proving his metal as a judge was not long in coming. A libel case furnished the occasion. So far as we can see from the summary in the *Pioneer*, the judgment is worthy of any High Court bench. The libel

"complained of was published at Karachi, at the instance of a person residing in the Residency Bazaars, through a letter posted in the Hyderabad city. The law in force in the three different places being substantially the same, the main question involved was whether under the Criminal Procedure Code as extended to the Residency Bazaars the accused could be tried by a forum whose territorial jurisdiction does not extend beyond a few acres of land forming the Residency for a crime committed outside. It was contended for the prosecution that the Criminal Procedure Code being in force in both Sind and the Residency Bazaars the *venue* might lie in either locality. There is, however, says the Resident, a fallacy in this argument. No Act of the Legislative Council could as such be extended by its own vigour or made extendable as territorial law to places beyond the line of the Residency Bazaars. When the Governor General in Council in his executive capacity spoke of extending the Act of the Indian Legislature to places beyond the line this expression, though admissible as an ordinary colloquial one, was not strictly correct. What he does is not to extend the Act, but to even enact another law similar for the place in question. It is just as if the legislative authority in Ceylon or Chandernagore were to enact that the provisions of our Code should be applied to the country under their control. Thus Karachi and the Residency Bazaars are not by reason of the so-called extension of the Criminal Code brought under one law or system of jurisdiction."

The question of territorial jurisdiction has cropped up in other parts of India. Whatever may be thought of the Resident of Hyderabad's conclusion, there can be but one opinion of the perfect independence and fairness and grasp of principle shown in the judgment. Such a Resident is a possession to be prized. Mr. Fitzpatrick's influence on the administration of Hyderabad and of Berar cannot but be improving in all directions.

WE take the following Notes from the Calcutta column of the *Indian Planter's Gazette*.—

"There is every probability of the Honourable Mr. Justice Wilson replacing the Honourable Mr. Justice Norris on the Original Side of the High Court, but it is not yet an assured fact as our contemporaries believe.

In the ordinary course of events, the present Judge has two years more to run in his place, and though the lists of the various other Benches has been made up, and the Honourable Mr. Justice Norris's name is coupled with that of the Chief Justice, no name has been assigned to the Original Side.

Should the Honourable Mr. Justice Norris vacate the Original Bench, the native section of the community will rejoice muchly, for this

learned judge has too much of the honest straightforward 'facts-is-facts' Englishman in his character to please their sensitive disappreciation of the strict rules of veracity.

Perhaps his successor will make greater allowances for the national failure."

And this from a parvenu nation of pedlars and hucksters among whom adulteration has been raised to a science and falsehood to a fine art, to the most ancient race who have civilised the world, who did not know what chicane, guile or evasion was until the stranger came and set up shop and school on their shores, whose literature and annals are full of the most sublime lessons of fidelity, whose every-day life at this moment, even in this degenerate age, under abnormal conditions, exhibits the most heroic examples of honour and truth!

Whatever the case with Judge Norris, we regret we do not find any trace of the "facts-is-facts" Englishman in the *Gazette's* Calcutta Gup-pist. Instead, we discern the Baboophobist and no mistake.

THE fact of facts is, that the retirement of Mr. Justice Norris from the Original Bench is a relief to all Old Post Office Street. During his incumbency, the file was quickly cleared and institutions were few. Such suitors as were still tempted, had cheap disposal of their cases, and the disposer made no secret of it. Whatever the demeanour of the Judge on the Bench, we had for once the right man in the right place. Both Court and Judge were original.

WE learn by telegram that on Sunday the 17th November, a large meeting of Mahomedan noblemen and gentlemen was held at the Yunani Medical School, Delhi, to welcome Nawab Abdool Lutef, one of the patrons of the institution, who is now touring in the Upper Provinces. The committee of the school, headed by the President Sayed Hadi Hussain Khan Bahadur, Honorary Assistant Commissioner, formerly Minister of Jaura, and Prince Mirza Suraiyi Jah Bahadur, head of the Imperial Family of Delhi, Nawab Saidaddin Ahmed Khan, of the Nawabate of Loharu, Shamsululema Munshi Zukaullah Khan Bahadur, and others presented the Nawab with an elaborate address couched in most complimentary terms for the genuine

test he had always taken in the cause of Yunani Medicine and for his lifelong labours in promoting Mahomedan education and general improvement. The Nawab, in returning his cordial thanks for the great and unexpected honor done to him by the leaders of Delhi society, appears to have made a notable speech. He detained the meeting for a couple of hours, dwelling on the marvels of Greco-Arab Medicine, and benefits which are sure to be derived from such a school by those who resorted to the Yunani system of medical treatment, owing to religious and social prejudices, in preference to other systems of medicine. In conclusion, the Nawab exhorted his countrymen to come forward and do their best to assist this noble institution which had been founded by Hakim Abdul Majid Khan, (son of the famous Hakeem Mahmood Khan,) who deserved the most grateful thanks of the native community.

It may be pleasant for a retired gentleman of fortune to write M. P. after his name. A man of fortune may even regard the distinction not dearly purchased at an expenditure of half a lac of Rupees. But sometimes there are liabilities of a more serious character. A candidate may be called on to pay a cost more dear in every sense—touching his very person. Certain constituencies are more rowdy than others, and some rivals are not very scrupulous. The muscular politics of boroughs like Kidderminster are not likely to suit the taste of gouty old grocers or stout old aldermen who may aspire to the dignity of a seat in the House as the next best thing to a baronetcy. Such respectable politicians must view with anxiety the symptoms of growing vulgarity in the war of and for candidates. Formerly, the worst projectiles employed on such occasions were rotten oranges or hen's eggs. Now actual stones are coming into fashion, even in Counties.

On the 25th October, Mr. Arthur Strauss, the Liberal Unionist candidate for Mr. Conybeare's seat for the mining division of Cornwall, attended a meeting of the electors at the village of Troon, whom he addressed. At the conclusion of his speech, he was examined on his views. The leader of the Conybeare party in particular put questions to the candidate. Others of the free and independent did not understand this sort of thing. Impatient of the palaver, they applied a more

summary method of testing the capacity of the candidate's head and heart. They made free use of their hands, letting fly stones at him. While he was engaged answering their questions, he was assailed by these dangerous missiles in showers. Several of these just missing their aim smashed the windows behind. One weighing two pounds however violently hit him on the head. Mr. Strauss seems to be unusually strong-headed and steady of heart. He shamed the stone shot. During the hail of stones, he went on smilingly bowing to this side and that like a *prima donna* amid a shower of bouquets, through the catechism and the rest of it. A strong body of friends brought him away whole.

IN India, indignation at failure of justice, occasionally descends to slippers and slipping of the Judge by an infuriated suitor. In a free country, where the people are not disarmed by law, the castigation takes a different shape—with powder and shot. It is telegraphed from London that one Arnemann, a German, dissatisfied with the finding of County Court Judge Bristowe at Nottingham, shot him in the back—fatally, it is feared.

MR. JUSTICE Fitz James Stephen—the philosophical defender of despotism and bad faith and of bullying from the criminal bench—is evidently above care for the opinion of the world. His dispensation of patronage is worthy of the Briton who poochpooched Her Majesty's Proclamation to India of 1858 as waste paper. A big brawny animal with a strong capacious head, an eye for the main chance and a stomach for any amount of creature comforts, a regular John Bull, endowed with more than the usual philoprogenitiveness of the race, he seems to take advantage of every opportunity of providing for the young Bulls of the family. The other day, he made one of his hopefuls—or perhaps hopeleses—Clerk on the South Wales Circuit Assize. Not content with this, he has now given the office of Clerk of Assize on the Northern Circuit to his eldest boy.

That sort of family appropriation of public patronage is by no means unexampled in Great Britain. The Stephens are only following in the footsteps of the House of Bethel. Nor are the dignitaries of the Law alone in this. The Church is not more self-sacrificing. The *London Daily News*, noticing the last appointment, slyly remarks that Mr. Justice Stephen

"evidently acts on the principle frankly and at the same time ingeniously avowed by Bishop Davies, of Peterborough, who exclaimed, 'Why should an excellent young man be prevented from receiving a good living which happens to be in my gift merely because he is my son-in-law?'"

THE sympathy for Mrs. Maybrick yet lives. The extreme sentence of law on her has been modified to one of penal servitude for life. Her children have been taken in in other families, and now a Committee have been formed bearing her name which has resolved to apply for a writ of Habeas Corpus, on the ground that the sentence of penal servitude for life is illegal and *ultra vires*.

THE recent Labor strikes in London have brought out Capital. Reuter announces the gift by Sir Edward Guinness—which may well stagger an Indian philanthropist—of a quarter of a million sterling for the erection of dwellings for the labouring poor. Of this sum, two hundred thousand pounds are to be appropriated in London and fifty thousand in Dublin.

IT is an indubitable proof of the inefficiency and vanity of Orthodox Medicine that the more intelligent practitioners are on tip-toe watching for the announcement of discoveries and improvements. When they do come upon any promising novelty, they are far too ready to introduce it, to think of putting it to a preliminary test, or even examining its credentials. With famine eagerness they seize upon it to cover the deficiencies of their system or the disappointments of their own practice. They make the most, and, of course, not the wisest, use of it. It was thus that when the virtues of mercury—an old Eastern specific—became known to Europe, whole nations were poisoned with it. Thus was bark abused. Thus Mesmerism. Thus when Professor Simpson, pursuing a hint of our own townsman the late Mr. Waldie's, successfully employed chloroform in *accoucheuring*, how many were the accidents upon its administration in other hands! Strychnine and hydrate of chloral number their martyrs by hundreds at the hands of the doc-

tors. Similarly, slain by the new drugs Antifebrin and Antipyrin, hecatombs have been offered in the well-meaning but ignorant recklessness of a pretentious scientific imbecility. The most notable latest discovery in medicine is Cocaine, and it is repeating history with scrupulous fidelity. It was heralded with the usual trumpet peals of applause. Here at last was the genuine saviour of the flesh—the rescuer from all its accumulated load of ills, hereditary and acquired. All the doctors rushed to arm themselves with it to conquer the domain of sickness. There was a rage. The excitement spread to even the lay world. Patients themselves proposed it as they were wont to press for chloral or calomel. The stir indeed is far from over. Meanwhile, the doctors have begun to fight shy of their darling. Facts, repeated in various directions, leave no room for concealment. Ugly accidents, which cannot be gainsaid or explained away, are opening their eyes. They still persist in calling it a valuable medicine, but they now add that it is an exceedingly dangerous drug. The first warning, we believe, came from a record of some forty cases published by Dr. Mattison about a couple of years back, in which cocaine was medicinally administered. Several of these patients died from the effects of the drug, and in the rest of them poisonous symptoms were developed, though not to fatal severity. We are afraid many of those who recovered were permanently injured in health. In a French professional journal—the *Archives de Médecine*—Mr. Dufournier has now given the results of a patient inquiry into the subject. It is a startling disclosure.

"Among the phenomena characterizing this form of poisoning one observed in a patient of Dr. E. Bradley is worthy of special mention. This patient was taken with facial paralysis, from which he did not recover for six months. Other symptoms are hallucinations, great excitement, and cerebral agitations; and finally, Dr. Leslie Callaghan in one case saw the entire body covered by a scarlatiniform rash."

The mildest form of the poisoning, which he described as follows, is bad enough:—

"Dr. Szunman, wishing to remove a large wart situated at the base of the thumb of a young girl of twenty, injected under the skin, close to the wart, one cubic centimetre of a one-in-ten solution of cocaine. The patient felt no pain, but as the little wound was being sewed together she suddenly lost her colour and fainted; her pulse became weak and slow and her hands and feet stiffened. Water was dashed in her face, and she recovered consciousness, but she did not regain at once her sense of feeling, as she kept asking where her hands were. By this time the stiffening has extended to the whole of her person; but these alarming symptoms quieted down little by little, and by half an hour's time they all came to a happy end. This case represents the mildest form of poisoning by cocaine. Between this form and the cases in which death ensued come in a series of severer forms in which the alarming symptoms lasted from three hours to five or six days."

That such a drug, in certain doses and in particular subjects, must have a homicidal effect, goes without saying. And so it is. We read:—

"Dr. Baratoux mentions the case of a druggist, who under the impression that he was attacked by diphtheria, sprayed his throat with a solution of cocaine; for seven or eight hours he passed from one syncope to another, until finally succumbed. Dr. Abadie reports another case—a woman of seventy-one. She received a hypodermic injection of four centigrammes of cocaine in her lower eyelid, before undergoing a trivial operation in that region. At the close of the operation she fainted, and her face became purple as in asphyxia. In spite of the fact that artificial respiration was performed, and that hypodermic injections of ether and caffeine were made, and though the latter seemed for a moment to revive her, this unfortunate woman died five hours afterwards."

So much for the vaunted cocaine and for Therapeutic Progress! It is to be hoped that medical men would be more cautious in accepting on trust new and powerful medicines. The public, at any rate, should be on their guard against being experimented upon.

IN the Jhansi references, the Full wisdom of the High Court, N. W. P., has declared in favor of the Government. It declares that the Governor-General in Council had jurisdiction to pass Act XXII of 1886, in spite of section 22 of the Indian Councils Act, 1861, (24 and 25 Vic., c. 67,) restricting the Governor-General to the then existing territories, in the words of the law "now under the dominion of Her Majesty." It was plain, that if the section were allowed to have an independent existence, no Indian legislation could be made for after acquisitions, and the Act of 1886 would be inoperative. But the Court is inclined to think that, by subsequent legislation, Parliament has widened the scope of Section 22, giving it ampler verge than suggested by the actual words, and the Governor-General in Council has been otherwise empowered to legislate for after acquisitions. In 1864, a portion of the district of Darjeeling was annexed to Her Majesty's dominions, and Parliament must be presumed to be aware of the fact when, in 1865,

it enacted 28 and 29 Vic., c. 17, which, purporting to recite Section 22 of the Indian Councils Act, 1861, omitted the word "now," thereby, it is argued, extending the legislating power of the Governor-General to territories past, present and future. 32 and 33 Vic., c. 98 of 1869 recites in the preamble that "whereas doubts have arisen as to the extent of the power of the Governor-General of India in Council to make laws binding upon native Indian subjects beyond the Indian territories under the dominions of Her Majesty, and whereas it is expedient that better provision should be made in other respects for the exercise of the powers of the Governor-General in Council, &c." From this recital doubting the absence of power over subjects beyond the Indian territories, the Court presumes the non-existence of doubt as regards the subjects of the Crown within the Indian territories, no matter when such territories had been acquired. It is a far-fetched inference, we are afraid. Anyhow, it is a bad case when a Judge has to argue down a distinct law by recourse to the preamble of a later enactment which does not distinctly annul the older law. The chief reason which swayed the judgment of the Court seems to be that

"between the 1st August 1861 and the 11th August 1869 not only had territories in India been acquired but legislation by the Governor-General in Council for such territories had taken place. In 1864 part of the district of Darjeeling had been acquired by conquest, and on the 8th March 1867 Act XIX. of 1867, which applied to the district of Darjeeling, including the part of that district which had been acquired by conquest in 1864, was passed by the Governor-General in Council. In 1866 Mauza Kheria had been ceded to the British Government by the Maharana of Dholepur, and on the 10th September 1868 Act XXII. of 1868, which related amongst other things to the administration of civil and criminal justice in Mauza Kheria, was passed by the Governor-General in Council. In 1865 the Bhutan Duars were acquired by conquest and cession, and on the 23rd July 1869 Act XVI. of 1869, relating to that territory, was passed by the Governor-General in Council."

The Court is satisfied of the legality of the several Indian Acts named because

"it was obligatory by statute to lay before both Houses of Parliament copies of all Laws and regulations made by the Governor-General in Council. Consequently prior to the passing by the Imperial Parliament of the 32 and 33 Vic., c. 98, it must be assumed that that obligation had been complied with, at least so far as Act XIX. of 1867 and Act XXII. of 1868 were concerned."

If the laws were by themselves *ultra vires*, mere reporting of them to the Imperial Parliament does not validate them. The last argument is that

"to hold that the Governor-General in Council has not power to legislate except in respect of Indian territories which were on the 1st August 1861 under the dominion of Her Majesty would lead to anomalous results which the Imperial Legislature must have foreseen and could not have intended."

The question is whether Parliament has provided against the contingency.

We are not convinced of the cogency of this judgment whatever the policy of it. If it was a deliberate act of Parliament—and there is no reason to doubt that it was not—to limit the powers of the Governor-General to existing territories, the limit must be specifically withdrawn for the Governor-General to lay claim to unlimited acquisition and legislation.

CAPTAIN Hearsey, in his pursuit of justice, has fared no better on the other than on this side the Hooghly. Both the Calcutta and Howrah Courts would not go into the merits of the case. Both threw out the suit on technical grounds. We give below Mr. Currie, the Howrah Magistrate's view of the prosecution:—

"This is a case of defamation brought by A. W. Hearsey against G. M. Chesney as Editor and W. J. Dare, as Printer, of the *Pioneer* paper, in the issue of which on the 26th January appeared an article in which complainant was spoken of in terms complained of as defamatory. This paper, being posted to and received at the Mechanics' Institute in Howrah, may be taken to have been published here. The accused are admittedly Editor and Printer of the *Pioneer* paper. They were prosecuted on account of this same article by the same complainant in Calcutta on account of publication there, some three or four months ago. The case against Mr. Chesney was committed by the Presidency Magistrate to the Sessions, but that against Mr. Dare was withdrawn from the Presidency Magistrate's Court, by prosecutor's

Counsel after consultation with prosecutor and his attorney. This is proved here by evidence of the prosecutor's evidence, and therefore the case against Mr. Dare here must fail. The withdrawal was not on any special ground, but a simple withdrawal of the case before it actually came to trial, and therefore acted as an acquittal under Section 345 of the Criminal Procedure Code. I can hardly say I acquit Mr. Dare, though a charge was drawn up against him, as he has really been acquitted before, and therefore the proceedings here against him fail as *nul ab initio*.

Mr. Chesney was in the former trial acquitted at the High Court Sessions by a jury. I had read no reports of the case, but had vaguely heard of it, and understood that the case failed for want of proof of publication in Calcutta, and that those proceedings, therefore, would not bar proceedings elsewhere. However that may be, and assuming for the moment that publication of the article complained of in Howrah is proved, the first consideration is whether Mr. Chesney is connected with the publication. It is urged for the accused that the evidence of the prosecution only shows that Mr. Chesney was Editor of the *Pioneer* paper, and that, in the ordinary course of business, he passed all articles. There is nothing to show that he ever saw this particular article, or passed it; and that therefore he cannot be held liable, criminally, for it, or its consequences. I think this contention is sound. It is true that Mr. Chesney in the Presidency Magistrate's Court said that he accepted responsibility for the article, but I doubt whether a man can accept criminal responsibility in face of a denial of commission of the offence, and under the decision cited (*Regina vs. Ramsay and Foote and Regina vs. Bradlaugh*) the accused's actual knowledge and complicity in publication must be proved. Now this has not been done, and therefore Mr. Chesney must be acquitted. For the prosecutor it is urged that such a rule was made under a Special Act in England, which Act does not apply here; but, as the Act was to enunciate a general principle of law, it cannot but be held to apply here. Again it is urged that great hardship would result from such a rule on account of the excessive difficulty of proving who, in a newspaper office, was responsible for, and cognizant of, a particular defamatory article. Whatever may be thought of such a plea in general, it cannot apply in the present case, as complainant has produced evidence as to the actual writer of the article; as therefore there is nothing directly connecting accused with the matter complained of as defamatory, the Court under Section 258 of the Criminal Procedure Code acquits Mr. G. M. Chesney of the charge against him under Section 500 of the Indian Penal Code.

Will Captain Hearsay test in the High Court the law laid down by Mr. Currie? We are not sure that enough evidence was adduced to connect Mr. Chesney with the publication in Howrah. The Magistrate, however, is silent on the charges of abetment which were wanting in the Calcutta prosecution. If the High Court support the view taken by Mr. Currie, Mr. Chesney will have done a real service to journalism in this country. The only question is, whether what is sauce for the goose will be sauce for the gander.

A NOTABLE social function in native society in Calcutta took place yesterday, in connection with the death of the mother of one of our High Court Judges—the last not the least. Baboo Gurudas Banerjee had fallen so ill from exposure and strain in attendance upon his mother, that he was unable to perform the obsequial ceremony of the 10th day. He took the first opportunity after his recovery of performing it on Wednesday on the bank of the Holy River. Yesterday was the Day of Assembly, and of the consecration of the Bull and of Gifts for the soul of the deceased. The weather which had been foul and rainy from the previous week was arrested for the day—in deference, as Hindus believe, to the pious old Brahmani gone to her rest—or else there would have been a mess of the whole thing, so far at least as the sight or the comfort on all sides were concerned. It is needless to say that everybody attended on whom—according to our beautiful mourning custom—Baboo Banerjee had waited. The articles consecrated were all substantial. If the silver vessels were small, they will be given away whole. The process of distribution by cutting to which more massive plate is subjected, is shabby and, perhaps, unscriptural. One gift was much to our taste—the Vedas published by Pandit Satyabrata Samasrami, of which we remarked several sets. This was an improvement. The *sraddha* is as old as the Vedas, and nothing can be a more appropriate offering to Brahmans and Pandits on such an occasion. We hope the example will be followed. The Veda was chanted on the occasion by the same Pandit. Another point that we noticed with great pleasure was in connection with the consecration of the enfranchised Bull. The stamping with red-hot iron is a cruel business. In this case, it was a nominal operation.

THE weather is unseasonal. Since Thursday week, the sky is over-cast, and it is drizzling and raining. The days are dull and the nights are cheerless. Only yesterday, the sky was a little clear, but the sun did not warm. The Bay has not been quiet. Storm signal "No. 3"

was hoisted on the 20th, and passenger vessels were not allowed to venture out.

THERE has been a quiet and bloodless revolution in Brazil. Monarchy has been abolished; the empire has been proclaimed a Republic; and Dom Pedro and his family have been packed off to Europe.

THE example of the working men has infected the very boys. There is mutiny in the Schools and Colleges. A telegram of yesterday reports a disturbance at Glasgow University on the same day. The students, resenting their exclusion from the conferment of degrees, hustled the Professors and the Principal, smashed the panels of doors, and drenched the Professors who were inside with buckets of water.

AFTER being *fired* by the Nizam, Prince Victor had been to Madras where the Governor did him the exceptional honor of driving him through the Black town. The Prince is to-day at Mysore.

THE Viceroy is nearing the end of his tour. He left Quetta on the 20th. After doing Lahore, His Excellency arrives at the capital on the 30th. The Levée has been announced for the 10th December. Cards will be received till next Saturday, the 30th November.

THE Lieutenant-Governor returned to Belvedere on Monday last.

THE *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—

*Reis and Rayyet* condemned in common with us the Secret Act, but our contemporary, after a careful examination of the measure, has recanted. He says:—

"So far as the Press is concerned, there is not a shadow of menace against it. Nay, there is not a word about journals or journalists, publishers or printers. All our rage has gone for nothing. And we, for one, must scruple down our humble pie with as good a face as we can command."

As our brother does not give his reasons more fully, and as the sections of the Act are stubborn facts, we cannot agree with him, nor is it necessary. Since the Act is harmless there cannot be any objection on his part to publish a secret document. We hope to be able to send him one very soon. —The *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, Nov. 14.

All right. We only hope it will be a sound state paper. But this sort of challenge should not be bandied about in public. Defiance of the powers that be—some, of good, others of evil, and all human—is none of our policy. Journalism is a serious business—in a land in which it is the chief, nay, the only popular palladium of the liberty of the subject—it is a sacred duty. Those undertaking it ought to be prepared for the worst, but they should not set up a hostile camp against Authority—which has a far more difficult and infinitely important charge. They should not frivolously—from a mere spirit of braggadocio—give offence. For ourselves, we have never shrunk from danger or, what is harder to face, universal obloquy, where the call was clear, and our brother of the *Patrika* knows this as well as any man. All alone, on a memorable occasion, as he will remember, we led the forlorn hope. If he had looked into our columns more carefully regularly, he might have kept his glove.

But, it is said, we have not given our reasons more fully. We think we have said enough, however briefly. We could not well do more in proof of a negative. The *onus* is with others to establish the wind-mill. Where is the wheel? where the sails? where the wind? A great deal of writing has been produced, to which we too had contributed our mite, but vastly little to any purpose, so far as the law itself is concerned. A good deal indeed is beneath argument. We differentiate the Bill or Act from the speaking in respect of it. We confess we ourselves were deceived by what was said in Council. We are, of course, not surprised at the panic, but we decidedly object to its duration. The thing is being overdone.

OUR contemporary continues:—

The *Indian Mirror*, no doubt referring to the article of our contemporary, says:—

"According to some people, the Official Secrets Act is harmless, so far as the public Press is concerned. They argue that as the Act makes no mention of journals or journalists, publishers or printers, it cannot be a threat against the freedom of the Press. In the absence of an authoritative ruling on the point, this simple view of the matter may be open to question. It is the communication of a certain kind of information, which the law makes penal; and the publication thereof in a news-

paper may be held to be a communication. Under Section 3 (2) of the Act, one is held liable to punishment, who 'wilfully communicates' information 'to any person to whom he knows the same ought not, in the interest of the State, to be communicated.' It may be pleaded that a newspaper does not communicate information to any particular 'person.' But will *that* plea stand good in a Court of Law?"

The law was enacted to punish traitors, and so, properly speaking, those who are not traitors have nothing to fear. But the head of the Government declares, in distinct terms, that he will use the Act to punish journalists and publishers, and His Excellency makes his intention still more clear by referring to "a scandalous disclosure." And when the Viceroy says that he will use the Act to punish the journalists, it is enough for us, for the Magistrates who will try the cases are the servants of the Government. A Magistrate has very little choice in the matter, and we have no trial by jury in India."—*The Amrita Bazar Patrika*, Nov. 14.

Whatever the head of the Government may say, we are, thank God, not in Dahome, but are British subjects on British soil. If we do not live in Great Britain, we still live under a Constitution. It is not enough for us that the Viceroy says this or says that. The law is the thing. The Viceroy is not above the law. Not Dalhousie was above it, and to talk of a Viceroy in these days as above it, is bosh. Lord Lansdowne cannot mean anything so preposterous as is attributed to him. The threat—if threat it was—was a *brutum fulmen*. If any thing hasty was said, it must be remembered that the Lord President is no lawyer. Perhaps, there was a spice of kingcraft in the sortie beyond the four corners of the Bill. His Excellency must be struck by the ease with which we "surrender judgment hoodwinked."

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1889.

### THE DESPISED RURAL WATCH AND THE FAVOURITE CONSTABULARY.

THE police force in these Provinces consists of the regular police and the rural police. The strength of the former in the year 1888 stood at about 23,000, in officers and men, maintained at an annual cost of about 41 lacs of rupees. The rural or chawkidari police is far more numerous, consisting of 1,69,523 men, whose pay amounts to about 56 lacs of rupees, besides a number of them being in the enjoyment of *chakran* lands, the area of which stood in 1881 at above 14 thousand bighas. The rural police, therefore, while seven times more numerous, does not cost in anything like the same proportion, although this cheapness is to a great extent due to the fact that it is a body of men only, without any officers of its own. For administrative purposes, it is placed under the control of the officers of the regular police. Making allowances for this, it is still the cheaper division of the police, and one might thus be prepared if it were found to be somewhat inferior in inefficiency to the more costly branch of the service. Remembering, however, how very responsible is the work expected from a police service, one can scarcely be at ease to find even a cheap police force to be so bad as it is depicted by its own superior officers. The last Bengal Government Resolution on the administration of the police department contains the following remarks on the inefficiency of the rural police:—

"The conduct of the rural police or chowkidars seems to have shown little improvement.....In Bankoora they are reported as 'very negligent in the performance of their duties'; in Midnapore they are said to have had a hand in nearly all the dacoities occurring during the year; Hooghly is described as an 'Augean stable'; in the 24-Pergunnahs it is said that the Chowkidar is now paid with greater regularity, and his wants are attended to, but he does not make a corresponding return in the way of giving sufficient assistance in the prevention and detection of crime; in Dinagepore and in Dacca the chowkidar is said to be too much under the control

of the punchayet; and from Khoolna there is what the Inspector-General calls 'a melancholy account of the inefficiency of chowkidars heretofore.'" The statements are borne out by the number of punishments having increased from fourteen to sixteen thousand in the year under review.

Such is admittedly the character of the rural police, but what of the superior and more expensive branch? The Government has, indeed, never concealed from itself the weak points of the regular police. The extent of its illiteracy is admitted, and the abuses and crimes of which it is guilty are commented on and published in the annual reports and resolutions. With all this, there seems to be a lurking tendency in officials to extenuate its failings and to deal leniently with a Department of its own creation and organization. Indeed, since its organization upon its present basis, the constabulary police is by this a fairly old institution, and there must naturally have been some degree of improvement effected in its character, in the years it has been in existence. Nothing would be more natural than such improvement brought about merely by time, as well as the more experienced supervision brought to bear upon it. For ourselves, nothing would give us greater pleasure than to find real signs of such improvement. But notwithstanding the favorable view which the Government and its officers are accustomed to take of the working of the regular police, we are precluded by that experience of the actual conduct of the police in its subordinate officers, which our closer contact with the people of the country affords, from too readily chiming in with the official view. If the rural police is, in the eyes of officials themselves, so bad as to have a hand in every great crime, the regular police, in its lower ranks, is hardly much above that character. The Government, however, seems inclined to take a more charitable view of the question. In the present resolution, after referring to the cases of torture, extortion, and embezzlement, to which the police were parties, as well as to the fact that even, where there were no judicial convictions, in a large proportion of cases the offenders were departmentally punished, Sir John Edgar argues as follows:—

"It is worthy of consideration how far the statistics of judicial cases against the police can be accepted as indicating an improvement in the conduct of the force. It certainly appears probable that the number of cases brought to trial forms at least as large a proportion of those committed as in previous years, for such considerations as the opening up of the country generally, the spread of education and of information, and the existence of the press, render it less likely than formerly that instances of extortion or oppression on the part of the police are allowed to pass unnoticed. If, however, this conclusion be correct, that the proportion of cases actually brought to trial is at least as great as formerly, the conclusion appears sound that the steady diminution in the number of cases against the police in the last eleven years is, at any rate to a large extent, due to an actual improvement in the conduct of the police themselves. The Lieutenant Governor notes with pleasure such signs of improvement as exist, as the indignation which fresh cases inevitably excite is apt to give rise to the impression that the tendency is towards deterioration rather than improvement."

The argument with its qualifications has no doubt great force in it. Nor can it be denied that the indignation excited by individual cases of police oppression goes far to exaggerate the popular hostility against the department and the system in general. One is, however, naturally slow to rely upon inferences drawn from statistics which are not always free from elements of uncertainty and disturbance. For the rest, admitting that, in the course of more than a decade, there has been some perceptible improvement in the character of the police, the argument at the best has only a negative value. The police may not be so vile as in past years. But suppose the rate of progress were slow enough to tax the utmost patience of the long suffering people. It is not



claimed that the department is all that it should be. It is indeed admitted by the highest authorities that there is considerable room for improvement. Its corruption has become a byword. In any case, the public sentiment on the subject cannot be summarily ignored. If as regards the judicial service, it is not only necessary that it should be just, but it should also have a reputation for being so, may not the same double necessity apply to the department of watch and ward? We quite appreciate the moderation shown in the above guarded defence of the police system. But considering the responsibility of this branch of the service, and the great powers which are placed in the hands of an uneducated and irresponsible agency for the most part, one should think it is high time for the Government to turn its attention seriously to a scheme of police reform, as soon as its financial position enabled it to do so.

### THE ROTTEN POLICE.

WE are tired of the Police. We are tired of writing about its misdoings. Of its abuse of power, its illiteracy in the lower ranks, its sinecurism in the upper, and its all but general corruption amongst the Sub-Inspectors and Head Constables, the Press has said enough, and yet the demands made upon us to show up its real character are unceasing. Such demands come every day—nay, are pressed every hour. And the cry is, Still they come. They come from actual victims of the Police as well as from the more numerous body of general sympathisers who are indignant eye-witnesses or ear-witnesses of their sufferings and yet can render no help. In their helplessness, both run up to the Press for assistance. But what can the Press do beyond pointing out in general terms the failures of the Police—its defects, and the need of its reform? Of cases *sub judice* in which the Police were directly or indirectly implicated, it were not safe to speak. Nor could charges of corruption against the Police be otherwise than vaguely dealt with without access to evidence of a kind which was not always forthcoming. In the absence of specific facts and evidence, all that we could do was, in deference to the prevailing public sentiment, to hint vague and general charges of dishonesty. But our officials are accustomed to set little value on such charges. They want specific allegations supported by specific facts, both of which, from the very circumstances of these cases, are often not available.

Is the general sentiment of the community at large, however, on that account, to be disregarded? Is it unfounded, because of the difficulty of establishing it by legal evidence? A whole community is not likely to make such mistakes. The life of their own Police is always before them—always open, and they are more likely to know than officials. They have, for instance, a Police sub-inspector drawing a monthly salary of from Rs. 50 to Rs. 80, and the public impression is that he is such a corrupt man, in league with publicans and keepers of gambling-houses and all sorts of bad live-ers, that in his short incumbency having had to investigate a couple of murder cases, and some cases of heavy theft, he has put a large sum in his pocket. As a matter of fact, they know he was in a position to dispose of, to the best advantage, his two daughters who had attained marriageable age by incurring an expenditure out of all proportion to his public earnings. There might be some exaggeration in the estimate of the amount of money so acquired; it might not be, as many

thousands as is the current story but something less, but is the popular impression altogether false? To its cost, the country at large knows too well that, far from being false, such local opinions are often too true. Nor are these guardians of our security careful to hide their practices. One of them—and he, a smart officer in the eyes of his superiors—made no secret of his money hunger, but went about proclaiming the respectability of his birth and connections and the necessity he felt of adding illicit to his licit gains, in order to live in a style suitable to his position and to secure suitable marriage alliances for his children. And when he is transferred to another station, and his successor comes, and the new comer is greeted with stories of his predecessor's corruption, they are told to console themselves with the fact of his having exercised great moderation and self-restraint while he remained with them. What bribes he took from them were but a flea-bite compared with his usual capacity for them as shown in other places. In a single murder case, at a particular station, he is stated to have netted Rs. 7,000. And the new man goes on retailing similar stories with the evident object of showing that men must live somehow or other, and when they could not on their own fair earnings, they must stretch their hands for others, and before he has stayed many months, he proves that he deserves to be no less "smart" an officer in the books of the Magistracy. Indeed, one man is as bad as another, and there is no cure for the evil without a thorough overhauling of the system.

It is indeed, strange how such things can systematically be going on without, except in rare instances, the culprits coming to grief. It is certainly curious, but not strange. The things are managed so secretly. The Police have the services of a clever agency of auxiliaries in their doings, and those whom they fleece are too deep in crime themselves to think of anything else except escaping with their skin. Murder cases are the most desirable windfalls in a policeman's career. A few such cases, and he has feathered his nest. The cases miscarry at the Sessions and the murderers escape, and the Judges tear their hair and gnash their teeth, but the policeman is a made man. These evil practices of the Police must be quite well known to every experienced Magistrate and Judge, and if *they* fail to amend the department, our countrymen need not be uneasy under the charge, so often brought against them, of being too weak to protect themselves from the corruptions of the Police.

It is a stale topic. Nor should there be much need now of insisting upon it. There can be no two opinions now as to the rottenness of the system. In his famous St. Andrew's dinner speech, Lord Dufferin, by way of a compliment to the Press, admitted that the Government had been satisfied of the truth of what the Press had so persistently alleged as to the incompetency and corruption of the Police, and that the Government had decided upon adopting measures for its improvement as soon as its financial difficulties were removed. This announcement came upon us as a delightful surprise. We had never looked for it from the lips of a departing Viceroy, far less on the occasion of a social and festive gathering. But it showed how alive was the Government to real grievances, and, in that light, it was a triumph of the Press. Lord Dufferin's remarks on the subject are now of historical importance, and we only hope his successor will take an early opportunity of redeeming his pledge.



**NOTE AS TO THE GUIDANCE WHICH CAN BE DERIVED FROM THE HISTORY OF PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS MADE BY GOVERNMENT TO PROMOTE EMIGRATION FROM INDIA TO BURMA.**

I find it frequently asked what has been the cause of the failure of all attempts made by Government to promote emigration to Burma? Put in this form, the question is somewhat embarrassing to one who believes that the efforts made in this direction have been attended with a certain degree of success, inasmuch as it assumes the failure as an ascertained fact. Nor can I accept, as altogether satisfactory and conclusive, the answer given in letter No. 1197, dated the 7th July 1885, from the Burma Administration to the Director-General of Statistics to the Government of India, which attributes the supposed failure to the following causes :—

- (i) The intense dislike of natives of India to abandon their homes and settle down in a foreign country. The result of this feeling is that it is only the lower classes of the population that are induced to move, and they are useless as agricultural settlers.
- (ii) The agency which Government is compelled to employ is very varied, and the agents often induce the people to abandon their homes by fallacious promises, the non-fulfilment of which produces discontent amongst the immigrants.
- (iii) Government is unable to watch over the immigrants and protect them against the petty annoyances which they meet with in a new country amongst people differing from them in language and customs. These petty annoyances prevent the immigrant from settling down quietly, and induce many of them to give up the undertaking, take to other occupations, or return to their homes.

The most remarkable fact as to the emigrants who leave Behar for the colonies is that they are to a very large extent Brahmin and Rajput cultivators, men placed sufficiently high in the social scale to feel the pressure of poverty, while it is certainly within the power of the State to secure that those who deal with it shall understand the conditions of the agreement. As to the petty annoyances supposed to induce immigrants to abandon a country where the people differ from them in manners and customs, the reply is that the bulk of the immigrants do not quit Burma, they quietly settle down in the province.

The main object of the three schemes of State-assisted emigration which have been worked in Burma was to induce Indians to settle here permanently, not quitting the country at the end of the working season, as is the practice with a large number of those who come on their own account. And in this it would appear that success has been in every instance attained. Under the Bengal Emigration Scheme of 1875 the number brought to Burma was 7,396, of whom 843 were lost sight of afterwards, some of them returning to India, others remaining in this province, but avoiding contact with the officer charged with the duty of recovering from them the cost of bringing them over. It may be assumed that by this scheme 7,000 persons were added to the permanent population of Burma. Under the Madras scheme of 1876 the number imported was 758, none of whom are known to have returned. As to the Behar Scheme of 1882, I can find no account of the number landed, which was certainly small; but it appears that those who came remained in this country. On the whole some 8,000 Indians are now probably in Burma, who, but for these attempts, would never have crossed the Bay; and it may fairly be said that these 8,000 settlers share the comparative prosperity enjoyed by the labouring classes of Burma generally. They found employment readily enough during the first working season, and with the assistance of the Government depôt tided over the period of slack employment which sets in with the monsoon. After the first year they merged in the Indian population settled here, and at a later period were found to deny that they ever came over at the expense of the State, apparently for the reason which would induce an English workman to object to publishing the fact that he had at one time received parish relief. Attempts which have resulted in the prosperity of 8,000 individuals are not to be considered as altogether futile, though we may wish that the number had been far greater.

The history of the first emigration scheme shows that many immigrants can be made to pay the cost of their expatriation within a very short period. A charge of Rs. 21-4, afterwards raised to Rs. 23-4, was made against each immigrant on this account; the amount, though it did not recover all expenses, being considerable, as the actual cost of passage is Rs. 10 only. Of the 7,397 emigrants this charge was paid in full by 29-28 per cent. before March 1876, that is within one or two years, 20-64 per cent. had at that date paid more than half, 37-41 per cent. less than half, and only 11-95 per cent. had made no contribution. The cost of the passage can, by a measure which I will propose tomorrow for the consideration of the officers of the Burma Commission with whom I am acting, be reduced to Rs. 5; and the experience of 1876 gives ground for hope that a sum so small as this could be recovered within the year in the great majority of cases.

The financial results of the emigration have been assumed to be unsatisfactory because an account has been taken only of the expenditure incurred, no reference being made in the correspondence to receipts which should be considered as a set-off. There is a gain to the revenue under many heads in the transfer of a tax-payer from a district where he can only make two annas a day to one in which he makes eight, but in so far as this gain is indeterminate, I will not refer to it. In the increase of the population of Burma, however, the exchequer has a very special and definite interest, inasmuch as every man here pays a capitation-tax of Rs. 2-8 for a bachelor and Rs. 5 for a married man, which, since the equalization of the salt duties, is a clear addition to the taxes which he would pay in India. This tax is not imposed on immigrants for the first five years of their residence: after that period they became liable to it like others. Thus in this case of permanent settlers there appear to be a gain to the State, which may average about Rs. 4 per man; and I believe that against this there is no real set-off in the shape of increased cost of administration, this being provided for by the other taxes which the immigrant pays. I do not find any very clear statement of the cost of immigration, but taking that given in Mr. Bridges's letter No. 1197, dated the 7th July 1885, the account is as follows :—

Bengal Immigration Scheme of 1874	...	Rs. 1,25,000
Madras Scheme of 1876	...	" 37,448
Behar Scheme of 1882	...	" 33,000
Total	...	Rs. 1,95,448

If we suppose that the 8,000 persons permanently added to the population of Burma by these schemes to be now represented by 3,000 adult males paying Rs. 12,000 a year in capitation tax, it would follow that Government receives over 6 per cent. on the money invested.

A greater financial success may fairly be claimed for the subsidies to steamer companies paid from 1882-83 to January 1884, by which rates were reduced to Rs. 5 from Calcutta, Rs. 8 from Madras, as against Rs. 10 and Rs. 19 at present charged. This was followed by a great increase in the number of immigrants, many of whom settled permanently in the country. The precise figures are matter of estimate, but it is probable that the amount expended on the subsidies, two and three-quarter lakhs, has already been more than repaid. As stated in Mr. Bridges's letter already quoted, the number of immigrants in the first year of the reduced fares was 72,000, nearly double that of the year immediately preceding. The experience of the

Lovers of arguings to take the steps within our power to rectify the same.

While the history of former undertakings is on the whole encouraging, it certainly contains some passages which should serve as warnings, showing us the difficulties to be expected and the dangers which we should avoid. The Secretary of State for India, in his despatch No. 108, dated the 12th October 1876, remarked that the Bengal scheme of 1874 had failed in its immediate object, only about 1,500 of the labourers imported having come from the districts afflicted with famine in 1873-74. As a matter of fact no attempt was made in 1874 to select emigrants from one part of Bengal rather than another, and all suitable persons recruited were accepted; but any attempt which we may now make will have special reference to the over-populated districts, and such limitations are doubtless embarrassing. Even where the area of recruitment has been extended to the whole of Madras or of Bengal, the work has always proceeded slowly, and the numbers obtained were insufficient to meet requirements or to afford full occupation to the staff. In 1882 very few recruits could be found in Behar, and those were of inferior quality. The proposals now under consideration avoid, as far as possible, the difficulties thus disclosed. It is suggested that grants of land made to zemindars should be conditional on cultivation by inhabitants of the districts over-populated, and these should also be selected for settlement on Government clearances. The zemindars would select suitable men in their own interests, probably being able to do so on their own estates, while Government would choose fit persons in this country.

It is also a fact that the attempts made to settle Indians as cultivators on waste land have almost always failed, the immigrants, though classed as agriculturists, preferring to work as labourers. This was certainly not due to any stint on the part of Government in offering to advance money, the principle accepted being that the settler should be found in a house, found in food till his crops grew, in bullocks, agricultural instruments, and in fact in everything he might require. It was said that the emigrants feared to contract the debt which would have resulted from accepting these advances, and that they were not fit to act as pioneers of cultivation. However that may have been, they avoided the Government settlements, and if they reclaimed land at all, did so on their own account. I quite accept this as a warning against sanguine projects. The work of reclamation is never easy, and it becomes far more difficult when it has to be done by strangers in a foreign climate. But it is probable that capitalists working for their own profit may succeed where officials have failed. And even on Government estates, now that an experienced officer has been appointed Director of the

Agricultural Department, more time and attention can be given to what is no doubt a most troublesome task.

In speaking of failures, it is well to confess that the British Burma Labour Law of 1876, with its elaborate rules, has failed completely. As a law enabling private capitalists to import labourers under contract, it has never, I believe, been enforced even in a single instance. I find large employers of labour in Rangoon ignorant of its existence. Indeed it would seem, from the proceedings of the Chief Commissioner in the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, No. 324, dated the 8th June 1878, that the Provincial Administration did not at that time realize that the law permitted such contracts, at least that is the only interpretation I can place on the following passage:—"The radical change which was made in the original Bill when passing through Council, whereby the system of contract between the labourer and Government was substituted for the system of direct contract between the labourer and private employers without any dictation on the part of Government as to the disposal of his labour was, in the Chief Commissioner's opinion, unfortunate." Such a change was indeed made in the Bill by the

Select Committee reporting on the 12th July 1875, but the Act was ultimately framed so as to permit of private employers importing labourers on their own account, as is done by the Assam tea planters—a fact of which few people here seem to be aware. The Act is double-barrelled, admitting of importation of labourers either by Government or by private parties; and it may be said that while one barrel has missed fire, the other has never been even loaded. Government did indeed import the Madras coolies under the Act in 1876, but could get no one to take them over in accordance with section 48, and had to permit the workmen to make their own terms irrespective of the law. The elaborate rules for hiring out to private employers labourers engaged by Government under the Act have never come into force, and indeed they contemplate an amount of sanitary and other supervision which is not, I am informed, in the least adapted to the free conditions of life in Burma. It may be that in this province a simple law is needed to enable those who import labourers to recover the cost of so doing from the wages of the immigrants, but on this subject I do not at present offer any opinion.

P. NOLAN.

### MILITARY SECRETARY'S OFFICE. NOTIFICATION.

*Simla, the 3rd September, 1889.*

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General will hold a Levée at Government House, Calcutta, on Tuesday, the 10th December, 1889, at 9-30 P.M.

All Civil and Military Officers and the Native Officers of the Native Regiments of the Garrison are invited to attend.

Gentlemen purposing to attend the Levée are requested to send their cards to the Aide-de-Camp in waiting, not later than Saturday, the 30th November, 1889, after which "No Cards" will be received, and to bring with them to the Levée two cards, with their names legibly written on them—one to be given on entering Government House; and the other to the Aide-de-Camp in waiting at the time of ~~ad pointing out~~ in general. Gentlemen who have not already been presented at the Court of St. James, at Government House will be good enough to add the names of Gentlemen who will present them.

Gentlemen wearing uniform will appear in full dress.

Gentlemen not wearing uniform will appear in evening dress.

The carriages of Gentlemen (except such as have the private entrée) attending the Levée will enter by the North-East Gate, set down under the Grand Staircase, and pass out by the North-West Gate.

No card for the new presentation can be received after the 30th November, 1889.

By Command,  
WILLIAM BERENFORD,  
*Lieut.-Colonel,*  
*Military Secretary to the Viceroy.*

### REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE BENGAL BONDED WAREHOUSE ASSOCIATION

FOR THE

*Half-Year ended 31st October, 1889.*

1. Your Directors submit for examination and approval the Accounts of the Association for the half-year ended 31st October, 1889.
2. On the 30th April last, the uncollected Rent Bills amounted to Rs. 12,007-8-8; during the subsequent six months bills were issued for Rs. 59,774-4-4; of these two amounts Rs. 58,720-3-2 have been realised, leaving Rs. 13,151-9-10 outstanding.
3. The divisible surplus amounts to Rs. 40,072-6-2. Your Directors propose to set apart as usual the sum of Rs. 2,000 to the credit of the Repair and Building Fund.

4. The Hydraulic Lifts continue to work well and satisfactorily and it is entirely owing to the facilities afforded by the Lifts that the Association has been able to deal with the increased volume of business which flowed to the Warehouse during the past half-year. The Directors are aware that this increase of business is mainly due to exceptional causes affecting the Import trade. They therefore recommend that advantage should be taken of the large earnings of the half-year to make provision for charges on Repairs Account which it would be unwise to further postpone, seeing that they must always be dealt with as a charge against revenue in excess of the sum required to be set aside under the 18th Bye-law. The Directors accordingly propose to carry the sum of Rs. 6,000 to credit of Repair Account.

5. After deducting the sums to be set apart under paragraphs 3 and 4 of this Report the Divisible balance will be Rs. 32,072-6-2, of this amount your Directors recommend that Rs. 22,000 be applied in payment of dividend of Rs. 16 per share and the balance Rs. 10,072-6-2 be carried to next half-year's account.

DAVID COWIE,  
DOORGA CHURN LAW,  
A. E. HARRISS,  
M. M. SAIN,  
W. J. M. MCCAW.

CALCUTTA:  
14th November 1889.

*The Adjourned Half-yearly General Meeting of Proprietors was held this day the 20th November 1889 at the rooms of the Association, No. 102, Clive Street.*

#### PRESENT:

David Cowie, Esq., J. A. Crawford, Esq., by his attorney David Cowie, Esq., W. J. M. McCaw Esq., I. C. Murray, Esq., and J. N. Bullen, Esq., by their attorney W. J. M. McCaw, Esq., the Hon. H. Pratt, the Hon. Rajah Doorga Churn Law, C. I. E., Shama Churn Dey, Esq., Executor to the Estate of Isser Chunder Dey, Joy Gobind Law, Esq., A. E. Harries, Esq., G. H. Kiernander, Esq., J. Z. Kiernander, Esq., G. A. E. Kiernander, Esq., Mrs. F. I. Kiernander, Thos. H. Kiernander, Esq., Mrs. K. A. Kiernander, Mrs. M. A. Kiernander, G. E. A. Kiernander, Esq., Miss M. S. Kiernander, E. I. Kiernander, Esq., Mrs. M. E. Fitzgerald by their proxy G. H. Kiernander, Esq.

It was proposed by Mr. G. H. Kiernander and seconded by the Hon. Rajah Doorga Churn Law, C. I. E., that Mr. D. Cowie do take the chair.

#### 1st Resolution.

Proposed by the Chairman Mr. David Cowie and seconded by the Hon. Rajah Doorga Churn Law, C. I. E.

That the Report of the Directors be received and the accounts passed as correct.

*Carried.*

#### 2nd Resolution.

That the divisible surplus of Rs. 40,072-6-2 be appropriated in terms of the 3rd, 4th and 5th paragraphs of the Directors' Report and that a Dividend of Rs. 16 per share payable on and from the 25th instant be declared.

Proposed by Mr. Joy Gobind Law and seconded by Mr. A. E. Harries.

The following amendment was proposed by Mr. G. H. Kiernander and seconded by Mr. G. E. A. Kiernander by his proxy Mr. G. H. Kiernander.

That Rs. 2,000 be transferred to the Repair and Building Fund as usual and that a dividend be declared at Rs. 19 per share which will absorb Rs. 38,000 and the balance Rs. 72, annas 6, pies 2, be carried forward to the next account.

The Dividend to be paid from Monday the 25th instant.

The amendment was put to the meeting and on a scrutiny of votes was declared to be lost.

The Resolution was then put to the meeting and carried.

With a vote of thanks to the chair the meeting separated.

DAVID COWIE,  
*Chairman.*

### BENGAL BONDED WAREHOUSE ASSOCIATION.

100TH DIVIDEND.

The Dividend for the Half-year ended 31st October 1889 of Rs. 16 per share will be payable on and from the 25th instant.

S. E. J. CLARKE,  
*Secretary.*

CALCUTTA:  
20th Nov. 1889.

### THE BENAZIR FAIR—

RAMPUR STATE.

#### NOTICE.

The annual Benazir Fair at Rampur will be held this year on the bank of the Kosi river, by the Rampur and Moradabad road, from the 24th to 30th November. Trades-people of all kinds have been invited with their wares from different parts of the country, and, besides the usual assortments of imported and other miscellaneous goods, special care will be taken to have some of the notable indigenous manufactures of the Province, as of Fatehgarh, Mani pur, Tilhat, Moradabad, and Rampur itself amply represented. As an additional attraction, the Fair will this time combine an Agricultural and Cattle Show. The Director of Agriculture and Commerce has been asked to provide a set of farming implements, some of which will also be shown in working. The Cattle Show will include horses, ponies, mules, cows, bullocks, and buffaloes, and will offer a good opportunity to parties wishing to buy or sell such animals; the State itself being prepared to purchase a fair number to replace those that have become unserviceable. Fodder for cattle brought for show will be provided free of cost.

The tradesmen's stalls, and tents for visitors will form a well ordered camp, with due care for sanitation. For the amusement of visitors there will be a varied programme of wrestling, elephant and ram fights, military sports, &c., ending with the usual display of fireworks. European visitors will be very welcome, and will find every arrangement made for their comfort.

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## TRAVELS &amp; VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

*Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,*

BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

*Formerly Minister to the late*

NAWAB FARIDDOON JAH BAHADOOR,

(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,

Behar and Orissa.)

*Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.*

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CALCUTTA.

## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridood Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*, October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which neces-

sarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which delights our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract].—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1888

If we have before noticed Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is because the little book is either due to a happy chance, or, on the contrary, a most interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him.

*Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

THE

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This Company's Steamer "SCINDE" will leave Calcutta for Assam on Friday, the 22nd inst.

All cargo for shipment by the above vessel should be sent to the Company's Godowns at Juggannauth Ghat, not later than Thursday, the 21st inst.

**CACHAR LINE.**

The steamers of this line will run to Cachar as usual, for which cargo will be received until Tuesday evening.

**ASSAM DESPATCH STEAMER SERVICE FROM GOALUNDO**  
and

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Goods Upward or Downward from and to almost all stations can be booked through from or to Calcutta via Goalundo or Kannia with the Eastern Bengal State and connected Railways:—Passengers and Parcels via Kannia only.

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# Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. {

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1889.

{ No. 400

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

A PRINCE of literary men is on his Grand Tour *par excellence*. Sir Edwin Arnold, the brilliant journalist and poetical interpreter of the East to the West, is globe-trotting for health and the *Daily Telegraph*. Crossing over to the New World, he has passed through the United States, from shore to shore. His experiences are, of course, being published in his paper. His reception at White House was cordial. One must not, however, rely too much upon republican temper. Cousin Jonathan is a most touchy animal; the slightest breath might raise a storm. It was, we take it, no easy trial to the frank British man of letters to steer through the formalities without hurting the susceptibilities of a vain, irritable parvenu people. Sir Edwin was equal to the occasion. His Oriental studies and his former life in India must have taken the brusque, blunt Englishman out of him. Indeed, both sides acquitted themselves to perfection. President and Pandit palavered one another, parrying attacks and avoiding pitfalls with the dexterity of finished diplomats.

Sir Edwin has now sailed for Japan. As befitted a Poet, he parted singing. Before leaving Cambridge, he read to the Harvard Club in San Francisco the following sonnet:

### A FAREWELL.

America! at this thy Golden Gate,  
New-travelled from thy green Atlantic coves,  
Parting—I make my reverence! It behoves  
With backward steps to quit a queen in state.

Land! of all lands most fair and free and great;—  
Of countless Kindred lips, wherefrom I heard  
Sweet speech of Shakspeare—Keep it consecrate  
For noble uses! Land of Freedom's Bird,

Fearless and proud! So let him soar that stirred  
By generous joy, all men may learn of thee  
A large life; and Europe, undeterred  
By ancient wrecks, dare also to be free  
Body and soul;—seeing thine Eagle gaze  
Undazzled upon Freedom's Sun, full-blaze!

OUR native readers, we are afraid, are not familiar with the very name of San Francisco. And before the opening of through railway communication connecting Yankeedom with the *El Dorado* of the Great Republic and forming as it were a channel by land between the two Oceans, the state of knowledge on the subject in Europe was not much more enviable. Nowadays, tourists from Europe who can afford the expense generally—to speak in downright vernacular, “go the whole hog.” And no wonder. The idea of a straight run from the Atlantic to the Pacific over the Rocky Mountains and across the boundless Prairie, through so many of the stripes and stars, is fascinating to most souls. Then, California itself is a charming country. A Land of Gold, with endless resources of every kind, it has a glorious climate and the noblest scenery. Of this great and prosperous free State, San Francisco is a worthy capital, in a situation of unparalleled advantage and unique dignity.

To lovers of literature, it has a special interest. It is the home of Bret Harte.

Sir Edwin's beautiful sonnet reminds us of the brilliant American's address to the City. It is as follows:—

### SAN FRANCISCO.

#### FROM THE SEA.

Serene, indifferent of Fate,  
Thou sittest at the Western Gate;

Upon thy heights so lately won  
Still slant the banners of the sun;

Thou seest the white seas strike their tents,  
O Warder of two Continents!

And scornful of the peace that flies  
Thy angry winds and sullen skies,

Thou drawest all things, small or great,  
To thee, beside the Western Gate.

O lion's whelp, that hidest fast  
In jungle growth of spire and mast,

I know thy cunning and thy greed,  
Thy hard high lust and wilful deed,

And all thy glory loves to tell  
Of specious gifts material.

Drop down, O fleecy Fog, and hide  
Her sceptic sneer, and all her pride!

Wrap her, O Fog, in gown and hood  
Of her Franciscan Brotherhood.

Hide me her faults, her sin and blame;  
With thy gray mantle cloak her shame!

So shall she, cowléd, sit and pray  
Till morning bears her sins away.

Then rise, O fleecy Fog, and raise  
The glory of her coming days;

Be as the cloud that flecks the seas  
Above her smoky argosies.

When forms familiar shall give place  
To stranger speech and never face;

When all her throes and anxious fears,  
Lie hushed in the repose of years;

When Art shall raise and Culture lift  
The sensual joys and meaner thrift,

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money order, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

And all fulfilled the vision, we  
Who watch and wait shall never see,—

Who, in the morning of her race,  
Toiled fair or meanly in our place,—

But, yielding to the common lot,  
Lie unrecorded and forgot.

THE Governor-General in Council has, under the Sea Customs Act prohibited the bringing into British India by sea or land of pieces of copper or mixed metal which, not being coin as defined in the Indian Penal Code, are intended to be used as money. The prohibition, however, does not apply to travellers bringing in good faith not more than hundred such pieces for their own use.

It has been formally notified that at and after the examination to be held in the year 1892 for the selection of candidates for the Civil Service of India, no candidate will be admitted to the examination whose age was less than 21 and more than 23 on the 1st April preceding the date of examination.

THE Government has revised the rules about the importation at Calcutta and other ports of petroleum, and made new ones for its possession and transport in all the territories administered by the Lieutenant-Governor. They of course refer to large quantities. It is also time to bring its domestic consumption under stringent rules, if it is yet to be allowed. The Petroleum Act XII of 1886—other than the sections relating to dangerous petroleum and the importation of petroleum—has been extended to

1. The Municipality of Calcutta.
2. The Port of Calcutta,
3. The Baranagore Municipality.
4. The South Suburban Municipality.
5. The Chitpore and Kasipore Municipality.
6. The Manicktollah Municipality.
7. The Municipality of Howrah.

ractical effect. The interpretation of the law is now the chief thing. Baboo Nundolal Bose, who is chiefly responsible for the new clauses in the law for assessment of residential buildings, as in interest bound, has taken the matter to Court. Mr. Sconce, the Chief Judge of the Small Cause Court, has taken time till next Wednesday to publish his opinion. The matter must go to the High Court.

THE Government estates No. 305 Khasalpoore in the District of Nuddea and No. 1667 Chur Peer Bux in Noakhally are to be surveyed for record of rights under the Bengal Tenancy Act VIII of 1886.

A BURMAN Barrister in Rangoon was refused license for a gun because he was no landholder. He therefore qualified himself for the license by purchasing, in the Burmese cemetery, a piece of land measuring six feet by three.

THE next Criminal Sessions of the High Court commences on Wednesday the 4th December under the presidency of Mr. Justice Norris.

THE presidentship of the Ranaghat Municipality has passed from one Pal Chowdry to another. Babu Surendranath having chosen a different and a higher sphere of action, the Ranaghat people as represented by their Commissioners have complimented his House by the selection of another scion of the distinguished family who have made Ranaghat what it is. The Government too has accepted the nomination.

BABOO Surendranath has come to Calcutta to set up the Zemindari Panchayet. An office has been secured and the office-bearers elected. The Panchayet has the approbation of the good and true, and if it succeeds in accomplishing a fraction of its objects, it will be a blessing indeed to barrister-jockeyed Bengal and vakeel-ridden Bhárat.

INSTEAD of the 17th February 1890 as originally carelessly fixed for the next Entrance, F. A., and B. A. Examinations of the Calcutta University, the Entrance examination will begin on the 24th February and the F. A. and B. A. examinations on the 10th March.

WE give below the dates for the several examinations in the University of London for the year 1889-90. The examinations together with the Prizes, Exhibitions, Scholarships and Medals depending upon them, are open to women equally with the men. Candidates for any Degree must have passed the Matriculation Examination. No exception is allowed on account of Degrees obtained or Examinations passed at any other University :—

Matriculation.—Monday, June 10, 1889; and Monday, January 13, 1890.

Bachelor of Arts.—Intermediate, Monday, July 15; B. A., Monday, October 28.

Master of Arts.—Branch I, Monday, June 3; Branch II, Monday, June 10; Branch III Monday, June 17; Branch IV, Monday, June 24.

Doctor of Literature.—Tuesday, December 3.

Scriptural Examinations.—Tuesday, December 3.

Bachelor of Science.—Intermediate, Monday, July 15; B.Sc., Monday, October 21.

Doctor of Science.—Within the first twenty-one days of June.

Bachelor of Laws.—Intermediate and LL. B., Monday, January 6, 1890.

Doctor of Laws.—Tuesday, January 21, 1890.

Bachelor of Medicine.—Preliminary Scientific, Monday, July 15, 1889, and Monday, January 20, 1890; Intermediate, Monday, July 8, 1889, and Monday, January 20, 1890; M.B., Monday, May 6, 1889, and Monday, October 28, 1889.

Bachelor of Surgery.—Tuesday, December 3.

Master in Surgery.—Monday, December 2.

Doctor of Medicine.—Monday, December 2.

Bachelor of Music.—Intermediate, Monday, December 9; B. Mu Monday, December 16.

Doctor of Music.—Intermediate, Monday, December 9; B. M Monday, December 16.

Art, Theory, and History of Teaching.—Tuesday, December 10.

WHAT part of the calendar is "The 4/6th November 1889?" Mr. C. Martin, LL.D., Inspector of Schools, Behar Circle, under that notifies, in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 27th November, that he will be at his office for the purpose of signing F. A. and B. A. applications.

the Dr  
ple with  
patches  
ouble da  
the Caesars and Popes? Has he a calendar of his own?

No serious book of politics has in our day been more lucky than Bryce's on America. The critics vie with one another in lavishing it their praise. The sun has reached the meridian, however, and necessary consequences are following. The learned author of *Holy Roman Empire* has been caught in his own elaborate net. London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* writes :—

"Professor Bryce's ingenious idea of securing a copyright in the United States for his great book 'The American Commonwealth,' by including in it certain chapters written by American authors, threaten to involve a most unlooked-for and unfortunate financial calamity. The third volume contains a chapter of twenty-six pages on 'The Two Ring in New York City,' written and copyrighted by Frank J. Goodnow, a writer on the staff of the *New York Evening Post*. It appears that Mr. Goodnow is too young a man to have had personal knowledge of a series of events culminating in 1871, and that he relied upon old files of partisan New York papers in preparing his account of the Two Ring. Throughout this account he classes Mr. A. Oakey Hall, who was mayor of the city from 1869 onwards, among the corrupt members of the Ring. Even in mentioning the fact that Mr. Hall was acquitted after an exhaustive trial he adds the qualifying line—'But he has chosen to live out of America.' It happens that Mr. Hall is now a naturalised British subject, and is a well-known resident of London. He did not leave America until some ten years had elapsed after his acquittal, and he came then to England to occupy a position of great responsibility and trust, which he still holds, as the legal adviser in Europe of Mr. James Gordon Bennett. Mr. Hall has brought a suit against Professor Bryce for 20,000*l.* damages, and his solicitor, Mr. George Lewis, has embodied the entire chapter in his bill of complaint. By an unfortunate coincidence, which nobody deplores more than the plaintiff, the papers in the suit were served upon Professor Bryce on his wedding-day. The Professor is still abroad, and it is not expected that the case will come up for trial before the Christmas holidays."

FOR an extension of the Tirhoot section of the Assam-Bihar State Railway from Pertabgunge to Kunwa Ghat—a distance of 8 miles—lands measuring about 200 acres of standard measurement with an average width of about 200 feet, have been declared under the Act.



Mr. A. Manson having retired from the Covenanted Civil Service, Mr. F. H. B. Skrine, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Rungpore, gets a lift to the second grade.

Mr. C. F. Worsley, Commissioner of the Chota Nagpore Division, has been appointed Commissioner of the Orissa Division, Mr. W. H. Grimley, hitherto officiating, has been permanently given the Commissionership of the Chota Nagpore Division. That promotes Mr. G. Toynbee, Magistrate and Collector of the second grade, to the first grade, and Mr. R. C. Dutt from the second to the first grade. Mr. Joint Magistrate K. G. Gupta too comes in for his share, being appointed a Magistrate and Collector of the third grade, but he will continue as Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

Mr. H. Millet having retired from the 3rd October last, Mr. G. C. Sconce has just been confirmed as Chief Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court. Mr. Thomas Jones gets a lift and becomes the Third Judge. Mr. K. M. Chatterjee could no longer be overlooked, but tho' continuing to act as the Third Judge, he is Gazetted the Fourth Judge. We hope he will be now allowed to draw the full emoluments of his place.

THOUGH the Government is not prepared to sanction an additional Judge, it has approved an estimate for about a lac of rupees for an additional wing to the Court for Small Causes.

THE Mohunt of Tirupati's prosecution of the four winnenses has failed. After an enquiry of 10 days and examination of sixty witnesses, the Magistrate has dismissed the complaint. The trial of the Mohunt himself commences on the 2nd December at the Chittoor Sessions.

LORD Harris has been selected to succeed Lord Reay in the Governorship of Bombay. Mr. Brownlow replaces Lord Harris as Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the War Office.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

ENGLAND repudiates the assumption by Portugal of sovereignty over the dominions north and south of the Zambesi. Portugal explains that she has no intentions to encroach on others' rights but that she discovered the exploited territory long ago. It becomes not the Lion to bully the Cat.

LORD Salisbury has given another exposition of the English Foreign Policy. The guiding principle, he announced at Nottingham, is peace with all the world and stern preparedness for any emergency. Three days earlier, on the 25th, in opening the Italian Parliament, King Humbert spoke to the same tune. He was thankful to the Powers for the concert existing among them and the assurance of peace. But there are certain questions which were not yet settled. It was therefore necessary to strengthen the Army and Navy without any undue weight upon the budget.

A FIRE of American proportions has destroyed a square mile of houses, including four Banks and several churches, at Lynn in Massachusetts. The damage is given, at the first estimate, at ten million dollars. Another disaster by the same agency is telegraphed from Boston in the all business part of the city entailing a loss of 8 millions.

THE Antwerp Fire has found two more victims—of law. The proprietor and manager of the Cartridge Factory which exploded have been sentenced to imprisonment of the respective terms of four years and eighteen months, besides being cast in damages and costs of 12,000 fr.

ON the 28th., there was a terrific explosion of 3,000 barrels of Gunpowder on board a vessel in the Marseilles docks. The crew fortunately escaped uninjured.

THE differential tariffs between France and Italy have been abolished.

ON the occasion of the late visit of the Czar to Berlin, the officers of the Kaiser Alexander Regiment of the Prussian army invited the Emperor of

Russia, as Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, to a luncheon. The eating must have been prodigious, and the drinking—like fishes! It was a meeting of the devourers and imbibers of Central and of Eastern Europe. And when Teutons meet Slavs at the social board, then comes the tug of war, you know—with knives and forks. According to the custom of the natives, from eating and drinking, they proceeded to drinking pure and simple. In the fervour of the moment, they pledge each other over the glass and are profuse in compliments before emptying it. One man stands up and, in a gushing speech, recommends his companions to fill their glasses and drink in memory of a certain man or body of men or institution or sentiment. Of course, they can never want pleas for their peculiar amusement. If only a select number make regular speeches, all vociferate their concurrence and, before the close, often burst into singing. This is what is called toasting and drinking healths. On this occasion the Emperor of Germany proposed the health of the Emperor of All the Russias in an unusually clever speech, as follows:—

"Reminiscences play a great rôle in a *fête* such as this, in which we are celebrating a regiment with a glorious part behind it, and which has, at the same time, the honour of finding itself in presence of its Imperial Chief. These reminiscences recall to me the period when my august grandfather, then a young officer, received the order of St. George in front of the enemy, and how in a bullet rain the command of the Kaluga Regiment. It is in the name of these souvenirs that I drink to the common traditions of glory of the Russian and Prussian armies. I wish to honour those who heroically fought at Borodins in defence of their fatherland and who conquered beside ourselves at Arcis-sur-Aube and at Brienne. I drink to the healths of the brave defenders of Sebastopol and the valorous combatants at Plevna. Empty your glasses with myself in honour of our comrades of the Russian army. Hurrah, Hurrah, Hurrah!"

That is, indeed, a miniature gem of post-prandium eloquence. The Great Frederick himself, with all his literary pretensions, never came up to such felicity of thought and neatness of expression. The soul of the present Kaiser is decidedly French.

THE Viceroy's tour concluded at Lahore. There he received the distinction of Doctor of Literature at the hands of his lieutenant and Chancellor of the local University. At the same capital, he gave an audience to the Members of the Cashmere Council. Of the fond hopes of the Maharaja's friends have not been fulfilled. No more being said about the unfortunate Prince. Thence the Viceroy for the metropolis and reaches it to-day. The programme of rect, will be found in our advertisement columns.

WE take this opportunity to remind the Military Secretary that there is no longer such a functionary as the Chairman of the Justices. The two offices of Chairman of the Corporation and Commissioner of Police have been separated by the new Municipal Act, and two distinct persons now fill the places. There ought to be some permanent assistant to the Personal Staff to take note of these little things so as to avoid unseemly blunders.

WE have much pleasure to announce, on the best authority, that Colonel Ardagh, notwithstanding his accident on the Frontier, was able to accompany the Viceroy throughout the tour. The *Pioneer* gratuitously caused anxiety to his friends by informing the public that the Private Secretary was laid up for a time at Peshawar. There was no truth in the report.

HOMER was always accused of an occasional nap. With advancing years, the habit has grown upon him. The demi-official in the Press should be taken E. & O. E.

THE metropolis is preparing to receive the Prince. The Calcutta Corporation has voted Rs. 2,000 for an address and a casket. On Wednesday, at the British Indian Association Rooms, there was a nondescript gathering of incompatible elements which after a storm terminated in what was courteously taken for a preliminary meeting of all sections of the community, to consider the steps towards a suitable reception. Unfortunately for the foolish men who had apparently planned a stealing march on the public, though fortunately for the credit of the capital, some good men and true happened to be present. The leading European merchant, supported by the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, was truly a godsend on the occasion, for men like Sir Alexander Wilson and Mr. Clarke will stand no nonsense. So the great scheme for the partition of Poland was dissipated to the winds. Maharaja Jotendra Mohun Tagore took the chair. It was resolved at the instance of Sir Alexander

Wilson to call a public meeting, through the Sheriff, at the Town Hall, for the very purpose for which the preliminary meeting had been called. Sir H. Harrison, who seems to have been in the secret, brought out his favorite nostrum of a compact secret committee to forestall the public voice. Sir A. Wilson would none of it. Sir Comer Petheram was like himself. He knocked Sir Henry's pet on the head, and finally proposed the same thing. In deference to the Chief, it was decided to ask the Lieutenant-Governor to preside at the Town Hall, and a Committee was formed to make the preliminary arrangements. Although the Chairman had gushed of unity of races and cordiality, the Mahomedan community was virtually ignored in the constitution of the Committee.

THE meeting was neither a quiet nor a cordial one. But we pass over the ebullitions. There was only one incident faintly approaching the amusing. The Resolution moved by the Chief Justice was seconded by Prince Jehan Kadr. Notwithstanding, Babu Kungo Lal Banerjee "thundered" it, to quote the immortal language of a Secretary to our Congress. Sir Comer Petheram informed him that "thundering" was inadmissible. That there is room in such matters for a second only and it had been filled. But the Baboo has won his object, in spite of law and the Chief Justice. He not only proved his loyalty to the meeting, but has got the reporters to announce him to the world as the seconder.

ON the 26th, at the Bombay Town Hall, Mr. H. S. King, M. P., the champion of the Uncovenanted, was entertained at a Banquet to which the Covenanted and others were invited. The chair was given to Sir Henry Morland. There were present Judges of the High Court, members of the Civil and Military Services, and representatives of the Press. In reply to his toast, Mr. King spoke of the apathy and indifference of the House of Commons to the grievances of the Uncovenanted Service and said that many members regarded the Uncovenanted Civilian as a dangerous beast, the product of a tropical soil and an Eastern imagination. This was ominous.

"7. His offence enough (in India the English are all Scotch, as I might say), but to jest at the almighty House of Commons against the grain of the strong element of old fogginess present."

"Adding, all went merrily as a marriage bell, till, in retort to John Gorst's remark that India was too poor to pay the pensions of the Service at two shillings a rupee, Mr. King said that the plea amounted to saying that India was too poor to be honest. This was too much for Mr. Justice Parsons, who rose and interrupted the speaker, saying that as one of Her Majesty's servants he could not remain and hear the Government attacked. He was called to order by the chairman, who saw nothing in the remark to call the guest of the evening to order. The other diners approved the action of the chair by hearty applause. This proved the last straw for the back of the judicial camel, and he left the hall in a huff. After this judicial exhibition, Mr. King naturally had not the heart to proceed further. He doubtless felt that his harmless pleasantry about tropical soil and Eastern imagination, followed by his blunt characterisation of the Under-Secretarial plea, had bounded back, like a curse come home to roost. Another Justice—Mr. Scott—came to his brother's rescue. Putting the best face on the matter, he was sure that Mr. Justice Parsons' only reason for leaving was that he did not wish to take sides in a controversy with Government. Not that he, Mr. Scott, was any more anxious to be enrolled on the bad books of the Government, but that Mr. Parsons was nervous. Mr. King was now himself again and concluded his speech as best he might. Every subsequent speaker alluded to the incident of the evening. Mr. Grattan Geary, in responding to the toast of "The Press," significantly remarked that it was a rule in all sound journalism not to use any language which would be out of order if uttered in the House of Commons, and that there was nothing in the remark of Mr. King—to which exception had been taken by Mr. Justice Parsons—to which either the Speaker or Sir John Gorst himself would, on that ground, dream of taking exception.

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GURU GUNGA AICH must do penance in the felon's jail for the sin of calling a spade a spatie. The High Court (Mr. Justice O'Kinealy and Mr. Justice Trevelyan) has confirmed the conviction by the Magistrate and the sentence by the Zilla Judge, in the *Dacca Prakash* libel prosecution. We quote the judgment of the High Court:—

"O'Kinealy, J.—In this case the petitioner, Guru Gunga Aich Chow-

dhry, of Dacca, was convicted of the offence of defamation, and sentenced to one month's imprisonment with a fine. The case went on appeal before the Judge of Dacca, who upheld the conviction, and remitted the fine of Rs. 500. Subsequently the applicant obtained a rule in this Court calling on the other side to show cause why the conviction and sentence should not be set aside; and the ground on which the rule had been obtained, and indeed the only ground that had been argued in this Court is that there is no evidence on the record to show that the articles in question, although written, it is said, in extreme bad taste, would harm the reputation of Rup Babu. This question was discussed before the Judge in the Court below, and he found that there was evidence sufficient on the record to show that the statements in the articles would harm the reputation of Rup Babu. It seems to us difficult to understand how any person reading the articles could come to any other conclusion. We have considered whether it would be proper under the circumstances of the case to reduce the punishment, but no such application was made; and indeed, looking at the manner in which this case has been carried on from the Magistrate's Court, and even in this Court, it would be impossible for us to do so. Admittedly hardly anything could be in worse taste than these articles, and yet not a single word of apology, nor the slightest reason to show that any apology would ever be given by the accused, nor the slightest statement of any apology by the accused in reference to the articles, having been made. He fights the case on the high ground that he has committed no offence whatever. We think that the conviction and sentence should be upheld, and that the prisoner should serve out his time in jail."

The defence was mismanaged throughout. The editor was specially handicapped by financial difficulty. He has been woefully betrayed. Those whose mouth-piece he had been, deserted him at the first sound of danger. Those few who still sympathised with him and on whom he relied for assistance failed of heart and purse at the last moment. Whatever the lapses in the lower Courts, we had hoped for a proper presentation in the High Court. But the upper Judges were so convinced of the case for the prosecution or of the worthlessness of the defence, that they delivered their verdict, without calling upon the Advocate General, retained by the prosecution, to reply.

Off with his head—so much for Dacca town!

THE "fierce light" of the new Religion, it appears from a vernacular contemporary, has captured a young widow, Gyanada by name, of the village of Sahebganj, in the Burdwan district. Her husband died recently, leaving an infant son by another wife. Gyanada is full-blown and childless. Cherishing no affection for the child born of a co-wife, she felt doubly alone. So young and so unfortunate, she naturally hoped to find solace in the teachings of the gospel of liberty, equality and fraternity preached by some enlightened young men of the neighbourhood. She was sure of society, at any rate. The young men of light were not long in being metamorphosed into young men of leading. At last,

Dreadfully staring  
Thro' muddy impurity,  
As when with the daring  
Last look of despairing  
Fix'd on futurity,

she plunged into the embraces of a creed which recognizes no veil and is the home of the homeless and refuge of the forsaken. She was conveyed away, with all the moveables in the house, at dead of night, and lodged in one of the Homes in Calcutta. The matter has been brought into prominence by the institution of a suit in the Burdwan Court for restitution to the minor of the property removed from the house. The indignation of the relatives of the deceased husband takes this form, as the British Courts in their wisdom will not afford any relief for the abstraction of the widow, who is of age and competent to choose her own course of conduct, however revolting to true Oriental feeling.

KHAN BHADR Mahomed Yusaf, Messrs. J. E. Caithness, D. W. Madge, W. Craik and W. J. Simmons, Babu Sham Churn Law and Rai Bahadr Prem Chand Bural have ceased, by resignation, to be Honorary Presidency Magistrates. They are well out of it perhaps, considering the pass to which Government have reduced the office, but then the mischief is that their places will immediately be filled, possibly by a sorry lot, with all the attending ills to the town from a depreciation of the Police bench.

It is not perhaps known to the public that, while the exalted Stipendiary do not tarry beyond lunch, the poor Unpaid are confined *volens* from 12 to 5 O'clock.

MR. VENNING, Officiating Judicial Commissioner, of the Central Provinces, is of opinion that Tantia must be hanged. His reasons are:—

"Under any circumstances, dacoity is one of the gravest of crimes.



dation. We are glad, therefore, to see the *Overland Mail*, which cannot be accused of undue leaning towards native pretensions, give a quiet rebuke to the more unreasonable part of the British press in India. Says the *O. M.* :—

"We are rather sorry to see that some of the Indian papers are going to extremes against the unfortunate mamltdars. They blame the Government for proposing to keep as much of the promise made to these people as was not illegitimate. The Bombay Government agreed to keep them in office. That, it has been held by the Secretary of State, was not lawful. But we do not see how the Government can in honour refuse to give the men the utmost benefit of the promise, so far as it relates to a mere question of money. If the men cannot hold the offices, they are entitled to whatever income would have accrued to them in virtue of the offices, and that, we understand, the Government proposes to grant to them. It is bad enough to have been obliged to break the solemn undertaking of the Bombay Government, and the feeling expressed in India on the subject cannot be ignored, though it is to be regretted. If the dismissed mamltdars are generously dealt with, it should tend to convince the protestants that faith has been kept as strictly as the law and policy allowed. The mamltdars will still have just ground of complaint."

We have always been of the same view. We have no quarrel with the Government of India, any more than with that of Bombay. The latter have done all they could to keep their plighted word, and the former, in carrying out the behests of the Home Authorities, have made the best of a bad job. Nor are we prepared to attribute to the Secretary of State aught beyond an error of judgment in a subject of great difficulty. His arguments have considerable weight—his scruples are most honourable to him. He has undoubtedly acted in perfect sincerity for the good of the State and of the people. We, for our part, hold him ill-advised in making a needless case of conscience of the matter. We think him inconsistent in standing on punctillio with respect of some, while he lets off others. We can only lament the unfortunate decision arrived at by the Secretary in Council. It is a misfortune to the people whose interests are identified with the growth and character of British Rule, that British honour should be tarnished by a plausible taint or constructive speck. To us, who have to interpret the British to the races of the East, it is unutterably painful.

We have no personal interest in the fortunes of the Mamltdars—no sympathy for them beyond what all right-souled men should feel for men in distress, whether they be Hindu Mamltdars or British Commissioners. But truth is truth, and it gives us great pleasure to find the truth acknowledged in a paper known to be conducted by an eminent English man of letters. "The Mamltdars will still have just ground of complaint." And that is the simple truth. We pointed out how it was so, in our article of the 26th October. For all that, although we would gladly see the decision in the case rectified, we are, under existing circumstances, satisfied with the assurance of the Government that full monetary compensation will be paid for loss of appointment and prospects.

#### THE MOFUSSIL MUNICIPALITIES.

The Resolution of the Government on the working of the municipalities in these Provinces during 1888-89, is of more than usual interest. It clears up some doubtful points, and lays down a new policy in regard to the prosecution of sanitary measures. The details of administration also are not without interest. The number of municipalities has increased from 141 in the previous year to 147, and their income shows an increase from 29 lacs of rupees to nearly 30 lacs and a half. The municipalities included in the second schedule of the Act, numbering forty-six in all, which did not possess the privilege of electing their

Chairmen were, in most cases, allowed to nominate their Chairmen, and the gentlemen so nominated were appointed by the Government. The official element in the constitution of these municipalities is steadily on the decrease. We do not know if the thorough depletion of the official element is as well as it is, but it is not at all satisfactory or creditable to those concerned to find the proportion of Europeans diminishing from nearly 23 per cent. in 1881-82 to about 9 per cent. in the year under review. Various efforts have been made to interest Europeans living in the interior in the affairs of the municipalities, with apparently little effect. Wherever they have been brought to these Committees, they have either soon tired of their connection with them, or otherwise proved failures. In Behar, indeed, the indigo-planters are reported to have supervised the execution of works in their neighbourhood, though they did not regularly attend meetings. The attendance, however, is the recognised test of interest, and, judged by that test, even against the Behar Europeans judgment must go by default.

There has been a rapid increase of income during the four years that the new system of Local Self-Government has been in operation. The increase is from Rs. 26,65,997 in 1884-85 to Rs. 30,49,772 in 1888-89. It is in the income from taxation proper that this increase chiefly shows itself, being derived principally from conservancy cess, that is, the latrine rate, and property and house tax. The increase, however, is far from being equally distributed over all the Divisions. Indeed, it was small or nominal in several Divisions, probably due to the tendency in the elective system to lower the rate of direct taxation and to look for increase from sources which did not touch the ratepayers directly. With this unfortunate tendency checked, the future development of the municipal income has, it would seem, not a bad prospect, although we should deprecate too fast running up house assessments among a population who normally live from hand to mouth.

The most important announcement contained in the present Resolution is that of a new sanitary policy. It relates to the subject of Government Loans to municipalities, for the promotion of sanitary improvements. There has been a change in the policy of the Government of India in this respect, and under orders of that Government dated 1st January 1889, loans will be freely granted to municipalities "for works of public and general convenience and utility, such as drainage and water-works, bridges and the like, but not for works which are merely or mainly ornamental or convenient, such as town-halls, public gardens or market places." Though these orders were passed in 1889, little or no effect could, for want of time and necessary preparation, be given to them in the years 1888-89 and 1889-90, but for the year 1890-91 a sum of Rs. 12,40,000 has been provided for expenditure upon works of sanitary improvement to be carried out by means of loans advanced by Government.

The most important schemes of sanitary improvement now in an advanced stage of preparation, which have already been under the consideration of the Government of Bengal, and which will be first taken in hand in furtherance of the new policy, are (1) The Howrah water-works (2) Howrah drainage (3) Sanitary survey of Burdwan (4) Drainage and water-supply in Culna (5) Drainage and water supply in Hooghly (6) Drainage in Serampore. There are similar schemes in a fair state of progress for the im-

provement of the municipalities of Midnapore and Bankoora. These are all works which, in Sir Stuart Bayley's opinion, cannot and ought not to be met from current income, and His Honor is prepared favorably to consider any loan applications which may be made by the municipalities concerned.

These orders will give a great impetus to sanitary improvement and, we fear, to local taxation as well. The great point is to devise systematic schemes of permanent utility and to lay out such large funds as will now be placed at the disposal of municipalities for their gradual accomplishment. What is now done is to fritter away the small funds which they can devote from the current revenue in partial works of drainage which leave no trace of lasting good behind them. In some municipalities, large sums of money are almost thrown away in this manner. A permanent establishment of coolies is always found employed upon the surface drains of important streets which, beyond giving a temporary appearance of spruceness to these thoroughfares, does little real good. They might be more usefully employed in the interior, but then these are sequestered places and no one would see the municipal activity there. This state of things should now cease. Instead of spending small sums of money in this ridiculous way, the Lieutenant-Governor suggests that funds should be accumulated by careful husbandry from current income with a view to undertake, in the first instance, the sanitary surveys of municipalities and the preparation of complete schemes. Towards this end, the new Sanitary Board, which has lately been sanctioned and which will now be constituted without delay, will be a great aid. When these schemes are ready, the municipalities have to apply to Government for loans. District officers are expected to interest themselves in furtherance of the new policy. The Sanitary Commissioner is already engaged in a systematic inspection of the metropolitan municipalities, and the Government expresses a hope that he will succeed in inducing them to co-operate with one another for the improvement of their sanitation. They should work together and not in isolation. The municipalities hitherto pleaded their want of funds, in extenuation of their failure to carry out large schemes of drainage and other sanitary improvements. This stock plea is now taken away, and they must now make up their minds boldly to embark upon a scheme of systematic sanitary progress, be prepared to incur loans, and add to their resources sufficiently to be able to pay up the interest as well as the capital in a fixed period. The Government will not contribute anything from Provincial funds in aid of such works. The Government Resolution is explicit on this point. It says: "Good water and good drainage cannot be obtained in any city for nothing, and the cost of defraying such sanitary improvements must be met in future by the municipal rate-payers, and can no longer be defrayed either in whole or in part, as has sometimes been done in the past, by funds levied by Government from the general public. It is precisely in matters of this kind that the distinction in the appropriation of funds raised by Provincial and local taxation should be rigidly enforced." We do not know whether it is contemplated to have recourse to additional taxation. Proposals of that kind are already in the air. There is talk of an education cess and of some other cess, probably a sanitation cess. However much we might feel the necessity of sanitary improvement, we must strongly disapprove of further

taxation even for such a purpose. Existing resources are not incapable, by careful and economical administration, of providing the required funds. As it is, there is great deal of waste, and of corruption too in ministerial officers.

While fully alive to the failings of the new system of Local Self-Government, the Government and its officers generally speak favorably of its working on the whole. We may speak of the detailed criticisms made by the several Divisional Commissioners hereafter. In the meantime, we quote the concluding remarks made by the Lieutenant-Governor upon a review of the municipal year:—

"The views of the Lieutenant-Governor have already been sufficiently expressed in this Resolution. It is clear that good and honest work is being done in municipalities. Expenditure is annually increasing; large and important works of drainage and water-supply have been taken in hand, and are in various stages of progress, while in all departments there are signs of improved administration, and of the active interest taken by Municipal Commissioners in the duties entrusted to them. On the other hand, the failings which are inseparable from the working of all such local bodies are conspicuously evident. Personal jealousies and party strife are too common, and operate very prejudicially to the public welfare; there is a tendency on the part of Municipal Commissioners to benefit themselves and their own class to the exclusion of the poorer members of the community; there is a not unnatural reluctance, or timidity it may be called, in embarking on schemes of improvement until the necessity for expenditure has at last been forced upon the Municipality by outside pressure; there is an absence of that practical attention to details which can only be acquired by long experience in administrative work. These are deficiencies which time alone will remedy, but the results of the past year show that decided progress, slow in some places, but comparatively rapid in others, has been made. Municipalities not less than District Boards are in need of systematisation, and the remarks which have lately been recorded by the Lieutenant-Governor on the working of District Boards during the past year are equally applicable to municipal institutions. It appears that the establishment of a Local Government Board, somewhat on the lines originally contemplated, will soon become an administrative necessity in this province."

It is significant, and our Municipal Commissioners should take note of the fact, that as the Government Resolution is coming more and more explicit and plain, pointing out the failings of the new system, the Commissioners, but those who elect the Municipal Committees, set themselves in earnest to remove those causes which now hamper the work of these Committees. In all elective towns, there should be an organization of leading men to secure the election of only the right sort of men. The difficulty in this country is to get at the best men. The way in which Government nominations are made is also not always free from blame. Looking to the circumstances of this country, chiefly as regards the educational backwardness of several castes and classes of people, the franchise might also be raised to a higher limit.

#### SUBURBAN IMPROVEMENTS.

BABOO Cally Kissen Tagore, who is now living at his Baranagar garden house, has had his attention drawn to the unsatisfactory condition of some of the public roads in the municipality, and, with his usual liberality, has offered to contribute a sum of Rs. 6,300, being the amount estimated by the Chairman, Rai Bahadur Prasanna Kumar Banerjee, as the cost of macadamizing them. The offer has, of course, been thankfully accepted by the Municipal Commissioners, who, to mark their sense of the generosity of the noble donor, have resolved to name those roads, one after him, and another after his father, the late Baboo Gopal Lal Tagore. Baboo Gopal Lal Tagore and his no less renowned son have so long lived in Baranagar and been associated with its public affairs, that we quite approve of the action by its Municipal Commissioners in connecting their names with their town. The Baranagar Social Improvement Society with its public library and the vernacular and other schools of the town have, for years, received aid at the hands of Baboo Cally Kissen. It was also, we believe, principally through his assistance that the Anadaha Girls' School has been provided with a house of its own. The Dukhineswar Vernacular School owes its building to some extent to his beneficence. And now Baboo Cally Kissen Tagore has founded a *devulay* and dedicated one of his

two country houses to the purpose, where poor people are fed every day. It is such unostentatious liberality that truly deserves recognition, and though Baboo Cally Kissen himself may seek no honor, the Municipality owed it to itself to honor him for the interest he has of his own motion shewn in its welfare.

The leading men of Baranagar, however, have started a new and a very good proposal in connection with the disposal of the sum offered by the Baboo. They suggest that advantage should be taken of a good round sum like this to supply a long-felt want of the town, namely, a public or municipal Town hall and office, with a room for the public library which, with its rich store of books, is going to waste from want of suitable accommodation. A handsome contribution like this is quite a windfall, so far at any rate as Baranagar is concerned, and such an opportunity is not likely to occur soon. The Municipal Commissioners should now use this sum as the nucleus of a fund for the erection of a municipal office building, with a little attempt at gardening, and, above all, with accommodation for public meetings and for the library. They themselves had contemplated creating a Sinking Fund for the purpose, and they have not, we believe, abandoned the idea. They might now supplement Baboo Cally Kissen's contribution with a contribution from the municipal Fund, and thus secure an object on which they as well as the general community seem to have long set their heart. Not that Babu Cally Kissen himself, if the matter were put before him in its just light, might not be disposed to give something more in aid of such an object. The mouths of the Commissioners in this connection are of course shut, but the public may well lay the matter before him. We hear it is proposed that some of the Commissioners with other public-spirited citizens of Baranagar, headed by the municipal Chairman, should wait upon Babu Cally Kissen Tagore on the subject. Indeed, Baranagar is not without its especial claims upon consideration. When, on the occasion of the simultaneous wedding

of his two sons, large endowments were made for the promotion of education and other worthy objects, the Baranagar Social Improvement Society, through its then President, the late Dr. Waldie, did not fail to put in its claims for some suitable donation in aid of its ~~particular~~ mentioned the want of accommodation for the ~~in~~ amongst its most felt wants. Unfortunately, the appointment, and the allotment which Babu Cally Kissen had ~~with~~ and charitable purposes had already been exceeded. Still ~~our~~ shows reply, intimating that he would be prepared to consider any practical suggestions which the Society might have to offer. The matter, however, was not pressed, in the hope that opportunities would turn up in future, when a suitable application should be made. Such an opportunity has now come, and as the provision of such a place where the local public could meet on even terms, and the library be accommodated, as well as the Municipality could have rooms and out-houses for its business, would be of the greatest advantage in the present state of Baranagar, the proposal has our heartiest sympathy, and we have no hesitation in recommending it to our eminent fellow-townsmen. By gratifying the wishes of the community, he would reap the blessings of all classes of the inhabitants of Baranagar and its vicinity.

B.

#### GAMBLING IN TOWN.

Permit me to draw through your columns the attention of the Police Commissioner and the Bengal Government to the existence of a gambling house in Uriapara Lane, in the Padda Pukur Section of the Town. As usual, the house has been made the refuge of the Budmashes and the rowdies of the town. Monday before last, seven persons were arrested but they were let off on a technical plea. The nuisance shows no signs of abatement. Unless the higher authorities interfere the local Police will not be in a mood to exert in the matter.

R.

Since the receipt of the above, the business has been removed to another neighbourhood.—Ed. R. & R.

*Holloway's Pills and Ointment.*—Abscesses, Erysipelas, Piles.—Unvarying success attends all who treat these diseases according to the simple printed directions wrapped round each pot and box. They are invaluable to the young and timid, whose bashfulness sometimes endangers life. Though apparently local, diseases of this nature are essentially blood diseases, but a little attention, moderate perseverance, and trifling expense will enable the most diffident to conduct any case to a happy issue without exposing secret infirmities to any one. The Ointment checks the local inflammation and alleviates the throbbing pains. These directions also clearly point out when and how Holloway's Pills are to be taken, that their purifying and regulating powers may assist by adjusting and strengthening the constitution.

#### THE WILL OF THE LATE NAWAB SIR EKBAL-UD-DAULA, G. C. S. I.

[A Translation.]

In the name of God, the Most Merciful.

The principal, essential, and short but useful Wasiatnama (Will) of Ekbal-ud-Daula written in the hand and pen of Ekbal-ud-daula. At Garara (house) near Dayala (river) on the 9th day of Rabi-ul-awal, 1300. A. H. (18th Jany. 1883.)

This pamphlet is in my pen from its beginning to end. It should be read carefully and attentively, because I have written it in haste and in a fast hand. Those persons who are acquainted with my handwriting would read it faster and better.

In the name of God the Most Merciful, which is the best of names.

Pith of piths and abstract of my Wasiatnama.

The place of my interment shall be the outer or the inner underground room in my town house at Kazimain or the country house in the Sahra of Kazimain. I shall be interred, shrouded and washed on the *Ina-ashbaria Shia* principle professed by me, in the manner thought proper by Shaikh Mahomed Maksud Ali, or Shaikh Mahdi Abdul Ghafter of Kazimain, or Shaikh Mahomed Taki, son of Shaikh Hasan Shustari. The corpse shall be borne with dignity and honor. I shall be washed and shrouded by the hands of my habituated servants present, and not by the hands of others, who are strangers and have not standing. I shall be washed in my own house and not at any other place. The palace at Kazimain has no sweet water and no one gets there sweet water to drink, nor can it be brought from the stream. Hence I drop (the plan) of my being interred in that place. I shall be interred either in the outer or the inner underground room (vault) of my house at Kazimain, which is inside the city of Kazimain. The outer underground room is, however, better than the inner one, and it is by all means easy to inter me there.

The Sar Khadama (head servant) and vakil (agent) in respect of my domestic affairs and the attendants on my tomb, shall after me be Abul Hasain Kandhari and Khizr and his other brothers, and his son, generation after generation, and no other, provided each and every one of them be wise, able, accomplished, competent and efficient; that is to say, this post shall continue in the line of descent of Abul Hasan. Whoever shall be fit shall perform this duty properly and adequately. Inasmuch as this is a long line, some wise man will, at all times, be of course available. As Abul Hasan and Khizr are of old standing, experienced and tried persons, and know everything, good and bad, they can perform this duty; but God knows, which one of their descendants shall, after them, be wise and competent to discharge it. Abul Hasan and Khizr's remaining up to the day of my death in my service is also an important condition, and if it so happen that in my lifetime they be discharged from service, they shall be excluded and debarred from discharging the duties of agent, executor and head servant. Nawab Mirza Mahomed Hasain Khan and his children and brother will be quite sufficient to do the work without the co-operation and interference of any other. When the condition is gone, the object too for which the condition was laid is gone.

The British Resident at Bagdad shall, after me, be the agent (vakil), executor (Wasi) and superintendent in the affairs of my house, tomb, and testamentary injunctions (Wasaya), but with the superintence (nazarat), consultation (mashwarat) and accord (ittifak) of Abul Hasan and Khizr and their able and wise descendants, and Nawab Mirza Mahomed Hasain Khan of Arcot, in Madras, and Agha Mahomed and the other sons of the said Nawab and Mahomed Taki Khan, his brother, and no one else. The said Nawab, his descendants and brother will no doubt, for the sake of my long-standing friendship with him, accept to do this work, and, God willing, shall well perform it, in consultation and conjunction with Abul Hasan and Khizr. They will never fall out with one another.

The female servants of my Harem, black or white, shall each receive one thousand Rupees as present, and be allowed to leave after apologies are made to them on my behalf. They may go wherever they like. Only a reasonable and just request, out of foresight and prudence, shall be made to them to lead a life of chastity and modesty wherever they may live and not to do unlawful and bad deeds; because God has blessed lawful acts. They are female servants who have attended me at night in the same manner as male servants have attended me during the day, and are emancipated and free. They have no right upon me other than that of service done to me. I was obliged to avail myself of their services at night. It is necessary that they should be made to leave my house with great respect and decorum. Moreover, if it be



possible, some of my old trustworthy servants should attend them for sometime and come back after seeing them to the places of their destination. The only thing I desire is their chastity, respectability and honor. They (the old and trustworthy servants) should exert themselves head and heart for them (female servants) and see them arrived with comfort and honor to whatever places they may like to go. Such places should, however, be places of due decorum and decency and not brothels, gaming houses and places of amusements. When they shall leave, great respect and honor should be shewn them by every body, because they have been the servants of my house and partners of my nocturnal retirement and have lived in my house with modesty and decency. They should after me leave my house and go wherever they like with modesty and decency. As for the rest, their luck is in their hands. Great respect is to be shewn them when they shall leave, as they have been my night attendants and confidants, and I also showed them respect on account of their being secluded and on account of my naturally kind and charitable disposition.

After me, the power of reducing and increasing the staff of servants and dismissing and appointing them shall be with Abul Hosain, Kheer, Nawab Mahomed Hossain and Agha Mahomed, who may dismiss and retain whomsoever they shall like. They should soon dismiss the supernumerary and unnecessary servants and give them their wages, because there is no need of a large number of servants after I am gone, especially of ashchi (cook), qahwa chi (coffee-server), sufra chi (table attendant), nawatir (watchmen), sais (grooms), &c. They shall retain the services of so many as may be necessary and needful, for running errands, for protection of the house and for attendance on my tomb. They shall dismiss those who are not fit to be retained. There are, however, several old servants of mine who should not during their life time be turned out of my house and excluded from attending my tomb, such as Sayyid Hosain Yazdi and Mahamud Khan Hindi. They are attendants, old and trustworthy, and it is not becoming that they shall, after me, go from door to door and be in want of bread. They shall remain in the house and attend my tomb so long as they are alive. If they go away and leave the service of their own accord, they are at liberty to do so. They shall get nothing. They are not much in want and have means. This order, however, does not apply to those who would go away during my life time.

All the three Armenian brothers who are in my service, should leave after me. They shall receive one month's pay from my purse as present and reward; because their work is to serve guests at table and they are also not very trustworthy and faithful; as also because if they remain, the work entrusted to Abul Hasan, Khizr, Nawab Mahomed Hossain and Agha Mahomed would be interfered with and not done properly. After me, they would not be of any service to me nor would they be of any use in attending my tomb, nor for any of all the other work above referred to. It is necessary and needful to dismiss and discharge them and they shall be forced and compelled to leave in the manner prescribed by me. They shall, on no pretext and excuse whatever, be retained as servants of my house; as after me, they would never be of any use to any. Their staying would cause confusion, mischief and disturbance. They are employed by me only to serve guests at the table.

From among the servants and other than servants who have been dismissed, discharged, expelled and discarded during my life time, not even one shall, after my demise, on any pretext and excuse or at the request or recommendation (of any one), be ever allowed and admitted in my house to do the work to be done after me, or have anything to do therewith; such as Allah Vardi and Yawar, both of whom have been expelled from my house, being found fault with and guilty of dishonesty, bad deeds and malevolence. They were faithless.

Among my present servants, some are bad characters, scamps, idlers, drones, thieves, worthless and dishonest fellows, and I pardoned them several times. It is not proper that servants like these should attend my tomb, and do other work. They should be discharged and dismissed. Whoever shall remain shall be good, respectful and decent and such as may be diligent, humble, of good character, and peaceful.

Abul Hasan and Khizr should be paid double the amount of the salary they used to receive in my life time, so that they may not steal, embezzle, and covet my property and that of others. The other servants shall get what they now get. On the other hand, their pay should be increased, if thought proper. So that they may not steal and give way to avarice. An adequate monthly allowance shall be fixed for one of the sons of Nawab Mahomed Hassain Khan so that he may devote himself to the service of my tomb. I hope that Abul Hassan, Khizr, Nawab Mahomed Hassain, Agha Mahomed, and the brothers of Agha Mahomed, will live in harmony and unity as brothers like milk and sugar and dispute and dissension never find their way among them. One is to help and assist the other, so that no interruption and disturbance may take place in

the work to be done after me and in the arrangements of my tomb.

The account papers, and papers showing demands, as also the documents, deeds and muniments, &c., are with Khizr. Khizr knows where they are.

The inner and outer apartments of my house, in Bagdad and Kazimain are, by the grace of God and favor of Mustapha and Murtaza, replete with money in cash, things, precious stones, gold, silver, kiran (Persian coin), rupees, British and French sovereigns and Ottoman liras (gold coins) and innumerable furniture. There is no account or list of them. Those in the outer apartments are in the custody of Khizr and Abul Hassan, especially Khizr, who knows to read and write, and those in the inner apartments are in the hands of my female servants. They shall not steal and embezzle them. If they do so, they shall be made by force and threats to give back the things to the British Resident at Bagdad. The female apartments of my house at Bagdad and Kazimain are full of money in cash and things, as also the rooms in the outer apartments of my house at Bagdad are replete with all sorts of money in cash and things. But their number is not certain, nor is there any list of them. I have solely to depend on the honesty of my female and male servants. I am sure that the monthly allowance I get from the British Government will cease and be stopped on my death. I offer it as a present to the Government and it would constitute a saving of the Government. And I die without any to come after me, and without son, without heir.

A leathern bag always remains in my pocket. In it there are keys fitting all the locks. The Resident shall on my death take out that bag from my pocket. Should any of my servants dishonestly take it out he shall be responsible to and punished by the Resident. There will be no worse embezzler, nor a greater hypocrite nor a more faithless and deceitful creature than he. He shall be severely punished and dismissed immediately from my service for life.

My animals shall be sold at a just price but not by auction. Other superfluous articles of my house shall also be sold but not by auction. If they do not sell, they shall remain in their places, in a manner that they be not eaten by worms and rats. I do not like that one should go round with them and sell them, lest they form the subject of joke of friends and foes, and purchasers laugh and utter words, good and bad, becoming and unbecoming, and *utrakbis* (buffoons) crack jokes at them. None of my household furniture, books and pictures, &c., shall be sold. They shall remain in their places under the care of my senior head servant (Sar Khadama).

My age is now seventy three years. Money (charity) for prayers, fastings, *Zakat* and *Kharan*, &c., shall, according to the direction of Shaikh Mahomed Maksud Ali and Shaikh Mahdi Abdul Ghaffar, or Shaikh Mahomed Takhi, son of Shaikh Hasan Shustari, be given to real mendicants and beggars by Abul Hassan Khizr, Nawab Mahomed Hassan, Agha Mahomed, Agha Hassan and Nawab Mahomed Taki, so that the rightful persons may receive it and it may not be wasted and may not go into the hands of sleek Sheiks wearing huge and showy turbans and be swallowed up by them. Of course Shaikh son of Yasin, costermonger (bakkhal) of Kazimain, shall by no means interfere in or meddle with this work of mine, because he is not an honest man. The prayers I have said, the fastings I have done, the pilgrimages that I have made during my life time, are, to my view, not acceptable and useful and are of no avail to me, because they were defective, incomplete, meaningless, and perfunctory. God is kind acceptor of repentance and forgiver of sins.

After me, the duty of distributing *wasika* (allowances) shall continue to be done and performed justly and conscientiously by Nawab Mahomed Hassan, and, after him, by his descendants and his brother as my agents; because I have come to know by experience and by means of trial that among all the Indian servants of and pilgrims to the exalted thresholds (the tomb of saints) there is no more and certainly no trustworthy and wise man than the said Nawab. This word of mine is not in a subdued and depressed tone but in a loud voice. It is clear as the sun to every one, high and low, that he is free from selfishness and self concept. Nawab Mahomed Hassain is a matchless man among his peers and equals, and among others, Agha Mahomed is also like him, that is to say, he is a son better than his father. The Resident at Bagdad shall allow the work of *wasika* (distribution of allowances) to remain in the hands of the said Nawab and his descendants, especially Agha Mahomed and Agha Hassain, because both these youngmen are able, wise, and of rare ability. The Resident shall not lend ear to and believe any word uttered selfishly and interestedly by any one against them. There are many people, who, out of malice, envy, evil motive, dishonesty, and ill-feeling, are enemies of Nawab Mahomed Hassan and his children. No word of any one shall be given ear to and listened to. Such shall eat dirt and be unsuccessful. The Resident may hold this opinion of mine as worthy of approval and shall entrust the work of distribution of *Wasika* to the said Nawab and his children. He shall

not entrust it to any man other than the said Nawab and his children; because it will be spoiled and wholly spoiled as at the time of Ahmad Agha and Mahdi Hossain. Neither of them performed the work with honesty and integrity. Whatever they did, they did badly. It was wholly unfair. For distribution of the *wadika* there will be found no man in all and every way better qualified than Nawab Mahomed Hossain and his children.

I make an endowment of the property on both sides of (river) Bagdad and those at Kazimian and of the palace in Sahrai Kazimian and the house occupied by the Resident, &c. and the orchard and the palace Garara and other properties that hereafter may be purchased and built by me at any place, and the Karbalai Mualla, all and every one of them, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of my tomb and retaining the necessary servants. All those properties shall remain as they are and shall never be sold or mortgaged. The houses shall be repaired and the expenses in connection with my tomb and monthly salaries of a small necessary staff of servants and of my head servant shall be paid with the rents, the proceeds, and the usufructs of the same. The house at Kazimian shall be set apart for the residence of my servants and of the guardian of my tomb, and for their comfort and convenience I have made an endowment especially of the house occupied by the Resident for the purpose of defraying the expenses of my tomb, so that with the rent thereof the work prescribed by me may be done. None of my property shall be sold, mortgaged or granted in gift. They shall remain as they are. The servants appointed to keep watch and *farsh*, &c., shall remain in their places in the same way as they are in my lifetime. If a house be leased, let it be leased, if not, not. It shall remain in its place as it is, under the care of servants, head servant (sar kadama) and agents (wakala.)

The land in Makhtunia and Chahsalia is owned by me conjointly with two Arabs. It shall remain as it is and in its usual state for ever. It shall on no pretext and excuse go into the hands of X, Y and Z, especially into those of Pachachizadas who are never and by no means to get it. It shall remain in the ruinous state as it is till the end of the world. No one shall interfere with it.

The money in cash is already cash. The things shall be sold and converted into cash. The entire cash shall be invested in Government securities either in Calcutta or at Bombay and be in the hands of the British Resident. The expenses of my tomb and wages of servants of my tomb shall be kept in deposit either in Calcutta or Bombay, but the interest thereof shall be remitted to the British Resident, and my agents, and with it shall defrayed the expenses required for my tomb, servants and head servant for ever and ever. My money in the Bank of Bagdad shall also be invested in Government securities, for the said purpose. My money in the Bank of Bagdad has evidently been misappropriated by Osmanli rogues. The Ottoman Government

is security for this Bank. It is necessary that the Resident at Bagdad shall, through the British Ambassador at Constantinople, recover this money of mine in whatever way he can from the Ottoman Government and shall not give it no peace or rest. The account thereof is known to Khizr. The Resident shall not allow the scamps of Bagdad to stomach my money in the bank. Dishonesty in this had its origin in the directors of the said bank, members of the Committee and the Commissioners of Bagdad, who, through avarice for illegal gratification, advanced money to people without securities and exhausted the capital of the Bank and deprived me of my right. Indifference, negligence and avarice have been displayed in the matter by the Governors (Walis) of Bagdad. Each of them is stuck to the tail of the other (other's fraudulency). They unanimously stomach people's property and spoil the house of the world, the Sublime Porte taking no notice of hyenas and a dead body. The lethargic British Resident at Constantinople can manage to settle this affair if he has spirit, energy and courage. This lawful property of mine ought not to go for nothing. I made a mistake in entrusting it to the Ottoman Bank. It is easy for the Ambassador at Constantinople to realize this money either at Constantinople or at Bagdad itself. Only a warrant with order from the Sublime Porte with a strong and stringent Committee is required to realise the money. I am willing that an adequate portion of the said money be given to the Committee as present, reward of their labour and remuneration, so that it may, by means of cudgel, blows and rebukes, recover the said money from the Wali and the people of Bagdad. I have however to remark that the said Committee also might take bribe from X, Y, or Z all and every; say yes and aye and yes again and thus put an end to the matter. I am willing that five hundred or one thousand *liras* be paid to the Committee out of my money which is in the Bank and the work done. But I am aware that there are persons whose fathers are burnt (gone to hell) who would hold out temptation and offer bribes beyond measure; especially several Effendis, evil disposed, mean, cursed, fraudulent and deceitful. In fact, it was they who moved in the matter and spoiled it, that is to say, they began giving away money gratuitously by taking bribe and exhausted the capital of the bank. The Wali of Bagdad and the members of the Bagdad Council were always in awe of these people and had hopes of gain from one another. One lay under the obligation of another, and I a stranger and a fool, fell into this trouble. I empower the British Resident and my agents and executors to spend as much money (*rishwat*) in this matter, as possible and relieve my soul from the troubles of the Bank and the Ottoman bribe-giving and bribe-taking employes. I curse myself that I went in for it and put myself alive in difficulty. It is however easy for the British Government to realise the money from the Ottoman Government because I am connected with the British Government and my said lawful money is kept in deposit in the Bank of Bagdad. That the Ottoman Government is guarantee is put down in the pass book (*Juzdan*) issued by the Bank, which is with Khizr.

(To be continued.)

#### MILITARY SECRETARY'S OFFICE. NOTIFICATION.

*Calcutta, the 28th November 1889.*

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General will arrive in Calcutta on Saturday, the 30th November 1889, arriving at Howrah by a special train at 8-33 A. M., Calcutta time.

On arrival at Calcutta (Howrah Railway Station), His Excellency will be received by the Chairman of the Justices and Commissioner of Police for the town of Calcutta, and the Magistrate of Howrah; and at Government House by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and Staff, Members of His Excellency's Council, General Officer Commanding the Presidency District and Staff, the principal Civil and Military Officers, and other gentlemen who are desirous of attending.

A Guard of Honour of the East Indian Railway Volunteers will be drawn up on the platform on the Howrah Railway Station, and a Guard of Honour of Native Troops, with Band, outside the Station.

The route taken will be by the Hooghly Bridge, Strand Road, and Esplanade Row.

The Body-Guard and the Calcutta Mounted Volunteer Corps will form His Excellency's Escort.

A Royal Salute will be fired from the Ramparts of Fort William as His Excellency alights from the train.

A Guard of Honour of British Infantry and of the Presidency Volunteers will be drawn up in front of the Grand Staircase of Government House.

Full Dress will be worn by Officers entitled to wear uniform. Gentlemen not entitled to wear uniform will appear in Morning Dress.

By Command,  
WILLIAM BERESFORD,  
*Lieut.-Colonel,*  
*Military Secretary to the Viceroy.*

#### MILITARY SECRETARY'S OFFICE. NOTIFICATION.

*Simla, the 3rd September, 1889.*

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General will hold a Levée at Government House, Calcutta, on Tuesday, the 10th December, 1889, at 9-30 P.M.

All Civil and Military Officers and the Native Officers of the Native Regiments of the Garrison are invited to attend.

Gentlemen purposing to attend the Levée are requested to send their cards to the Aide-de-Camp in waiting, not later than Saturday, the 30th November, 1889, after which "No Cards" will be received, and to bring with them to the Levée two cards, with their names legibly written on them—one to be given on entering Government House, and the other to the Aide-de-Camp in waiting at the time of presentation.

Gentlemen who have not already been presented at the Court of St. James or at Government House will be good enough to add the names of Gentlemen who will present them.

Gentlemen wearing uniform will appear in full dress.

Gentlemen not wearing uniform will appear in evening dress.

The carriages of Gentlemen (except such as have the private entrée) attending the Levée will enter by the North-East Gate, set down under the Grand Staircase, and pass out by the North-West Gate.

No card for the new presentation can be received after the 30th November, 1889.

By Command,  
WILLIAM BERESFORD,  
*Lieut.-Colonel,*  
*Military Secretary to the Viceroy.*

*The 9th Ordinary Monthly Meeting*  
OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CALCUTTA,  
under Act II. (B. C.) of 1888,  
WILL BE HELD IN THE TOWN HALL,  
on Thursday next, the 5th December 1889,  
at 4 P.M.

**BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.**

1. To consider the draft Address to be presented to His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor as approved by the Committee appointed to draw up the same, and to confirm the other proceedings of the Committee.
2. To consider the Resolution passed by the General Committee at their Meeting held on the 2nd September 1889 to the effect that, under the present circumstances of the Municipality, it is not expedient to contribute any funds towards the support of the Public Library.
3. To accept the recommendation of the General Committee that the Chairman be re-elected to represent the Corporation on the Port Trust on the understanding that Sir Henry Harrison will resign whenever he ceases to be Chairman.
4. To confirm proceedings of the Complaints Committee at a Meeting held on the 25th September 1889. (Postponed from the Adjourned 8th Ordinary Monthly Meeting held on the 20th November.)
5. The Chairman to lay upon the table the report of the Auditors on the accounts of the Municipality for the year ended 31st March last for disposal under Section 76 Act II (B.C.) of 1888.
6. To confirm the proceedings of the General Committee at Meetings held on the 9th, 6th and 23rd November 1889.
7. To confirm the proceedings of the Sanitary Improvement Committee at a Meeting held on the 19th November 1889.
8. To confirm the proceedings of the Committee at a Meeting held on the 14th November 1889.
9. To confirm the proceedings of the Loans Committee at Meetings held on the 22nd and 10th October.
10. Vital statistics for October 1889.

*At the close of the Ordinary Meeting,*  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS  
OF CALCUTTA,

*under Act II. (B. C.) of 1888, will be held*  
To consider the application from Messrs.  
George Henderson and Co., for a license for  
jute godown at Baug Bazar in Gahiffe Street.

JOHN COWIE,  
Secretary to the Corporation.  
29th November 1889

**THE BENAZIR FAIR—  
RAMPUR STATE.  
NOTICE.**

The annual Benazir Fair at Rampur will be held this year on the bank of the Kosi river, by the Rampur and Moradabad road, from the 24th to 30th November. Trades-people of all kinds have been invited with their wares from different parts of the country, and, besides the usual assortments of imported and other miscellaneous goods, special care will be taken to have some of the notable indigenous manufactures of the Province, as of Fatehgarh, Mani puri, Tilhar, Moradabad, and Rampur itself, amply represented. As an additional attraction, the Fair will this time combine an Agricultural and Cattle Show. The Director of Agriculture and Commerce has been asked to provide a set of farming implements, some of which will also be shown in working. The Cattle Show will include horses, ponies, mules, cows, bullocks, and buffaloes, and will offer a good opportunity to parties wishing to buy or sell such animals; the State itself being prepared to purchase a fair number to replace those that have become unserviceable. Fodder for cattle brought for show will be provided free of cost.

The tradesmen's stalls, and tents for visitors will form a well ordered camp, with due care for sanitation. For the amusement of visitors there will be a varied programme of wrestling, elephant and ram fights, military sports, &c., ending with the usual display of fireworks. European visitors will be very welcome, and will find every arrangement made for their comfort.

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*Formerly Minister to the late*  
NAWAB FARIDDOON JAH BAHADOOR,  
(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,  
Behar and Orissa.)  
*Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.*  
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1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street  
CALCUTTA.

**OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.**

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridood Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa which gives a graphic account of the ... in Independent Tipperah of broad views and work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same

time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following.—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlightening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract.]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight—"she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, a reflections on this or that moral and political subject are not a moral or political subject. Mr. Mookerjee, in the "last of the Nawabs of Behar and Orissa," afterwards M of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

**THE**

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# Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1889.

No. 401

## CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

### AUTUMN.

[ From Mr. Austin's "Love's Widowhood." \* ]

Now I who oft have carolled of the Spring,  
Must chant of Autumn and the dirgeful days ;  
Of windless dawns enveiled in dewy haze,  
Of cloistered evenings when no sweet birds sing,  
But every note of joy hath trooped and taken wing.

But when I saw Her first, you scarce could say  
If it were Summer still, or Autumn yet.  
Rather it seemed as if the twain had met,  
And, Summer being loth to go away,  
Autumn retained its hand, and begged of it to stay.

The second bloom had come upon the rose,  
Not, as in June, exultingly content  
With its own loveliness, but meekly bent,  
Pondering how beauty saddens to the close,  
And fair decay consumes each hectic flower that blows.

The traveller's joy still journeyed in the hedge,  
Nor yet to palsied gossamer had shrunk :  
Green still the bracken round the beech-tree's trunk ;  
But loosestrife seeded by the river ledge,  
And now and then a sigh came rippling through the sedge.

The white-cupped bindweed garlanded the lane,  
Trying to make-believe the year was young.  
Withal, hard-by, where it too clomb and clung,  
The berried bryony began to wane,  
And the wayfaring-tree showed many a russet stain

There was a pensive patience in the air,  
As sweet as sad, when sadness doth but flow  
From generous grief, and not for selfish woe :  
Such as can make the wrinkled forehead fair,  
And sheds a halo round love's slowly silvering hair.

And such She seemed. The summer in her mien  
Had something too of autumn's mellow tone ;  
A something that was more surmised than shown,  
As when, though distant woodlands still are green,  
Embrowning shadows seem half stealing in between.

### THE LARK.

[ From Mr. Austin's "The Owl and the Lark." \* ]

I thought the lecture somewhat long,  
Impatient for its ending ;  
When, sudden, came a burst of song !  
It was the lark ascending.

Dew gleamed in many a jewelled cup,  
The air was bright and gracious ;  
And away the wings and the song went up,  
Up through the ether spacious.

They bubbled, rippled, up the dome,  
In sprays of silvery trilling ;  
Like endless fountain's lyric foam,  
Still falling, still refilling.

And when I could no more descry  
The bird, I still could hear it ;  
For sight, but not for soul, too high,  
Unseen but certain Spirit.

All that the perched owl's puckered brow  
H: I vainly bid me ponder,  
The lark's light wings were solving now  
In the roofless dome up yonder.

Then brief as lightning-flash,—no more,—  
I passed beyond the Finite ;  
And, borne past Heaven's wide-open door,  
Saw everything within it.

Slow showering down from cloudless sphere,  
The wanderer Elysian  
Dropped nearer, clearer, to the ear,  
Then back into the vision.

On his own song he seemed to swim ;  
Diving through song, descended .  
Since I had been to Heaven with him,  
Earth now was apprehended.

O souls perplexed by hood and cowl,  
Fain would you find a teacher,  
Consult the lark and not the owl,  
The poet, not the preacher.

While brains mechanic vainly weave  
The web and woof of thinking,  
Go, mount up with the lark, and leave  
The bird of wisdom blinking.

*Holloway's Pills and Ointment.*—The combined ill effects of over-crowding, sedentary occupations and monotony of life are only too well known to those who have to pass the best part of their lives labouring in factories and crowded workrooms. The compulsory confinement weakens the general health and induces chronic constipation, indigestion, and various forms of skin diseases. Holloway's remedies are of priceless value to persons of this class, for they can be used without entailing loss of work, being purely vegetable in their composition, and consequently act without harshness on the most delicate system. The experience of more than forty years proves that no means surpass Holloway's remedies for curing bad legs, bad breasts, piles, and wounds of all kinds.

\* *Love's Widowhood, and other Poems.* By Alfred Austin. London : Macmillan & Co.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE choice of Sheriff for the next year has very worthily fallen on Mr. H. B. H. Turner, of Messrs. Turner Morrison & Co. In Madras, Mr. Hingginbotham has been given another term.

THE *Times* of Dec. 3 states that the India Council has finally accepted the agreement concluded between the Nizam, the Deccan Mining Company, and the Concessionaires. Watson pays the Company £150,000 sterling and receives in return deferred shares upon which he will receive no interest until five per cent. is paid on the original capital. The right to prospect for coal is extended to the end of 1891. The Nizam is to have the perpetual right to nominate one Director.

The Nizam accepts the agreement in discharge of all claims against Watson and his colleagues, with the exception of Abdul Huq.

THE following sensational news was received by the last mail from London :—

"A terrible discovery has been made of infamous practices in a private club in the West End, and nearly one hundred members, chiefly aristocrats, are implicated. Over thirty warrants were issued: but arrests were not made on the understanding that the offenders would quit the country, which was done. Several officers in the Army have been compelled in consequence to resign their commission. The list of offenders includes an earl, the heir to a dukedom; the son of another duke, whose brother some years ago lost his seat in Parliament through a similar discovery; a peer, several honourables and a parson. The newspapers have not touched on the subject save for a slight allusion to it; but the matter is at present all the talk in the West End, and has caused the greatest distress in many aristocratic families."

MEANWHILE, we learn by telegraph that the Earl of Euston is prosecuting Mr. Parke, editor of the *North London Press*. On the 26th November,

"the Earl of Euston was examined, and said that a man in Piccadilly gave him a card announcing that *poses plastiques* were being held in Cleveland Street where he went a first and only time. The door of the house he went to said that no *poses plastiques* were being held and then made certain abominable proposals, upon which Euston left the house immediately. He, the editor of the *North London Press*, has reserved his defence and been committed for trial, bail being accepted."

For Tania! On the morning of Wednesday, the 4th December of Grace 1889, the Bheel was off even in the blossoms of his sin, house'd, disappointed, unanel'd; reckoning made, but sent to his account all his imperfections on his head, on the scaffold. Some of his relatives were admitted to the scene of execution. They refused to receive the dead body on account of the ignominious death. So he resigned himself body and breath to the vengeance of the British Justice which, for a murder ten years ago, executed the actual perpetrator, subsequently sent to the Andamans two accomplices and sentenced others to lesser terms, and now again made Tania end his career on the gallows. Does the ancient murder now stand avenged? The Jew of the Play could not be more exacting. Even the *Pioneer* is shocked. It remarks :—"To go back over these sentences and condemn another accomplice, after so long an interval, to the extreme penalty of the law, strikes us as an extreme use, if not an abuse, of the tremendous powers with which the judicial administration has been armed for putting down a dangerous and contagious offence, but not for vengeance." The Royal Prince now touring in India may well be amazed at the dead order which British arms and administration have imposed on the country. Why then should the "Dacons" of Burma have any quarter at all?

THE Criminal Sessions opened on Wednesday under the presidency of Mr. Justice Norris. The first case taken up was that of the boy John Jackson—a new arrival—charged with forgery, theft, and receiving stolen property valued at £1,000. The prisoner pleaded guilty and his Lordship sentenced him to rigorous imprisonment for eighteen calendar months—a sentence, his lordship thought, not less than what he would pass upon any of Her Majesty's subjects of this country for such an offence. He trusted that he did not err on the side of leniency in passing the sentence.

The next was the Sooterkin's Lane shooting case. The Judge was not, as he said, unduly lenient, and mercifully treated the prisoner Thomas Lee Christie—a Volunteer—to 12 months' hard labor. He had pleaded guilty to attempting to murder two people—his wife Agnes and her grand-mother, Caroline Gore. His Lordship was disposed to treat the case as one of grievous hurt with a deadly weapon. The prisoner had returned home excited with drink, got hold of his rifle, loaded it with ball cartridge and fired at the two women in the passage. His Lordship did not think that the prisoner intended to do them any bodily harm or kill them.

For theft of Rs. 13-9-0 in a shop, Bhoobun Das Byragee—an old offender—who pleaded not guilty, was ordered 5 years' rigorous imprisonment.

Biddoo Bhooshun Ghose admitted having forged an application for the withdrawal of Rs. 50 from a Branch Post Office. His Lordship took time to consider the sentence, and the next day awarded the same punishment which he had the day before visited Jackson with.

Three more old offenders were sentenced to 5 years each, two to transportation for 10 years, and one to six months. The last wished that Justice Norris might be the Viceroy—apparently thinking he might do better in that office.

In a case of theft of Rs. 5, the Jury could not agree, being divided in the proportion of 5 to 4, the majority declaring in favor of the prisoner Jadoo Patro. His Lordship discharged the Jury, but, as the *Englishman* reports, "a sufficient number of persons not being present to form a new Jury, the old one was recalled, and his lordship re-read all the evidence for their benefit, when they returned an unanimous verdict of guilty. The prisoner was sentenced to three years' rigorous imprisonment."

THE Hindus of Rampore Beaulah are woefully distressed at the act of the Lascar, of a steam packet belonging to the India General Steam Navigation Company at anchor off the town, slaughtering a cow for food doubtless. The "horrible news," as a correspondent of the *Statesman* calls it, flew like wild-fire. There was a general hurrying to the bank as if some great accident on the river had happened. At length, the Hindu population converged to the premises of the Dharma Sabha, where a great meeting was organised at which there was much wailing and indignation. Many propositions were offered, of which the principal ones formulated and carried by general acclaim were the following :—

"1 that all Hindoos of this town must fast this night, 2 that no Hindoo should drink the water of the river to-night, 3 that no Hindoo should send or receive his goods by this steamer, 4 that no Hindoo should be a passenger in it."

THE *Calcutta Gazette* notifies the appointment of Baboo Amerendro Nath Chatterjee, B. L., as an Honorary Presidency Magistrate for the Town of Calcutta. He had been too long overlooked.

STILL at the Commissioners! On Thursday morning, in reminding the public of the municipal meeting of that afternoon, the *Indian Daily News* calls it a registration meeting by the Municipal Commissioners.

THE Governor-General in Council has, from the 7th December 1889, extended the whole of the Indian Salt Act, XII of 1882, excepting the portions thereof specified in the second paragraph of section 1, which are already in force, and section 31, to the Municipal Calcutta.

THE examination for admission to the Mechanical Apprentice Department of the Civil Engineering College, Seebpore, comes off on Monday and Tuesday, the 20th and 21st January 1890. Candidates must apply by the 10th January at the latest, and be of the age between 15 and 17 years. Before being admitted to the College every applicant will be medically examined, by the College Surgeon, as to his physical strength, fitness for manual labour, and eye-sight. There will be one vacancy on the free list for Christian apprentices in February next, and twenty-two on the reduced fee (Rs. 5 per mensem) list. For natives, at least two vacancies, possibly more, are expected on the reduced (Rs. 2) fee list. The patronage for filling up the vacancies rests with the Board of Visitors. Who are the Visitors? Do they visit the College? Or, leave everything to the Principal?



A CORRESPONDENT says that

"a vacancy has lately happened in the Jeypore Appellate Court by the promotion to a membership in the Jeypore Council of Baboo Mohindro Nath Sen, one of the judges of the Appellate Court, Jeypore."

THE Indian Press is full of Alcohol. The Teetotallers had hitherto the field all to themselves. But now the camp of Bacchus is up. The readers of the *Statesman* in especial had been quite sickened with the thin dilutions of the Rev. Mr. Evans and other doctors of the Water Cure. Acting on the principle of *audi alteram partem*, our contemporary, however, has opened its columns to a fair discussion, and the challenge has been accepted. Some excellent letters have appeared. One correspondent draws attention to an elaborate inquiry made not long ago by the leading society of medical investigators.

"The British Medical Association appointed a committee to inquire into the effects of drinking spirituous liquors, upon the duration of life, with a view to determine whether it retarded or promoted longevity. The committee, it seems, ascertained the ages at which some 4,234 people died, and classified them under five different heads, giving the average age attained by each class. I shall, with your permission, reproduce the figures placing them in an ascending scale so as to enable your readers to judge of the table at a glance:—

	Average age.	
	Years.	Days.
Total Abstainers ... ..	51	22
Decidedly Intemperate ... ..	53	3
Free Drinkers... ..	57	59
Careless Drinkers ... ..	59	67
Habitually Temperate Drinkers ... ..	63	13

This table is most instructive so far as it goes. It not only destroys the hypothesis of alcohol being a poison—for it would be a curious phenomenon if those who abstained altogether from poison were shorter-lived than those who used it even to excess—but it shows that its natural tendency is to *lengthen* life. Even the theory that spirituous liquors are good as physic only and not as food, is insufficient to account for the facts set forth in the above figures. If there is any meaning in them, and any reliance to be placed on statistics, they show that longevity is promoted by the regular and moderate use of alcohol."

That is startling, in all conscience. But the writer is far too able and honest to take unfair advantage of his facts.

THE same writer points out that

"the comparison is not made as between two classes merely, *viz.*, Total Abstainers and Drunkards; but that it embraces every grade of drinkers; and the truth holds all along the scale that while the misuse of liquor tends to shorten life, such shortening is due altogether to such misuse, varying with the degree in which it is misused; while *per contra* the habitual use of it in moderation promotes longevity. In a word, the table demonstrates that wine is useful not merely as physic but as food. When taken in moderation *with* our regular meals—not before or after, and in the way that a cup of tea or coffee is taken, in a fixed quantity *never exceeded*, it serves as an article of diet, as truly as the corn with which it is constantly associated in Holy Writ. The fact is that alcohol is one of the 'many things' which, according to Shakespeare, —

"By season, seasoned are,  
Unto their right praised and true perfection."

ANOTHER writer follows up. But we have space only for his postscript, which, as in a lady's autograph, is the most important. It contains his personal testimony.

"Those who have taken to alcohol early are the least affected by it. I am told that during the opening months of my existence I was not only given to alcoholic stimulants, but even batted in brandy and water, and I am at present I think a somewhat fair specimen of humanity."

The writer is evidently a hereditary European *Kool*

SIR Lepel Griffin was married on the 9th November to Miss Marie Elizabeth Leopold, at St. James's, Piccadilly. Immediately after the ceremony, Sir and Lady Griffin left for Paris for the honeymoon.

LAST Saturday, in the Byculla Police Office, Sir Charles Sargent, the Chief Justice of Bombay, unveiled, in the presence of many ladies and gentlemen, European and Native, the bust of the Police Commissioner the late Sir Frank Souter.

THE Sultan's presents to the German Emperor are valued at 40,000*l.* There was a sword of honour. The brooch for the Empress cost 540,000*l.* There were besides, beautiful shawls, silk stuffs and carpets. Count Herbert Bismarck too has had his share.

GOOD news of even a subjunctive kind is welcome. A Mr. Porter of Nottinghamshire has left Mr. Bradlaugh by will £1,000, if the sturdy

Atheist, who has surmounted so many difficulties in his rugged path, and outlived a hundred elaborate calumnies, can survive the testator's widow.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Viceroy's Levée comes off on Tuesday next at 9-30 P.M. The Drawing Room of the Viceroy and the Marchioness of Lansdowne has been fixed for next Friday at the same hour.

THE explorer Stanley, who was at one time given up for lost, has arrived at Zanzibar. Both he and Emin Pasha had reached Bagamoyo on the 4th instant. There a sad accident befell Emin. The cause has not been satisfactorily explained. It is reported that, owing to his defective eyesight, miscalculating the height of the parapet of the balcony of the house where he was staying from the ground, he walked out of the window and fell twenty feet. Blood oozed out from his ears and his body was terribly bruised. It is doubtful whether he will survive this fall, though these explorers are, in every sense, tenacious of life. In any case, both Stanley and Emin have secured immortality.

BABOO Nandalal Bose, who may be said to be the author of the new provision in the municipal law regarding assessment of residential houses, has not succeeded in his contention in the Small Cause Court, as to the interpretation of Section 122. The ground attached to his house has been let out and he contends that they, being so transferred, form no part of the house, at any rate, for purposes of assessment. The Chairman of the Corporation held that, not being separately numbered, the lands could not be separately assessed. The law says "the annual value of any house not built for letting purposes and not ordinarily let shall be 5 per cent. on the sum obtained by adding the estimated present cost of building the house less a reasonable amount to be deducted on account of depreciation, if any, to the estimated value of the land valued with the house as part of the same premises." The municipality has assessed the house, allowing for depreciation at 10 per cent., at Rs. 82,000. Eight biggahs of land attached to the house, have been valued at Rs. 51,000. The total therefore comes up to Rs. 1,33,000, and 7 per cent., the annual valuation for purposes of assessment of Rs. 6,650. Mr. Acworth, on behalf of the Baboo,

contended that the Chairman had proceeded on a wrong that he had separated the house from the land and estimated which the land might fetch if put up for sale in the market; had estimated the value of the land 'valued with the house,' and would probably have been much smaller, for to remove the house cut away the materials would cost a large sum of money; that from the house the land could only be assessed under the first part of the section upon its gross annual rental which could be shown to be very small, the land being actually let under a lease, and that as to the land the Chairman should be directed to assess it under the first clause of section 122 on the gross annual rent at which the land might reasonably be expected to let from year to year."

Mr. Dunne, on behalf of the Corporation, replied that—

"the words 'valued with the house as part of the same premises' were simply descriptive. They pointed to the land, the value of which, as part of the same premises with the house, it was sought to ascertain. That the object was to ascertain what capital the premises—house and land together—might reasonably be taken to represent for the purpose of imposing rates under section 101 upon the 'gross annual value' which, at 5 per cent. such capital would return."

The First Judge, Mr. G. Sance, is of opinion that—

"section 122 of the present Act II of 1888 clearly lays down two methods of assessment. First, upon 'land or houses built for letting purposes, or ordinarily let' the annual value of which can be readily ascertained—the assessment is to be on the gross annual value. Second, as to premises not ordinarily let, the annual value of which can *not* for that reason be readily ascertained, the annual value was to be arrived at by ascertaining what amount of capital at its market value, the 'premises,' house and land, might reasonably be taken to represent, and taking 5 per cent. on that capital. Under section 88 of the old Act IV of 1876, it was enacted: 'The Commissioners shall . . . impose upon all houses and land within the town the following annual rates which shall be calculated on the annual value of the said house and land.' But no method was provided by which the annual value of premises not readily ascertainable, because *not* ordinarily let, should be ascertained. That was the defect in the old Act which the new Act was intended to remedy. In the case of Nundo Lal Bose *vs.* the Corporation for the Town of Calcutta, I. L. R., 11, Cal. p. 275, the Assessor to the Commissioners thus described the principle upon which he had rated the premises 65, Bag Bazar Street (see page 279 of the Report). After stating that the house and premises in question form the joint-family dwelling house of the applicant, and that it is difficult to determine what is a reasonable rental for such houses,

which are built not with a view to letting, but for the residence and convenience of the owners, he goes on to say: 'In assessing the said premises No. 65, Bag Bazar Street, I estimated the total expenditure on building and land at Rs. 1,80,000, and assessed the gross annual rent at which the said house and premises might reasonably be expected to let from year to year at Rs. 4,800, being at the rate of 2½ per cent on the said sum of Rs. 1,80,000.' The Judges (Garth C.J., and Wilson J.) said (page 181): 'It is of course no part of our duty to say how such valuation should be made; but they held the method adopted for the purpose of ascertaining the annual value of the house and land was not within the powers of the Commissioners, and therefore illegal. It seems to me impossible to arrive at any other conclusion than that the Legislature intended to provide and legalise (as to premises the annual value of which is not readily ascertainable) a method of assessment which had been held to be illegal. The Assessor must arrive at the capital or market value of the premises, by adding the estimated present cost of building the house (less reasonable reduction for depreciation) to the estimated value of the land if put up for sale as part of the same premises with the house, or as the Act puts it, at the estimated value of the land valued with the house as part of the same premises.' Five per cent. on the capital so ascertained is to be taken as the gross annual value of the premises for the purpose of imposing rates. In my opinion, the assessment made on these premises by the Chairman follows in its method both the spirit and the letter of the law, and this appeal is therefore dismissed with costs.'

The Judge would have preferred, in the interest of the public, to make a reference to the High Court, but he did not find his way to it, for the Act gave him no power on that behalf.

In the mixed jungle of Indian Law and English Precedents, the disappointed suitor with an adequate purse may discover a technical way denied to the ingenious ingenuity of the Chief Judge of the Small Cause Court. If possible, the matter will be brought up before the High Court—though it be but to fill the pockets of the accommodating gentlemen of the long robe. And then Mr. Acworth, who complained, not without reason, that his argument was not accurately represented in the judgment, may have an opportunity of the hearing of a superior audience than he has yet obtained. The judgment is obviously disappointing. The case was a test case of great importance to the citizens of the metropolis. Baboo Nandlal Bose, in fighting for himself, is also fighting for his fellow-ratepayers. Such a judgment is clearly inadequate under the circumstances. Mr. Acworth raised a question of interpretation of the law of that section of the Municipal Consolidation Act (Sec. 122) by which an official legislature gave up the wealthy native citizens who live in their own houses, a so great a stake in the city, to slaughter for presuming to own fine houses. That question, with the nice distinction of counsel in the connection, was simply avoided in the sentence. In the bench as in the field, discretion is the virtue of valour.

Rakshas has come from the West. He is a German. His name is Dr. Selanka. He is exploring the forests of the Indian Archipelago and of other islands of the Indian Ocean in search of the "missing link" or proof to the contrary, namely, that there never was any link to miss, that in fact there is no affinity or connection whatever. Professor Selanka, in fact, is a Naturalist, who, having studied Darwinism at home, has come all the way to put it to the test of observation and facts. He has naturally been to those great equatorial islands, rich with the abundance of Tropical Nature, in the heart of whose wilds, while Charles Darwin was at it at home, putting together his experiences and collections of the scientific voyage of the *Beagle*, and crossing pigeons, to verify his immortal inspiration, another brother in science received the same revelation of the relations of the animal kingdom and indeed discovered that touch of Nature which makes the whole world kin. There, in the footsteps of the veteran Alfred Wallace, he has been prosecuting his researches. Dr. Selanka is a capital shot and a horrible butcher. In Java alone, he killed and dissected a thousand monkeys, besides no end of other animals. He is now come to the Land of the Rakshases of the East—the Lanka of the Indians and the Taprobane of classic Europe. Here he has been in Kandy, Newara Elyag, Ratnapura and Anuradhapura. Here too, doubtless, he has been doing execution worthy of Meghad himself among the Simian tribes which annoyed Ravana the Great. We leave him to the mercies of Hanuman the Great and of Rama in the next world.

EARLY last month, a native marriage took place at Colombo which was the talk of local society. To us on the Continent, it is worthy of notice for the evidence of cordiality subsisting between natives and Europeans which was given on the occasion. The bridegroom was Mr.

Tiruvilingam, Deputy Fiscal of Colombo, son of Mr. Hallock Mudelyar of the Custom House, Jaffna, and the bride, Miss Swarnam, daughter of Mr. Sankara Pillai, Banian to Messrs. Volkart Brothers. Mr. Pillai is a wealthy man and expended liberally. Sarna Villa, his residence near the Kachari, was the scene of much festivity for more than a week previous to the Monday on which the ceremony of uniting the gentleman and lady, called *tilit* in the Island, was held. The parties are Tamils and Hindus, and Sankar Pillai gave away his daughter to the young Mudelyar according to the sastras. On a subsequent evening, he gave a party to the European community. It was a Natch and supper at Sarna Villa which was fitted up for the occasion regardless of expense, in a style of gorgeous Oriental magnificence. The native music was much appreciated. The band of the Colombo Volunteers also played. Besides the dining and reception rooms, one room was set apart for the native ladies; in the midst of them the bride in blushing beauty was seated in state. The ladies of the clan Mudelyar mustered strong. There was Mrs. Rama Nathan, Mrs. Bristo and many others. Over them all presided the venerable mother of the lamented Sir Coomara Swamy. At 10 O'clock, the European and Christian guests, numbering over sixty, sat to an elegant supper.

THE papers are quoting from a small publication of Cassell & Co.'s an account of Scanderberg at the court of Amurath II., Sultan of the Turks. George Castriota, prince of Albania, born in 1414, was delivered as a hostage to the Turks by his father the King. He was remarkable for beauty, stature, and daring, and was a Hercules in strength, and withal most expert in athletics and military exercises. The most astonishing feats are reported of him, throwing into the shade those of the "fearless De Courcey," Lord of Ulster, of English history, and indeed all the performances in the profane records of all ages and countries. Thus, he came to receive the name of Iskander, the Oriental form of Alexander, whence Scanderberg. The most extraordinary virtues were naturally ascribed to the weapon he used, as to Arthur's Escalibur and to Roland's Durandar. Sultan Mahomet II. was foolish enough to request the hero for the present of his sword. With characteristic magnanimity, Scanderberg readily parted with his trusty blade. But it was of no use to anybody else. The Sultan was overjoyed at the gift. He lost no time to examine it, but was disappointed. It was nothing particular. He had many as good and not a few better. But there was no trusting appearances, so he set to try it. It then turned out to be a commonplace instrument. He saw no use in detaining such a useless object. Why should he be under obligation for so trumpery a gift? He returned it to its owner. Scanderberg received back his own with a smile, but he did not dismiss the bearer before he had astonished him with some extraordinary cutting performances with the weapon condemned by imperial wit. As the envoy was about to depart, the hero imparted to him the secret, for the behoof of his royal sovereign and master and his own liege. "Tell his Majesty the Sultan with my best complements," said he, "that though Iskanderberg had gladly sent him what his Majesty had asked for and what only he could give—his sword, the arm that alone could wield it to any purpose was left behind."

THE good Protestants of England are amusing themselves with the following piece of anecdote:—

"Maria Theresa of Austria was greatly addicted to gambling, and played for exceedingly high stakes. The court functionaries did all in their power to overcome this passion, but to no purpose. They finally appealed to the empress's confessor, who induced the imperial gamester not to give up cards, but to play for only a kreutzer a point. The cunning empress, however, ordered her jeweller to make her one hundred kreutzers in a peculiar manner, so that each one could be opened in the middle and a ducat inserted. The two pieces were put together, so that only the initiated knew that they were not what they seemed. Thus the empress kept the letter of the confessor's demand, and at the same time enjoyed the excitement in which she delighted."

That reminds us of the trick of 'cute Hindus on absolute fast on the Day of Siva deceiving the god by diving in their bath and drinking of the water below the surface. But there is no deceiving the gods, whether Hindu or other, as everybody with any sense knows. Frivolous-minded as women may be, they are all religious and sincerely pious. It is a libel on the sex to suppose that so excellent a woman as Theresa should, in her madness for gambling, trick her own confessor and trifle with Religion itself. If she went so desperately wrong, she would find herself deserted in her own Court. The story now exhumed is of a piece with the mass of scandal about Courts and aristocracy by *ex-valets* and *filles de chambre* and shady Persons

venues, the sanctioned amount of which stands at about 4 lacs yearly. Besides the Provincial grants, large sums have been assigned to certain Boards by the P. W. Department for the maintenance of provincial roads transferred to their charge.

It is a great advantage and no small relief to the Boards that the Road Cess, which is the main stay of the District Fund and which is levied at the rate of half-an-anna in the rupee on the gross rental, is realized by the Collectors of Districts and credited to the District Fund after deducting costs of collection. These Collectors being also the *ex-officio* Chairmen of the District Boards, this arrangement is only natural. Of the Road Cess, the resolution speaks hopefully "as a source of revenue which will expand slowly but strictly in consequence of the increase in the valuation which from time to time is effected in all districts. The normal increase is estimated to be Rs. 30,000 a year for the whole Province." The pounds and ferries were under the direct administration of the Boards, and the Lieutenant-Governor expresses himself as on the whole satisfied with their work in this respect, although, as in the executive administration of the finances in municipalities, marks of weakness are sometimes apparent. Successful revenue administration is the test of efficiency, and it is too early as yet to say how far these local bodies will be able to stand this test. Considering the large variety of objects to which the District Fund is devoted, it is always felt to be insufficient, and the question is often raised whether permanent additional grants should not be made by the Government to enable the Boards to cope with the increasing demands upon them. On this point, the present resolution contains a liberal, though necessarily guarded, expression of Sir Stuart Bayley's opinion. He says:—"If financial considerations permit of any additional permanent grants being made to District Boards, the Lieutenant Governor is satisfied that the transfer of ferry receipts [*i. e.*, the portion of them not made over to local bodies] is the best method of making them, and he will be glad, if it should be in his power hereafter, to assist the working of Local Self-Government organizations by conceding to them the whole of these receipts."

Turning to expenditure, the largest item is, of course, Public Works, and the next in importance is education. On these the major portion of the receipts was spent, namely, about 35 lacs on the former, and ten lacs and a half on the latter. The total expenditure under the head "Medical" is only about Rs. 20,000, and even this is a considerable improvement upon the expenditure in the previous year, which stood so low as about Rs. 8,000. The resolution makes an important observation on this subject:—

"It will be seen from this account that the responsibilities imposed and expenditure incurred by District Boards in regard to medical institutions are inconsiderable. An outlay of only Rs. 25,000 in Bengal is represented by more than two lakhs in Panjab and about three lakhs in Madras. Among other changes which may be contemplated in the administrative functions of local bodies in Bengal, it seems desirable that steps should be taken to assimilate their duties to those undertaken by similar bodies in other Provinces in the Medical Department. But if their powers are to be enlarged in this direction, the change must necessarily be accompanied by an increase in the resources placed at their disposal."

The Lieutenant-Governor is dissatisfied with the administration of the educational grants by District Boards. In many districts, the number of primary schools has decreased, owing, among other reasons, to the Boards' neglecting to expend the whole of the sums in their hands for the management of primary education. There has also been a disposition to favor middle schools at the expense of the primary

schools. Evidently, the most outrageous instance of neglect in this respect occurred in the Midnapore District. Here the District Board in a manner avenged their disappointment at the Government having refused to increase the grant from Provincial Revenues on account of ferries by "charging the whole anticipated loss of income to the grant for primary education." This is strongly condemned, and it was, indeed, as the resolution says, highly improper, instead of rateably distributing any retrenchments that were found to be necessary, to enforce the whole reduction on the one grant which it was the least desirable to reduce. Other districts are found to have made savings out of the allotments for primary education, instead of spending the whole of them, the total of such savings, as reported by the Director of Public Instruction, being no less than Rs. 70,000 in round numbers. Strict orders have been given for fully and properly expending the grant placed at the disposal of the Boards for primary education.

The position of the Deputy Inspector of Schools under the Local Self-Government Act is, as the Director of Public Instruction reports, apt to be anomalous and uncomfortable. His suggestions often meet with neglect at the hands of the District Boards, and, in consequence, he is not as much respected by managers and masters of schools as he used to be. The Director says: "Misunderstandings must necessarily arise. I have already referred to Mr. Bellet's opinion that the Deputy Inspector should be an official member of the District Board. This is probably the best solution of the problem, and this is the more necessary as the District Board obviously cannot devote much of its time to educational business." This proposal is accepted by the Government, and where Deputy Inspectors have not already been appointed members, they will now be at the first opportunity. District Boards are also enjoined to see that no friction arises between the Boards and the officers of the Education Department.

The friction between educational officers and the District Boards does not represent all the conflict of authority which interferes with the even working of the system. There are similar differences between the District and Local Boards in regard to the expenditure on roads. The Local Boards naturally claim larger allotments for village roads than the District Boards are willing to give, and much discontent is caused when these claims are not adequately responded to. General dissatisfaction consequently prevails in the rural areas with respect to the administration of the Road Cess Fund, towards which they have been contributing from the first. This dissatisfaction would be more accentuated if with the establishment of Union Committees in the villages, which it is now proposed to supply, larger assignments for village roads were not made. Sir George Campbell, while Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, issued a Proclamation, directing that a fair proportion of the proceeds of the Road Cess should be apportioned for the petty roads in the districts. Every taxpayer was thus to be encouraged and invited to claim that the tax should be fairly applied to the village roads and local paths and water channels in which he was interested. The object of this policy was to popularise the Cess, and although Sir Stuart Bayley adheres to the spirit of these orders, he is clearly of opinion that some modification of them is called for in their practical application. The Lieutenant-Governor's views are set forth with great force and clearness as follows: "It has been repeatedly declared

that it is very desirable to make a liberal allotment for the construction and repairs of village roads which is a matter of the first convenience not only to the influential residents, but to all the inhabitants of the villages affected. Road Cess Funds are to be expended for the benefit of the localities concerned, and nothing is more calculated to popularise the administration of this Department than to show the villagers who pay the tax that their local interests are not neglected. On the other hand, before village roads can be of much use, there must be a system of main arteries through the district, without which village roads will fail in their main purpose of connecting villages with larger markets. It is not right that an excessive proportion of the cess funds should be devoted to village roads—and what is an excessive proportion must be determined by the circumstances of each district—but it is desirable that the allotment should in all cases be as liberal as the circumstances will permit." The principles herein indicated are unexceptionable, and are characterised by thorough grasp of the question and equal regard for all interests concerned. These principles have now been acted upon in most districts, and what alone is complained of, is that in giving effect to them, system and organization have been unduly neglected, and Sir Steuart Bayley regrets that there is not more careful control over the expenditure on village roads than is now exercised over it. There is a proposal of scheduling the village roads, and it is also considered expedient that no village road should be undertaken except with the approval of the District Engineer, and that the execution of the work should be subject to his inspection and control.

In regard to sanitation, very little progress was made during the year, and, as in education, the sums which were provided for sanitary improvements were either not utilized at all or only partially expended. These results are considered to be very unsatisfactory, and strengthen the argument for the establishment of the Union Committees. "The importance of the village organization," as the Government of India observes, "is an essential element of success in sanitary improvements in rural areas," and Sir Steuart Bayley has called for the opinions of the Divisional Commissioners with a view to the early establishment of such an agency.

Passing over other heads of expenditure, which, judging from the expenditure incurred on them, do not call for any remarks, we conclude with quoting the Lieutenant-Governor's remarks on the general working of the scheme:—

"Upon the whole the Lieutenant-Governor considers that the results of the year's administration amply justify the remarks with which he closed last year's report. He then wrote:—'Sir Steuart Bayley's opinion is that when we have found in some instances considerable success, and in no instance failure; when we have to some extent awakened public interest and enlisted public spirit without impairing efficiency in administration; and when the majority of district officers are working in cordial sympathy with the local bodies, it may fairly be said that the first experience of the measure gives good promise of its satisfactory establishment.' The working of District Boards during the past year has not been devoid of blemishes: the defects have been pointed out in this review; but generally speaking it has been satisfactory. As a rule the interest taken by the members of a Board in its working is great: the attendance in many districts is creditable, and there is a praiseworthy desire to aim at successful administration. On the other hand, there are signs in some cases of timidity; in others of inexperience in the transaction of public business; in others of the undue subordination of public to private purposes; and in many instances there is an unwise tendency to excessive interference with the executive in professional questions. These defects are indeed not peculiar to District Boards in Bengal, but are inherent in every system of Local Self-Government in all countries. They are far more than compensated by the advantage of entrusting the management of local affairs into the hands of those who from the nature of the case are most permanently interested in its success. Local Self-Government in Bengal is still in its infancy and awaits development in all departments, but it promises well. What appears to be now chiefly needed is more

organization and opportunities for advice, encouragement, and, where necessary, supervision and control to be exercised by a higher authority with larger experience and observation of the working of Boards throughout the whole Province and in other Provinces of India than can now be supplied by Magistrates and Commissioners, who are absorbed in their own work of administration, and cannot discharge the functions which would properly devolve on a Central Board with an official President at its head. It is impossible for the Lieutenant-Governor to directly undertake these duties, and he apprehends that the constitution of such a Board of control as was originally contemplated when the scheme of Local Self-Government was first introduced into Bengal will soon become an administrative necessity. The resources of District Boards call for further development; their assets are at present altogether insufficient to meet the responsibilities which properly devolve on such bodies, and are fulfilled by District Boards in other parts of India. The administration of Public Works, of Education, and especially of the Sanitary Department calls for more direct supervision and guidance than the Local Government is able to give, and if Local Self-Government in Bengal is to receive its proper expansion, it will, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, be necessary to supplement the district working of local bodies with the assistance and support and capacity for organization which a central authority with leisure and ability for such a task will alone be in a position to afford."

The Local Self-Government Board is likely soon to be established as the controlling authority over the District and Municipal Committees in the Province. A Sanitary Board has already been appointed, consisting of the Junior Member of the Board of Revenue, the Sanitary Commissioner, and an official Engineer. Union Committees are about to be supplied as the unit of Local Self-Government in the districts. The establishment of a Local Self-Government Board is intended to make the machinery complete by itself, and whatever objections to the measure may exist on the score of the additional expense it will involve, it cannot be doubted that it will supply one valuable element of success in the administration which is now wanting under the control now exercised by District Officer, namely, unity of principles and of organization as applied to all districts and municipalities.

#### THE WILL OF THE LATE NAWAB SIR EKBAL-UD-DAULA, G. C. S. I.

[A Translation.]  
[Concluded from p. 550.]

During the rule of Najib Pasha, I built an underground hall in the rawak (corridor) of the Bakai Sheerif at Kazimain exclusively with my own money, and my son and wife are buried in it, and my men and servants are appointed for illuminating and sweeping it. When Suraija Begum died, I simply for the sake of my friendship with Ahmad Agha and Suraija Begum reluctantly consented to Suraija Begum being buried in that place, namely, the said underground hall. After me, no one shall be allowed to be buried in the said underground hall, and my agents shall not allow any one to be interred there. The Resident shall take charge of this and see that no one else is interred there. The arrangements made by me in respect of servants and illumination shall continue after me.

My tomb and all the furniture, fittings, appurtenances and paraphernalia of my tomb shall be as of Kings as to illumination with European candles, cheerags, lamps, gas, naphtha, and hangings, pendants, ottos, incenses, rose-water, *keorab*, *farash*, servants, readers, sweepers, readers of the Koran, water carriers, supervisors, head servant especially appointed to look after my tomb, &c., &c. These things should be to a proper extent, rather, a little more. Coffee, hooka, sherbet, tea, cigarettes, rose-water and Arak-i-bahar shall be given to persons frequenting and visiting my tomb and reading Fatiha there, as in my life time. These arrangements, &c., and these large endowments are made simply and especially for this that my tomb may for ever be ornamented and look grand like the tombs of kings, that all the expenses connected with my tomb be made liberally and profusely and that the fame of my tomb may last and continue in this world like the fame of my name, and that my tomb may not look like the grave of poor men and uncared for as the graves in a common burial ground. I am very fond of decoration and ornamentation of a grave and of respect shown to the dead. It is for this reason and with this intention that I have made a vast endowment for my tomb. I hope that my agents, executors (*awsia*), servants and friends will not make themselves accountable (conscience-burdened as) to me. They shall try and spend as much as they can for the preservation and decoration of my tomb. The Resident at Bagdad ought to allow, carry out and approve of this. Let him not fall short in this particular; because I have made vast endowments and this simply for the sake and service of my tomb. I am desirous that the fame of my tomb and my name ~~shall~~ <sup>shall</sup> be

of Quality for which there used to be such demand with the Bentleys and Colburns, and the rage for which is far from extinct.

CAPTAIN Hearsey has made another sortie on the *Pioneer*. Taking advantage of the presence of Mr. Allen in Calcutta, on Wednesday, he made an application to the Chief Magistrate for summons against him. Mr. Marsden enquired if he was in a better position than when he obtained summonses against Mr. Chesney and Mr. Dare. Mr. Rose, on behalf of the Captain, replied he was, inasmuch as it was in evidence in the Howrah prosecution that Mr. Allen was the writer of the article complained against, and there was fresh proof of publication in Calcutta and by Mr. Allen at the Dalhousie Institute. Mr. Marsden next enquired why there was delay in the present application. Mr. Rose explained that the fresh evidence was discovered only a fortnight ago and that his client would not rush to Court without taking advice. It then struck the Magistrate that he had heard that Mr. Allen was to have left Calcutta by the preceding night's mail, and advised Mr. Rose to enquire and renew his application. Mr. Allen had left the same night, and the application was renewed yesterday. Mr. Marsden, without calling for any evidence, at once granted the summons on charges of defamation and abetment of same.

There is no peace for the *Pioneer*. It may deaden its conscience against remorse for having wronged an unoffending man. But

The law's long howl from *Bhagirati's* shores will continually knock at the prison-bars of its sleeping soul and wake it to a sense of its conduct. The situation is come to this. Either the offending journal must make peace with the Captain or the Captain must have justice. The *Pioneer* has not at all behaved in a straightforward British fashion, and it has caught a veritable Tartar.

THE *Pioneer's* pride is by no means generous. Besides its influence in official circles, the journal sticks out in reliance on its long purse and Captain Hearsey's very short one with a hole in it. It has failed to scare him away from attacking it by the difficulties of such an enterprise. If justice was not to be had at Allahabad or anywhere in Upper India, he came down all the way to Calcutta in quest of it. He is no nearer attainment of his object. The *Pioneer* now hopes to ruin him by delay on frivolous pretexts, without allowing an investigation into the merits. Under such circumstances, Captain Hearsey is truly an object of public sympathy. We are glad to see that a subscription is already afoot, which noblemen and gentlemen like the Maharaja of Nuddea and Sirdar Dyal Singh Majithia of the Panjab, Kumar Binoy Krishna, Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, Baboo Doorga Mohan Dass and Baboo Gonesh Chunder Chunder have readily joined. We hope others will come forward with equal alacrity. The cause is one that appeals to the sympathy of all right-souled men of all classes and nationalities.

THE following paragraph is making the round of the world :—

"This remark of John Newton deserves to be written on the tablet of every heart. 'I see in the world,' he observes, 'two heaps—one of human happiness, one of human misery. Now, if I can take but the smallest bit from the second heap and add to the first, I carry a point. If as I go home, a child has dropped a half-penny, and if by giving it another I can wipe away its tears, I feel that I have done something. I should be glad, indeed, to do great things, but I will not neglect such little ones as this.' These little things are what we all can do and should."

That is unquestionably a good and true sentiment worthy of every well-regulated mind and humble heart. Great things are best, to be sure, and we ought to aim at them if practicable, and within our powers and opportunities. But, in the meantime, let us do our duty and attend to the small things in our way. These particularly appeal to us as more suited to our capacities and means. The great might well be left to accomplish great objects.

But the quotation from John Newton has small value as an apothegm; indeed, it is spoiled by a dull introduction. A single line of the Poet who "talked like poor Poll" is worth the whole passage of the reverend preacher, and far more memorable, to wit—

These little things are great to little man.

Though written on a particular occasion, it is capable of endless applications.

There is a sentence of Jean Paul Richter's to the same purport. "We ought," says the sublime Humourist, "to value little joys more than great ones; the night-gown more than the dress-coat; ...Plutus's heaps are worthless than his handbills, the plum than the penny for a rainy day; ...not great but little heaps can make us happy."

It is to be regretted that yesterday's meeting at the Town Hall in connection with the royal visitor, had an inglorious ending. It was a goodly gathering of the highest and the youngest in the town—of the Lieutenant-Governor, members of both the Councils, Judges of the High Court, merchants, traders, independent gentlemen, titled and untitled, merchants' clerks, schoolmasters and schoolboys. The place of honor was, of course, given to His Honor, but the proceedings did not end honorably. The first Resolution was moved by Maharaja Sir Jotindromohun Tagore and seconded by Sir Alexander Wilson, and runs thus—

"That this Meeting is of opinion that a public welcome on the part of the inhabitants generally of this city should be accorded to His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor on the occasion of his visit to Calcutta." It was carried *nem con.*

The second Resolution detailing the manner of the reception was moved by the Chief Justice Sir William Comer Petheram and seconded by Raja Durga Churn Law. It was in these words :

"That in order to carry out the purpose of the Resolution just passed a Committee, with power to add to their number, be formed of the noblemen and gentlemen named below (the list is too long for reproduction here) to call for subscriptions with which to provide a suitable reception of His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor, such reception to consist of a public welcome at Prinsep's Ghat and of an Evening Entertainment to be offered to His Royal Highness at the Rink, and to include as many kinds of native amusements as the Committee shall find it convenient to offer. Further, in the event of any surplus of subscriptions remaining in the hands of the Committee, such surplus shall be applied in such a way as a majority of the subscribers in meeting assembled shall decide."

This Resolution was not put to the meeting and of course not carried. An amendment moved by Orator Surrender Not was carried by a majority. The terms of the amendment are

"That in lieu of the public entertainment at the Rink the bulk of the subscriptions be devoted to the endowment of some institution to be determined upon by the Committee which will bear the name of H. R. H. Prince Albert Victor and be a permanent memorial of his visit to Calcutta."

The amendment has no force of its own independent of the Resolution of which it was a corrective, and is not complete in itself for independent working. The amendment therefore falls dead as also any programme for welcoming the Prince in Calcutta. The metropolis is resolved to accord a public welcome, but it is left to each of the inhabitants to do so in the way he thinks best and convenient to himself. Virtually, there will be no reception of the Prince. Such is the wisdom of Calcutta in public meeting of the best and the bravest assembled.

Orator Surrender Not is the hero of the hour, and Sir Stuart Bayley has won the admiration of Surrender Not and his cohorts. Praise is indeed due to Sir Stuart for allowing, unlike one of his predecessors, the amendment to be moved and putting it to the meeting when seconded, and then declaring it carried when the show of hands preponderated in its favor. But he exhausted himself with that feat and closed the meeting without bringing it to a legitimate close. He did not even wait for the vote of thanks, which was in the programme of the evening. He was in no mood to receive it, or else it would have been vociferously carried by the same show of hands without heads that decided the fate of the second resolution. Doubtless, Sir Stuart left the Hall with a firmer faith in Surrender Not. But will he smile again?

The Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation has his reward and his revenge. His reward for the pains he took to induce Sir Rivers Thompson, much against that Lieutenant-Governor's judgment, to introduce the dismissed native Civilian to the bench of Presidency Magistrates. His revenge on the Chamber of Commerce which refused to join the Municipal Committee to concert measures for the fitting reception of the Prince. The Chamber wanted to act independently of the Corporation, and the Chairman who had before gone the length of asking the Commissioners to sanction Rs. 10,000 for entertaining the royal visitor, now determined that there should be no entertainment, and the public meeting has voted no entertainment. Last, not least, the Orator has his revenge on the race that blighted his career as a Covenanted Civil Servant.

It was a mistake for Sir Stuart to have strayed out of Belvedere to the perilous position of chairman of a public meeting on a ceremonial subject which the passions of the people had converted into a bone of contention. It is always hazardous for a ruler to descend to the political arena. It was clearly so, for our good Lieutenant-Governor, at a time when the demonstrations of and about the Congress, itself initiated



and encouraged by Europeans, have shaken the balance of faculties of our countrymen. It was specially so for him to accept the lead of a meeting born in dissension as it were, ill-planned, arising out of hole and corner proceedings. We detected the original sin in our last. He as well as the promoters ought at least to have guarded against a surprise. The Chamber and the British Indian Association ought to have been warned by the incidents of the Dufferin meeting. No precautions were taken, and the boys of all Surrender Not's schools were freely let in. Even then there was not a soul to discern what was in store. The meeting might easily have been adjourned. There was ample ground for such a step. The Chairman ought certainly to have left the meeting when he could not control it, instead of demeaning himself to seek the assistance of the author of the mischief, Surrender Not, to maintain some show of order among his rowdy schoolboys and his school-master *chaghers*. When the promoters had incurred the whole risk there was still a way of escape, but none of the assembled powers and notables had the nerve for the emergency. In one respect, they were rightly served for their isolation from the people and their love of sycophants, to the neglect of men of brains who can really help them.

As for Surrender Not, he is only a verbal hydrant for anybody to tap, but he is always a demagogue living on mob applause. He would not jump into the sea in an enthusiasm of letters and philosophy, but he is quite up to burning the temple for a cheap immortality. So for a barren triumph he has not scrupled to disgrace his city and his country, and to damage the best interests of his countrymen, by forcibly dragging his fellow-citizens through the mire and, above all, foisting on the nation the gratuitous stigma of a stupid disloyalty and the blackest ingratitude to a distant people and a dynasty to which they owe so much and from which they yet expect not a little. Alas! — the pity of it, Iago! O, Iago! the pity of it, Iago!

There was only one man who came to the rescue, who rose to the height of the occasion. That was Mr. R. D. Metha. He not only spoke sense and showed judgment, but he ruled the meeting and, by sheer presence of mind and pluck, obtained a hearing. It was a hopeless effort. The enemy had come prepared in sufficient force, and they had been there and then repeatedly commanded — without protest — to "vote solid." And Baboo Koonjo Lal Banerjee's ill-judged speech had given them an excuse for indignation.

DR. Sincar was right, after all. On the occasion of the last illness, he declared that the Hon'ble Romesh Chunder Mitter's health would not allow him to continue discharging his onerous and exacting duties. The patient, however, had confidence in his constitution and its recuperating powers. So he struggled bravely, but the fight could not be long maintained. Mr. Justice Mitter has again fallen ill, and, this time taking the hint, retires from the Bench with the commencement of the new year. There have been, from time to time, so many anticipatory announcements without any foundation, made evidently by those who feed on vacancies or at least are given to speculating on places and promotions, that we deem it right to say that this time the news is no mere child of Wish. At the end of last week, the *Puisne* informed the Chief Justice and "sent in his papers," and these have gone up to Government from the High Court on Monday.

The Hon'ble Romesh Chunder Mitter is the only Native Judge who has been able to complete the term for pension. An able and upright, though not a brilliant, Judge, his retirement makes a gap indeed in the High Court Bench. Calm and sedate, he gave valuable assistance to his colleagues and satisfaction to the profession and the public. A native of the soil, he was patriotic, without being political.

The Pleaders of the High Court have already recorded their regret at his retirement and their high appreciation of him as a Judge.

Such an eminent and successful public servant, a native Judge of the High Court who for sometime officiated as Chief Justice, will not, we feel, be allowed to sink into a private station without a proper recognition from Government. In the old Supreme Court, he would have been knighted at his stepping into the Bench.

THE next question is as to his successor. After a succession of Hindus, the time has unquestionably come for a Mahomedan. The Mahomedans will certainly get the place if they can only find the man. As in the case of the first Hindu Judge of the High Court, the first Mahomedan Judge will be an experiment. It seems too late in the day to say that there is no Mahomedan practicing in the Courts or in the subordinate judicial service fit enough to be tried. There is

at least a senior Vakeel who is a real Arabic scholar, thoroughly versed in the mysteries of the Law of Islam, with a knowledge of both the Bengal and Behar Schools and of the English tongue. If, nevertheless, the Judges should be averse to have a Mahomedan for a brother on the Bench, there is no difficulty to find a Hindu. One gentleman stands by general consent prominent at the head of the profession who would supply that element of strength to the Bench which it will lose by the retirement of Mr. Mitter.

Of course, the selection will be confined to the Pleaders and Sub-Judges. That is matter of law and authoritative ruling. In common parlance we speak of "native Judges" and the phrase creeps even into official documents. But by the terms of the Charter, at least two-thirds of the Judges were to be barristers of a certain standing and an equal proportion to be members of the Indian Civil Service in the judicial branch of a certain standing. The rest were to be from uncovenanted Judges and Pleaders—who are mostly natives. As the last provision was an experiment, no proportion was fixed. The late Public Service Commission recommended that, the experiment having proved successful beyond the most sanguine expectations, it was time that the native proportion too were fixed at the same rate. And so it has been, the Secretary of State having accepted the Commission's recommendation and directed accordingly. That shuts out intriguing barristers practicing in Bengal or in any other Province from forcing entrance, on the whining plea of being a native. A barrister, be he native or European, can get in only as a barrister.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1889.

### LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

THE District and Local Boards constituted under the new Local Self-Government Act have now been at work for more than three years. The first review of their operations published by the Government of Bengal, embraced a period of 18 months beginning from October 1886 when the system was first started, and naturally dealt with the measures which had been taken for the introduction of Local Self-Government in these Provinces. Another resolution has now been published which reviews the working of these Boards during the last official year.

There are now District Boards in 38 districts, while the number of Local Boards which are at the headquarters of sub-divisions is 106. The interest shown by the members, judged by the test of attendance, was not in all cases as it should be. This was particularly the case with the Local Boards at which the attendance was indifferent, and in most cases below 50 per cent. The members of some Local Boards complain of not receiving travelling allowance like members of District Boards when attending meetings, but the two cases stand on a different footing. While members of a District Board live often at a considerable distance from the district headquarters, members of Local Boards, as a rule, live in the vicinity of the sub-divisional headquarters where such Boards meet, and the excuse alleged for non-attendance is, therefore, deemed unsatisfactory.

Local Boards are by law to exercise only such executive functions as may be made over to them by the District Boards. In most districts, however, they have been entrusted with the administration of the grants for village roads, pounds, ferries, and primary education.

The total income at the disposal of the District Boards in the year 1888-89 was about 56 lacs of rupees, of which the balance of the District Road Cess Fund, after deducting all costs of collection, is, of course, the principal asset. This alone amounted to 41 lacs of rupees, the remaining important sources of revenue being pounds and ferries bringing about 4 lacs and a half each, and grants from Provincial Re-



death may be greater than the fame of my name when alive, and that it may appear from the fittings of my tomb as if I am not dead but alive and asleep.

I have many money claims on men of whom some are dead and some are alive. I have torn most of the papers and documents executed by them. After me, no one shall demand anything from them, because I shall depart and it will be bad to make claim on them and their heirs. Of my debtors who are dead, Agha Michail is one on whom I have a large claim and I waive it in his favor. His house which has been purchased by Safia Khanam has been completed wholly and entirely through my aid. She took loan from me and has not repaid it. It should not be recovered from her. I waived it in her favor in her lifetime as well as after her death.

Inasmuch as I have entrusted my affairs to the Resident at Bagdad, I hope that he himself would render reasonable and proper assistance in a friendly and generous manner and with heart and tongue to my agents and executors who are Abul Hasan, Khizr, Nawab Mahomed Hassain and Aga Mahomed. Again the Resident should aid and assist in appointing permanently Nawab Mahomed Hassain Khan and Aga Mahomed and his other brothers to perform the work of distribution of *zakat*, because the Resident entertains the same opinion as I do as to the integrity and honesty of Nawab Mahomed Hassain Khan and his children. From the day the work of distribution was entrusted to me, thank God, I had had no hand in it, as I entrusted the said Nawab with the work as my deputy and agent, and he also performed it with integrity. The only thing I hope and expect of the *amla* and officers (*amla wa abli dattar*) of the Residency is that they shall exert themselves to perform the work to be done after my life is gone, (*i. e.*) when I am dead, in the same way as they used to do during my lifetime, rather more, that they shall assist my agents and executors, that they shall fight with my enemies and persons who are hostile to me, and that they shall not covet or hope to get anything from them as they did on several occasions, a fact which is known to themselves. It looks bad on my part to put down their names and give any detail.

If my female and male servants steal after my death the cash and the things belonging to me, the Resident at Bagdad shall take those back from them by force, threats, rebukes and reprimands; because a vast amount of money in cash, and things innumerable are in their custody, and it is not far from them if they steal, for such is the rule of the world and especially in the East. They (the said things) shall in every way be taken back from them. Whoever from among my male servants would do so after my death, shall not be included in the category of my servants. He shall be turned out for his life time and for ever; because there can be no worse act of dishonesty and treachery than this.

In case any of my female and male servants kill me by administering poison, the Resident at Bagdad shall instantly take his or her life in revenge. He shall not give him or her opportunity and time to slip and to argue *i. e.*, for tedious legal proceedings. If the Resident be in a helpless position owing to the Osmanli rule, he shall send an account of it to India, so that his or her life may be taken in revenge without partiality and regard for any one. If in this conflict there be fear of my name being disgraced, the Resident shall remain quiet and shut his eyes and leave the matter to God, because I know what proceedings were taken by the Resident in the case of the murder of Milne, and the death of Milne remained unavenged, notwithstanding that his murderer was plainly and clearly known and was forthcoming. In such cases silence is preferable. Let us go into Jehannam and our blood be on the winds.

If any one claim any debt from me it shall be considered false. I am not indebted to people; on the other hand, people are indebted to me. If any one shall bring any forged paper bearing my seal and signature it shall be considered false. Whenever, during my life time, I have written to any one in Arabic, Persian or Hindce, I have written in my own hand and I have affixed my seal also to some of them when necessary. My seal shall be considered useless and valueless. The correctness depends on my handwriting.

A paper in my handwriting is with Ahmed Aga, and it is now useless. I wrote him that paper and it was valid when he was Vice-consul of the Resident. The reason why I had written him was that inasmuch as he was the Vice-consul he would assist and aid in carrying out the provisions of my will in the Residency. After he has been removed from the post of Vice-consul, the said writing of mine is not fit to be relied upon and is of no weight. When the condition is gone, the thing too for which the condition was laid is gone.

The Resident at Bagdad shall make several copies of the original pamphlet which is in my own handwriting. He shall keep a copy in his office, give another copy to Aboul Hasan, Khazr, Nawab

Mahomed Hassain and Aga Mahomed, and send one copy to the Governor-General in Calcutta, another to the Government agent, Benares, and another to the Comptroller-General. He shall try in all places to make them act according to my writing and approve of it, because I have written it in a sound state of body and mind and in perfect exercise of the senses, reason, understanding, intelligence, and intellect, and in a wise, just and careful manner. I am the owner of all my cash and things which are lawful and exclusive property of mine, and I have made this just distribution in respect of my property, both in Arabia and in India. Let it commend itself to every wise and able man and justice-loving authority.

I have long entertained a wish that, should God give me more power and wealth, to raise a defence and wall around Kazimain as in Samarra. I could not however do this. In the first place, I could not manage to perform this work and mix with workers and common people, and in the second place I was led to think, after deliberation, that perhaps my fund would not be sufficient and I shall have to repent for it at the end. Notwithstanding this, if the Resident, Abul Hassain, Khizr, Nawab Mahomed Hassain Khan and Aga Mahomed agree, concur, and be of one and the same opinion in this, and if they can do it easily and think that they will be able to meet the expenses, let them begin, and put down my name at the head of the gate, otherwise they shall not; God does not give any one trouble but to the extent he can bear. The design is the accomplishment of the end. God knows what passes in ones mind and heart. I shall, God willing, be rewarded, but a reward not deserving (unperformed act). This work is not easy and simple. It requires labor. One shall have even to fight with (Ottoman) and argue much. But there is also the saying:—The man cuts mountains. Let my agents and executors work if they can, and not to do it if they cannot. money would not cover the work and suffice for it, or the some obstacles which may prevent the execution of this. This work is done with wisdom, courage, honesty and easy; but this is difficult. This work can be done by homed Hassain Khan, his children and his wife, thick and thin with every one and what is bad, but, withal, the world and vexations. The *amla* and the *scoundrels*, who take out one's life blood, sorts of tricks, fraud and dishonesty, considerations that I did not dare to take knew the people. I now leave it to my

My brother Amin-ud-Doulah decessed a foolish act during his life time in, Ben given the dwelling house of my deceased by the side of the tank of Ram Rai, a in which I am a large partner, to a Hi permission and knowledge, and without Mahajun has appropriated the said house without my knowledge and permission. That house by reason of being the dwelling house of my grandmother is revered by me as a mosque, place of worship and a sanctuary. I appeal to and request the British Government at Benares that, out of justice and impartiality, it may restore the said house to me, and make it over to all the four persons abovenamed, namely, Nazim Mirza, Fakhruddowlah, Akbar Khan and Askar Khan, and enjoin them to allow it to stand for ever as it is, without being let, and keep it in lamp and light. The said Mahajun deserves to be punished and fined because, notwithstanding that he knew that all the property of my father and mother are owned by me and my brother and that I was absent from my native country and was living at Bagdad, the Mahajun was an ass and fool to ignore me and take the joint house from one person without my permission. If the said Mahajun contend that he has spent money on account of the said house, he in the first place eats dirt and in the second place his punishment and fine ought to be this—that (the Government) shall immediately take the house out of his possession and make it over to the four persons named above.

That Mahajun is legally guilty in the eyes of the British Government because he clandestinely took my house from Aminudowlah without my permission and knowledge. Aminudowlah had no sound understanding. If he had, how was it that, although not in want and a man of wealth and influence, he consented to make over the dwelling house of his grandmother who is held in great reverence by us, to a Mahajun belonging to a different caste, and professing a different religion, owing to which Kaaba (Shrine at Mecca) became a place of idolatry. If the money spent by the Mahajun be a small amount and the justice of British Government allows it, his expenses shall be paid out of the principal amount or the interest of my promissory notes which are kept in deposit in the office of the Comptroller-General at Calcutta, and the house shall be made over to all my four men. It is painful and disagreeable to me that the house of my grandmother would by means of dishonesty be the abode of the Mahajun. It is to be regretted that such oppression, highhandedness and unaccountable acts

ake place in British territory, and that there is no one to question who is this scoundrel of a Mahajan whose father is burnt and whose wife is a prostitute, who appropriated and took possession of my house without my permission and knowledge. He has turned Kaaba into a place of idolatry. The scoundrel had no thought whatever of this day. I several times wanted to bring a suit against him, but I was afraid of the consequence of judicial proceedings and the freaks of the court amla. My numerous travels in foreign countries also allowed me no time.

I have endowed the tombs of my father and mother situate in Calcutta and Benares with my property at Durga Kund and Sekrol and at other places in Benares, Hindoostan. I entrust the supervision thereof to Nazim Mirza, Jani Sahib *alias* Fukurudowlah, son of Nazimudowlah, and Akbar Khan and Askar Khan, sons of Mirza Jan, son of Nazimudowlah, who shall, in agreement with, and with the advice of, one another, repair the said two tombs and defray the expenses connected therewith, with the rent of the said property and appoint amin, servants, keepers and readers for each place. They shall make perfect arrangements for illumination and lighting cherags with liberality and profuseness. If the income arising from the property does not suffice, they shall take the interest due on the promissory notes which are now kept in deposit in the office of the Comptroller-General at Calcutta and which were formerly in the Bank of Bombay. The Comptroller-General shall not hesitate and delay to pay such portion of the interest as may be required for defraying the expenses of the said two tombs, because they are all my lawful exclusive and individual property, which are kept in deposit with him. Although the said promissory notes have not been renewed in my name, they are in reality and in fact my lawful exclusive and individual property, being my share of my maternal property. The one for ten thousand Rupees was purchased in the name of Fukurud Dowlah by money by my wife Chand Begum, as my agent when I was in India. The promissory notes standing in the name of my father and mother are my exclusive property, having to my share by division. Inasmuch as I was absent from and far from my native land, those notes remained in the hands of my father and mother. My other brothers who were co-heirs with me and were in my native country, those notes which fell to their share and which stood in the names of my father and mother renewed in their own names. My notes have remained as they were in the names of my father and mother and have not been renewed in my name. My life to an end in a foreign country. None of my property at Durgakund and other places shall be sold. My main and stand in their places as they are. The expenses may be incurred in connection with the tombs of my father and mother at Calcutta and Benares for illumination, readers, gardeners, &c., &c., shall for ever continue to be made; and I expect the said four persons to fix the scale of the said expenses without slightest lightness of hand or heart.

I make a wakf of the interest of the said promissory notes for the legitimate male issue of my brothers, that is, for them who may be penniless and in want. I leave the supervision and power of distribution thereof in the hands of Nazim Mirza, Fukurudowlah, Akbar Khan and Askar Khan; so that they may give as much as they think proper to those whom they know to be in need and want. If the rent of my property do not suffice for the repairs and expenses of the tombs of my father and mother, they shall spend as much as necessary out of the said interest of the said promissory notes. The promissory notes shall for ever remain in the office of the Comptroller-General in Calcutta. The interest thereof shall go towards the expense of the tombs of my father and mother, and the expenses of the legitimate issue of my brothers. Only those shall be considered to be the legitimate issue of my brothers whom my brothers had during their lifetime acknowledged and recognised as legitimate. This money shall be unlawful for the females of this family but (lawful) for males and they also should be legitimate.

Baboo Ramanath Biswas or Radhanath Biswas who is the manager and Moktear of my property at Benares is a thief and a treacherous, deceitful, dishonest and artful man. He has eaten and taken the whole of the income of my said property. He sent no portion of it to me. I have been unable to expel him and demand accounts from him because I know that the practices in vogue in British Courts cause confusion and are the origin of corruption, mischief, and delay. The British Government shall after me take away all my said property from the hands of the said cursed and perfidious Baboo and make them over to Nazim Mirza, Fukurud Dowlah, Akbar Khan and Askar Khan. It lies in my mouth to say, that thousands and lacs of Rupees of mine have gone down into the stomach of that Baboo and his brother and been digested by them, and I, through fear (of the irregularities) of the Court could not utter anything. That man is a great rogue, rascal, thief and scoundrel and a worthless fellow. He shall at once be dismissed. The abovenamed four persons can demand accounts from him and bring him into Court or pardon him and shut

their eyes. It is better they pardon him as I have done; for the Baboo is a bad, cursed man and the procedure of British Courts is bad; the wronged, the seekers of redress are captives of the paw of the Court officials, and business goes on by bribery not to be counted or described.

If any of the legitimate or illegitimate descendants of my brothers come to Arabia and claim my property, tomb, cash, and things that are in Arabia, from the servants, Head servant and agent, it shall be wrong and like eating of dirt, and shall not be admitted and entertained by any Court and officer. I have divided the whole of my property and cash in Arabia and India into two parts. I have made an endowment of those that are in Arabia for my tomb and my servants, and of those that are in India for the tomb of my father and mother and legitimate male issue of my brothers. Every one shall remain contented and pleased with and thankful for the share allotted to him. I have done this simply out of my generosity; otherwise, had there been any other person in my place he would have forgotten the said legitimate issue and the tombs of his father and mother and would not have given a single *para* to the issue of his brothers. Notwithstanding I had met with evil from my brothers, I have done good towards their children. Let them pray for my soul; because I have not been forgetful and a slave of my passion. I have not spent my money in evil and immoral paths. I have not given it to strangers and outsiders. I have not taken and kept any concubine. I have not adopted any child nor brought up wife's daughter by another husband. I have not passed my life in idleness and amusements. I have not done any mean act. God has not disgraced my name, has brought my life to an end with goodness, protected and helped me at every place, and graced me with pomp and dignity in foreign land so much so that Kings envied me. The Resident at Bagdad and the Government of India shall by no means object and hesitate to put into execution and carry out the above provisions (of the Will). They shall be approved of and given effect to by them. I was the master of my own mind and property. I have done what I thought proper and advisable. I have not acted improperly and wrongly. I have not left unprovided any relative of mine either dead or alive. In this matter there has been no man more wise or just than myself, as I have been mindful of all. God is my support. He will help me in my work after my death also, in the same manner as he has helped me in my life. My heart and intentions were pure; because I never wished ill of any one nor I coveted any one's property.

If any one shall, after me, claim to be my wife and heir in order to get property, it shall be false and invalid. I took only one wife in my life and she was daughter of the son of Tipoo Sultan, may paradise be his abode! She bore me four children and all five (children and mother) died during my lifetime. I leave this world without widow or issue, as if my house was a mule stable, without birth or issue (young or produce). The other women who were in my house, were servants, washer-women, cooks, and seamstresses, in order to administer to my wants and guard against mischief; they were temporary and transient like the running water, the blowing wind, and the flying bird. I neither married nor made *meta*. I have no child, infant, issue, liver-holder, heart-fixer. I came alone to this world and I am going alone.

I write again that the Resident at Bagdad shall in a right manner direct the business connected with my tomb and my houses at Kazimain, Bagdad, Karbala &c., &c., and the business connected with my servants. He shall never neglect it but aid and assist in doing the things stated by me, be it in Arabia or in India. The special request I make to the Resident is that he will attend in person to the preservation and decoration of my tomb, because I have acquired these properties in Arabia simply that my tomb may be preserved and look respectable and grand, inasmuch as I love myself dead better than myself alive.

If any one of the descendants of my brothers and sisters come from India to Bagdad, the Resident at Bagdad shall not allow him to enter the Residency but shall turn him out like a dog and never pay heed to him, because they have no right whatever in my affairs in Arabia. It is not improbable that the Indians of Kazimain, Bagdad, and Karbala, shall aid them and come in a crowd to the Residency and become their agents and guides. The Resident shall (under such circumstances) order the Khawassas to ply staves on their posteriors and drive them off all to one and the same place.

Signed by the testator Nawab Sir Ekbal-ud-Daula, G. C. S. I., of Oudh, and acknowledged by him to be his last Will and Testament in the presence of us present at the same time who at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other, have subscribed our names as witnesses at Bagdad, this 18th day of January 1883.

(Sd.) T. S. BLOCKEY,  
GEORGE CLARKE,  
" R. BOWMAN, *Surgeon Major*.

## NOTIFICATION.

Simla, the 3rd September, 1889.

Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Marchioness of Lansdowne will hold a Drawing Room at Government House, Calcutta, on Friday, the 13th December, 1889, at 9-30 P.M.

Ladies purposing to attend the Drawing Room are requested to send their cards and addresses to the Aide-de-Camp in waiting not later than Saturday, the 7th December, 1889, after which "no cards" will be received, and to bring with them to the Drawing Room two cards, with their names legibly written on them—one to be given on entering Government House, and the other to the Aide-de-Camp in waiting at the time of presentation.

Ladies who have not already been presented at the Court of St. James or at Government House are requested to send their cards through the Ladies intending to present them, with their addresses, to the Aide-de-Camp in waiting as soon as possible.

Ladies who present others should themselves attend the Drawing Room.

Ladies attending the Drawing Room will be expected to appear in full dress, but without trains.

The carriages of those who have the private entrée will enter by the South-West Gate, and set down at the South Entrance of Government House.

All other carriages will enter by the North-East Gate, set down under the Grand Stairs, and pass out by the North-West Gate.

By Command,  
WILLIAM BERESFORD,  
Lieut.-Colonel,  
Military Secretary to the Viceroy.

## IN THE PRESS.

Uniform with "Travels & Voyages in Bengal"

## ESSAYS BY A BRAHMAN

IN  
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BY  
the Author of "Travels & Voyages in Bengal."

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## TRAVELS &amp; VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN  
Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,

BY  
SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late  
NAWAB FARIDOON JAH BAHADOOR,  
(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,  
Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.  
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## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native news-

papers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*, October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who being tired of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most evening description. He saw many visions of

beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract].—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious; he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. "Therefore, of experience, and his brethren should listen to *Travels in Bengal* is a readable abounds in anecdotes which constructive as amusing, and it is too many political allusions, if some few have crept in. Dec., 1887.

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# Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1889.

} No. 402

## CONTEMPORARY VERSE.

### THE BATTLE OF THE BOYS.

Now let there be a merry sound of tom tom and sitar,  
Through thy shady groves and fragrant lanes, oh pleasant Bow Bazar,  
As thou wert constant in our ills be joyous in our joy,  
For dull and dumb and down are they who wrought thy boys annoy.

Ah, how our hearts were beating, when near the close of day  
We saw the army of our foes drawn out in proud array,  
With all their nose-led Magistrates and their judicial peers,  
And Edgar's corps of consuls and Peacock's grim compeers.  
There stood those ermined sons of pride—the Judges of our land,  
The great L. G. was in the midst, a paper in his hand,  
And as we looked on them we sighed and thought of days of yore,  
The days which each Bengali prays will come again no more.  
When clouds of dark Mahratta war like some vast funeral pall  
Came rolling o'er our peaceful plains and darkened all Bengal,  
And we that are so proud to-day—who hold our heads so high  
Would shin up all the peepul trees until the clouds rolled by.

Outspake our noble leader, "I know you're only boys,  
Vote solid for the cause to-day, don't waste your breath in noise,  
Don't wag your heads—don't knock your knees—don't shout and  
play the fool,  
Don't think you're learning Morals within the Ripon School,  
Don't fire your little lungs too soon, but keep each little throat  
For that vast shout which will record your solid sober vote."

"But see, our foes are moving—hark to the mingled hum,  
The time to strike is close at hand—'tis come, my lads, 'tis come,  
Lift all your hands together, give your voices to the breeze,  
And shout huzzay as Britons shout when Britons want to sneeze.  
Shout for your *betel* and *paun*, huzzay! huzzay! huzzay!  
The great Sir Henry Harrison is on our side to-day."

But see, our foes are breaking, and in the flying horde  
Is many an acting Magistrate and member of the Board;  
The ermined crew are scurrying fast across the marble floors,  
The great L. G. is hurrying past the welcome opening doors.  
Edgar hath fled, he could not stand those proud triumphant cheers,  
And Halliday hath cut his stick with Peacock's grim compeers,  
For our God hath crushed the tyrants and our God hath raised up boys  
To mar the counsels of the wise with clamour and with noise;  
Now glory to the Lord of Hosts, to whom all glories are,  
And glory to that noble race, the boys of Bow Bazar.

*The Englishman*, Dec. 11.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

A WORTHY successor of a worthy representative of the mercantile interest, Sir Alexander Wilson, has taken Mr. R. Steel's place, as an Additional Member of the Governor-General's Council. Sir Alexander was sworn in yesterday, when the Calcutta session began.

The Council passed the new municipal law for the Central Provinces. It received the assent of the Governor-General the same day and is published in to-day's *Gazette of India* as Act XVIII of 1889. It comes into operation from the 1st January 1890. Another measure, for the better sanitation of villages in the same Provinces, was also finally disposed of. It will be known as Act XIX of 1889, and takes immediate effect. Finally, Act XX, adding new sections to and amending the Lunatic Asylums laws, was passed.

MR. Colman Macaulay has taken five months' extension of *furlough* and consequently resigned the membership of the local legislative Council. Mr. F. B. Peacock has been taken in to fill the vacancy. He will find some consolation in the Honorable Membership of the Council for the loss of the Chief Commissionership of Assam. The Hon'ble Sir Charles Paul and the Hon'ble C. H. Moore will continue as members of the same Council for another term.

THE Chief Justice has retired from the Vice-Chancellery of the Calcutta University in favor of the new Puisne Mr. Justice Gurudas Banerjee. With thanks to the retiring Vice-Chancellor and the conferring Lord Chancellor, we hail this excellent but long-deferred departure. This is the first time that the selection has fallen on a native. The great Orientalist Dr. Rajendralala Mitter should have been given the refusal. At any rate, it is a relief that the office has not been thrust on unworthy shoulders.

RAJA Shiva Prasad has resigned the Vice-Presidentship of the Benares Anti-pollution Society. With the death of Maharaja Isri Prasad, the Raja finds it prudent to withdraw his active interference from Benares politics and all costly functions.

FOR the better subjugation of Upper Burma, she will be bound fast in iron chains. One crore and fifty lacs of rupees will be sunk in the country in railways in three years.

NAINI TAL has been visited by a swarm of locusts.

FROM the next Calendar year, parcels from British India to Ceylon will be carried by the Post office at the Indian inland parcel rates.

THE Assistant Surveyor-General in charge of the Mathematical Instrument Department shall henceforth discharge all the functions of the Secretary under the Inventions and Designs Act, V. of 1888.

THE Secretary of State for India has sanctioned an estimate amounting to Rs. 25,42,235 for the construction of an extension of the Tirhoot State Railway from Durbhunga to Bairagnia.

*Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.*

THE Bengal and North-Western Railway branch lines to Byramghat and Revelgunge have been sanctioned at a cost of £1,00,000.

THE Bikanir-Jodhpur Railway is being pushed on vigorously. The necessary material has been indented for. The Jodhpur and Jeypur Durbars have undertaken to run through their respective territories a line to Bikanir.

THE bridge over the Chenab at Shershah is nearly ready. It will probably be opened by Prince Albert Victor. The Alexandra bridge over the same river at Wizarabad was opened by the Prince of Wales.

A SHORT retired line of embankment is to be constructed at Laltakuri in the Moorshedabad district. For the purpose, 62 bighas, 15 cottahs and 4 chittacks of land of standard measurement has been declared.

THE Government has sanctioned the re-excavation of Churnial khali and the construction of the Churnial Sluice in the 24-Pergunnahs, 489 beeghas of land of standard measurement or 9 miles 1,980 feet in length and about 150 in breadth will be taken up under the Act.

MR. R. Belchambers, Registrar and what not of the High Court, Original Jurisdiction, has resigned the Honorary Presidency Magistrateship of the town. The original mistake was to appoint a man with no leisure for honorary duties.

THE Gilchrist Scholarship Examination begins on Monday, the 13th January, and the Sanskrit Title Examination for 1890 commences on Monday, the 3rd March, 1890.

THE Examination for filling up vacancies in the Clerical Establishments of the Secretariat offices of the Government of India and attached offices and of the offices subordinate to the Government of Bengal, held at Calcutta, in the Senate House, for the Upper and Lower Divisions respectively, for the Upper Division on the 4th January and for the Lower Division on the 20th January 1890 and following days.

THE Hyderabad Chloroform Commission have arrived at the conclusion that the danger of the drug lies in asphyxia or overdose, and that it has no direct effect upon the action of the heart. Five hundred animals, from horses to rabbits, were experimented upon.

A EUROPEAN postal employé by name P. H. Courcy, in the Kyoukse district, has been sentenced by the Recorder's Session Court at Rangoon, for criminal breach of trust of a money-order, to three years rigorous imprisonment. He attempted to transfer his guilt to two innocent men.

THE Reserved Forests in the Palamow and Hazaribagh Sub-divisions of the Chota Nagpur Forest Division and those of the Darjeeling Terai and Lower Hills (Kurseong and Teesta Sub-divisions of Darjeeling Forest Division) as well as those of the district of Julpagori (Julpagori and Bura Forest Sub-division) will remain closed against hunting, shooting and fishing from the 15th December, 1889 to 1st June, 1890, except with the written permission of the Conservator of the Forests or the Local Government.

A CORRESPONDENT in the *Dainik* reports the death at the age of 100 of the grandmother of Rai Bahadr Bepin Behary Dutt, Government Pleader, Midnapore.

THERE has just died at Baranagar, in the northern suburbs of Calcutta, a man who exceeded that age by five years. He was a *shaw* by caste and known as Sham Chand Kalápáki. He took four wives, one after the death of another, the last time marrying when he was 62 years old. The first three bore him no children. By the latter, however, he leaves 5 sons and 2 daughters, the eldest-born—a son—now being aged 35 years and the youngest—a daughter—17 years. Sham Chand had a sister who had attained the age of 100 years. He kept his health remarkably well to the last. He did not take any particular exercise. As a good Hindu of the publican caste, though keeping a European oilman's store, in Bazaar, he was, of course, a rigid teetotaler.

DURING the year 1890, the following days will be observed as public holidays in Bengal :—

25th January	...	...	...	Sripanchami.
6th March	...	...	...	Dolejatra.
5th April...	...	...	...	Easter Saturday.
12th " ...	...	...	...	Chaitsankranti.
24th May ...	...	...	...	Empress' Birthday.
29th " ...	...	...	...	Dashahara..
7th August	...	...	...	Janmashtami.
13th October	...	...	...	Mahalaya.
18th, 20th to 25th and 27th to 29th October...	...	...	...	Durga and Lukhi Pujahs.
11th and 12th November	...	...	...	Kali Pujah.
20th and 21st "	...	...	...	Jagadhatri Pujah.
24th, 26th and 27th December	...	...	...	The day preceding and two days following Christmas Day.

and Sundays, New Year's Day, Good Friday, and Christmas Day.

ABOUT four months ago, in the court of the Tehsildar of Conjeveram, Raju Chetty, for the offence of receiving stolen property, was sentenced, in open court, to 3 months' rigorous imprisonment. He served his three months and wanted to leave, but they would not let him go. And not without excuse. For the warrant to the jailor directed his confinement for four months. So he was detained another month. On coming out, after serving in jail for four months, he complained to the District Magistrate charging the jailor with maliciously keeping him in durance vile for the space of one whole month. The trying officer, the Tehsildar, was now called on for explanation, and he admitted that he sentenced the man to 3 months, but by a mistake in his office "four months" was written in the warrant.

The Tehsildar's admission is honourable to him. All that the poor complainant can get against him for his pains is a mild warning to that officer to be careful in future. The jailor ought to be well punished, departmentally at all events, if he did not take notice of the prisoner's complaint and inquire into its truth.

WE take the following paragraph from the last Education resolution of the Bengal Government on the subject of discipline in schools :—

"Mr. Tawney considers that the conduct of pupils is deteriorating, and attributes this result to deficiencies in the subordinate masters, and increasing competition for pupils. He observes that 'in a single issue of a weekly Bengali newspaper there appeared advertisements from not less than seven high and middle schools offering various pecuniary inducements to boys who might choose to join the first class of any one of them. This system of stealing pupils is, I fear, on the increase. It is heart-breaking to conscientious teachers, and fosters ingratitude in the pupils. The position of Government high schools is, of course, sufficiently strong for the head-masters to enforce some kind of discipline if they choose to do so. As a rule, I believe, the heads of Government schools are upright and conscientious men, and do exert themselves to the utmost to keep order in their schools and elevate the tone of the students. The same may be said also of the heads of many non-Government schools. But there can be no doubt that by so doing they expose themselves to considerable odium.' As a remedy he proposes the extreme measure of altogether prohibiting unlicensed education. 'No school,' he observes, 'should be allowed to receive pupils that has not been carefully inspected by a Government officer and received a license from Government, to be periodically renewed; and the University should so modify its regulations as to make it impossible for any unlicensed school to send up candidates to the Entrance examination.' These remarks were penned before the receipt of the important Resolution recently recorded by the Government of India on the subject, which has indicated the measures to be adopted for the improvement of discipline. The Lieutenant-Governor has no desire to go beyond the limits laid down by that Resolution in enforcing supervision over private school."

Whatever may be thought of the remedy proposed, by Mr. Tawney, all must admire his candour and courage. Would that Government in these latter days had something of these good old virtues!

AT Lahore, there was a collision between the carriage of Mr. Justice Benton and one of the station hacknies. The occupants of the former—Mr. and Mrs. Benton—were thrown out, the husband sustaining a slight concussion of the brain and the wife fracturing a collar bone. Here in Calcutta, a week or so ago, Mr. Justice Banerjee's carriage collided with another gentleman's, but narrowly escaped with its owner. It was being taken to the Police, and the occupant inside was about to leave in a hackney-coach hired there and then in the street, when he gave his name. All on a sudden, the scene changed. At sight of the magic inscription and at the magic sound as it was



whispered, the gathering clouds of difficulty at once dispersed, and frowning faces forthwith beamed with gracious sunshine, and the very Police contrived to get up an appearance of a blush. And the dignity of the Law arrested in his travels was allowed to go his own way without any further molestation then or thereafter.

There is a moral to the incident. The art of administration is still in its infancy, and here is another proof. It is too much the modern habit to take these small *contretemps* easy, as to neglect the minor decencies of official life. It must be admitted, however, that when they do happen, they are a source of inconvenience and annoyance. They are certainly not calculated to inspire the populace with respect for their rulers. Nor is it so difficult to apply a remedy. Fifty years ago, a Supreme Court Judge could never be stopped on such a trifling plea. Not long ago, the Chief Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police and head of the Town Corporation was stopped by his own Police on a public occasion.

THE eminent French statistician, Dr. E. Eugrel, gives the following figures of the loss of human life in the different wars of the last thirty-four years. The Crimean War 750,000 men; the Italian War (1859) 45,000; the Danish War (1864) 3,000; the American Civil War—the Northern States 280,000, the Southern States 520,000; the Austro-Prussian War 45,000; the Franco-German War—France 155,000, Germany 60,000; the Turco-Russian War 250,000; the South African Wars 30,000; the Afghan War 25,000; the Mexican and Cochín-Chinese expeditions 65,000; and the Bulgaro-Servian Insurrection 25,000; being a total of 2,253,000 deaths, without counting the victims of disease.

FROM next April, the English army will be supplied with the new smokeless powder, which is claimed to be second to none.

A FRENCHMAN has willed away seven hundred thousand pounds sterling to the Pope.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

OUR worst fears are in course of realization. The consequences of entire dependence on machinery and other blind forces and on the absolutely free service of vast numbers of ignorant men under irresponsible teaching and manipulation—which we pointed out in our leading article of October 5—are already showing themselves with unmistakable emphasis.

England is again suffering from strikes. The men employed in gas works of the Manchester and Salford Corporations refused to work. They resent the employment of non-Unionists. Manchester was in semi-darkness on the night of the 6th. A number of factories there have been shut up. On the 8th, both at Manchester and Salford, many of the churches were closed for want of lights. The coal porters threatened suspension of work on Friday, unless all the coal merchants and Gas Companies in London engaged to pay them certain wages. Owing to gas stokers' refusal, night work at Woolwich Arsenal has been suspended. The latest report is that one thousand gas stokers, deserting the Union, have come over to the South Metropolitan Gas Company, and new men have been taken in to complete the full complement.

THE Brazilian Revolution is, in some quarters, traced to the liberation of the slaves. There must be a good deal of heart-burning as actual inconvenience from the Abolition, but the supposed kinship of the present movement to the Southern Confederacy in North America is negated by the existence of several Abolitionists in the new Administration. Another reason given is the influence exerted by the Emperor's daughter and her husband, Comte Diu, a Bourbon Prince, a spendthrift of vicious habits. The Catholic Clerical party who had been trying for the upper hand in public affairs had secured the warm sympathy of the daughter. That is scarcely adequate to account for so great an act. To add to the misfortunes of the Imperial family, the jewels of the Empress, which included the finest diamonds in the world, were stolen at Rio Janeiro. Dom Pedro arrived at Lisbon on the 7th December. He has declared that he had no intimation of the revolution until it burst upon him. He refuses to accept the Civil List allowances.

THE Southern States of America are mourning the death of their ex-President Jefferson Davis.

THERE is an epidemic of influenza throughout Russia. It has spread to Vienna, Berlin, and Copenhagen. At Berlin, the disease has invaded the Judges and the courts are closed. It has threatened the schools and theatres. Epidemic fever is reported from Paris.

SPEAKING at a banquet at Frankfort, this week, Emperor William repeated his pledge for peace. He said that he would always strive to make the Fatherland powerful, to command the respect of other nations, and that he valued the fruits of peace which he would try to preserve.

RUSSIA has just celebrated the completion of the fifth century of the introduction of artillery. A gold medal was struck in commemoration. Is not the *knout* also an honoured institution of venerable antiquity in that part of the globe?

THE winter in Eastern Europe is reported to be very severe. Fearful storms occurred in the Black Sea, and the Sea of Azoff is blocked with ice.

EMIN PASHA is improving.

ROBERT Browning, the great poet, is no more.

It will be remembered that, as we were informed by telegraph, at a meeting of the Council of the East India Association, on the 18th November, that steady, unfussy, and, therefore, all the more respected and efficient, friend of India, Lord Stanley of Alderley, had made an important announcement with respect to the appointment of natives to the Council of India. By the arrival of the mail, we are in position to lay before the public a true and authoritative report of what his Lordship said at the E. I. A. Rooms.

Lord Stanley of Alderley said that when the Council of India Bill was before the House of Lords last session, he had intended to move an amendment to enable the Secretary of State to fill up three vacancies with Natives of India, one from each of the three Presidencies.

He heard a doubt expressed as to whether the power did not exist already, so before putting down any amendment, he asked Lord Cross what his opinion was on the subject. Lord Cross replied that he had no doubt whatever that he had the power to appoint any Native of India to a seat on his Council, and that he had already thought of such appointments, but the difficulty was to find suitable persons for the post. He then asked Lord Cross if he might make this public, and Lord Cross gave his consent, without which he could not have repeated private communications.

This permission given by the Secretary of State proved the sincerity of the opinion he had expressed, and that he was favourable to such appointments; because if he had refused the permission to quote him, he (Lord Stanley) would have had to move the amendment, and the Secretary of State might have avoided expressing the opinion that the amendment was unnecessary, and might have rejected it without going into the merits of the case, on the ground that it was too late in the session to allow of any alterations in the Bill which would lead to fresh discussions in the House of Commons.

He had at the same time consulted another Peer, in the class of ex-Secretaries of State or Viceroy, who agreed with Lord Cross, but he said the difficulty was that none of the Indians who were qualified, would leave their homes, or could abandon the care of their property.

Under these circumstances the first step was gained, *viz.*, to know that Natives of India could sit in the Council, and the next was to give the Secretary of State opportunities for selecting one or more Natives of India duly qualified, and also willing to leave their country, and to reside for a time in England.

Men who were best qualified by their attainments and social position, would not offer themselves as candidates for seats in the Council; and he thought that any intervention of the Congress in such a matter would do more harm than good, but it was probable that when it became known in India that there not only was no legal obstacle to seats in the Council of the Secretary of State being filled by Natives of India, but also that a favourable view was taken of such appointments,

the names of duly qualified and willing candidates would become known through the usual channels of information.

THE disastrous finale of the last week's Town Hall meeting is beginning to tell seriously. The Native or, as it calls itself, the National Chamber of Commerce has seen fit to dissociate itself with the National Congress. Last Thursday, its ruling Committee passed this Resolution :—

"That this Chamber being a body representing mainly, if not solely, the native commercial and trading interest of this country, they do not think it desirable or expedient to send delegates to the fifth National Congress."

O Diamond! Diamond! we think we hear the discerning friends of the Congress expostulate little dost thou know what thou hast done—what vast injury—what irreparable mischief—thou hast committed! Congress or no Congress, that is the lament that has been on the lips of every patriot or good citizen in the country who bears a thinking head on his shoulders, ever since the fatal day.

LAST Thursday, three men of the Leinster Regiment, now stationed at Fort William, were arrested as the perpetrators of the death, on the 7th November last, of a Toddy-seller near Dum-Dum. Government had offered Rs. 500 for the discovery, and the Viceroy himself had taken a personal interest in the detection and chastisement of a crime that has sent a panic in the most peaceful parts of Bengal. On Wednesday, a private of the Buffs by name Gouldsbury—himself an accomplice—voluntured a statement to the Dum-Dum Magistrate. On local enquiry on that statement, Mr. Steindale issued the warrants against O'Hara, Macdermot and Bellew. One of these three has corroborated the informing accomplice.

As Sir Arthur Gordon's term of office is about to close, there is a special interest attaching to his public statements. His final annual message as Governor was delivered to the Ceylon Legislature on the 22nd of last month. It commences with congratulations on the condition of the revenue, which for the next year 1890 is estimated at Rs. 15,376,000. This estimate is likely to be exceeded, as, in all probability, a Pearl Fishery will take place next year at Dutch Bay, Captain Donnan having reported that some thirty millions of oysters still remain there to be fished. A small fishery may take place at Karativu Paar before the close of the present year.

In Ceylon, as on the Continent, however, the needs of the administration increase beyond the gradual expansion of income. Such reforms as the improvement of accommodation for courts and public offices must therefore stand over, while the surplus was devoted to the promotion of education and the health of the people, to the communications of the country, to irrigation and other works. The most notable act of the closing year of the Gordon régime is the reconstruction and expansion of the medical department. A Committee is already considering the details of an elaborate scheme for the medical relief of the whole Colony prepared by Dr. Kynsey. At present, there are 48 Hospitals and 105 Dispensaries. 45 Dispensaries are to be added and the present accommodation in the existing Hospitals is to be increased :—

"His Excellency is confident that if the development of his scheme is steadily kept in view, on the one hand, along with a vigorous prosecution of works for the improvement of the water-supply of the people, both for agricultural and domestic purposes, a vast change in the physical and moral condition and the comfort and well-being of many poor sickly and thinly peopled districts, will in a few years be apparent; that tracts now inhabited by but a few small and diminishing families will again become populous, desert wastes again fertile; and that where the Government now has to expend large sums on the relief of distress and the prevention of famine it will hereafter receive a handsome revenue from a prosperous people."

By a notification under the head of "Separate Revenue, Salt," numbered 6005, dated the 29th November 1889, published in the *Gazette of India* of the 30th November 1889, the Governor-General in Council extended, with effect from the 7th December 1889, the whole of the Indian Salt Act, XII of 1882, excepting the portions thereof specified in the second paragraph of Section 1, which are already in force, and Section 31, to the municipal Calcutta. The next notification No. 6007 gives the rules, and these are expressly made to apply only to the area to which the municipal Act applies. Rule 1 opens with these words : "These rules shall apply to Calcutta as for the time being defined by or under the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act, 1888, or any other

law relating to the municipal affairs of the Town and Suburbs of Calcutta for the time being in force." They are, therefore, not enforceable beyond the limits of Calcutta proper and such portions of the Suburbs which are under the administration of the Calcutta Municipal Commissioners. These rules absolutely prohibit the importation into Calcutta of the *pakwai* salt—"being salt which has been obtained in the manufacture of saltpetre, and on which the duty for the time being imposed under section 7 of the Act has not been paid at the place where the salt was obtained as on salt manufactured in the part of British India where that place is situated," but allow the manufacture or refining of saltpetre and eduction of salt therefrom only under a license, the conditions of which virtually amount to a prohibition for small concerns. Thus,

"No license shall be granted for the manufacture of crude saltpetre, unless the licensing officer is satisfied that the soil in the vicinity of the place of manufacture and the soil from which the said crude saltpetre is to be produced do not contain such a percentage of chloride of sodium as to render the manufacture a source of danger to the salt revenue, and unless the works are so situated that they can without difficulty be supervised by the Salt Revenue Department.

As a general rule no refinery shall be licensed until the parties applying for a license have satisfied the licensing officer that they are prepared to produce within the period of the license not less than two hundred maunds of refined saltpetre.

No refinery shall be licensed until the parties applying for a license have satisfied the licensing officer that the refinery buildings and premises are so constructed and surrounded by a wall as to afford full security for the levy of the duty on salt educed therein."

The rules are thirty in number, and yet are not exhausted. It is open to the Commissioner of Salt Revenue to add conditions to the license over and above those prescribed in the rules. Fees are of course payable for the licenses. Rs. 50 will be charged for the manufacture and refining of saltpetre, including the eduction of salt, and annas four for the manufacture of saltpetre, payable annually on or before the 31st July, the close of the Salt year.

Whatever the necessity for these rules, they are a surprise to the manufacturers and refiners hitherto unhampered by any restrictions. They were published without any previous intimation to or knowledge of those concerned in the trade. Scarcely any time is allowed them to understand the rules or to fit up their places to the requirements now demanded of them. To add to the horror of the manufacturers ignorant of the ways of a civilized Government and blissfully unconscious of what is going on about them the officers of the Salt Revenue, without previous notice of any kind, pounced upon these manufactories the same day that the rules came into operation, to the consternation of the people engaged and proceeded to dictate to them to the interference of the business. These attentions are not confined to the area prescribed. The zealous officers, without regard to the rules but under their authority, think they are sufficiently armed to molest all such places, whether within or beyond Calcutta, and do not spare those which are beyond the reach of the rules. There are about a dozen manufactories in or about Calcutta, only two being situate within the municipal limits. But all the twelve suffer equally. For the moment they are handicapped, and business suffers. The proprietors are at their wits' end. It is a lax administration, to say the least, that could thus override the law and bring on stagnation. Anyhow, until the rules are extended to them, they must be allowed their own way and left unmolested.

It is indeed satisfactory to notice, from a recent Bengal Government Resolution, that the Sale Law, for default in paying the Government revenue by a certain fixed day, has, for some years, been resorted to very sparingly. The proportion of actual sales to defaults was, in last year, so low as 8.68 and this was half of the previous five years' percentage. This policy of leniency to defaulters does not meet with favor from district authorities, and one Collector of experience writes :—"The continued condonation of these defaults, which (as the Board's orders stand) is inevitable, is calculated to weaken our revenue machinery, and it is to be hoped that the reports submitted on the subject will result in some system of penalising defaulters for delay. At present the sale day is a farce." Sir Steuart Bayley, however, does not consider that the greater moderation now displayed has, in any way, affected the revenue, and refers to the percentage of collections in past years in support of his view.

THE difficulty of keeping Inspecting Officers of Government straight in the path of duty, has always been a subject of anxiety to Govern-

ment. In the recent Education Resolution of the Bengal Government, it is complained that Sub-Inspectors have been guilty of making tours more with a view to swell their travelling bills than to do the work properly. Sir Steuart Bayley observes: "The incompatibility of haste with useful inspection work is painfully clear, and the Lieutenant-Governor regrets to see the rapidity with which Sub-Inspectors have moved attributed in many cases to a desire to earn travelling allowance. It is imperative that extravagant and perfunctory touring should be not only persistently discouraged, as Mr. Tawney remarks, but positively prohibited." Orders of this kind have been passed over and over and several precautions and safeguards with the object of removing the abuses of inspection have been employed, but so far without success.

THE number of pupils in colleges in Bengal continues to increase at a rate at which it is calculated that the roll of the Calcutta University students will double in about four years. Every new annual report, says the Government Resolution, supplies fresh evidence of the progress of college education, of its growing popularity and wider diffusion. There is some increase also in the number of pupils attending secondary schools, *i.e.*, high English, middle English, and middle vernacular. Primary schools, and the number attending them, however, show a decrease. Without some progress made in the extension of this class of education, the Lieutenant-Governor considers that the result of any year's work can never be considered as altogether good, and reaffirms the policy of Government to extend elementary education as widely as may be possible. Female education also does not show much progress in its elementary stage.

EX-SULTAN Murad is regaining his senses and the reigning Sultan Abdul Hamid is losing his. Such is the testimony of a Mahomedan, said to be influential, writing from Constantinople to the *London Daily News*:

"It is an open secret known by the Ambassadors, that the Sultan cannot keep anything to himself. He will disclose to his *entourage*, who are generally of an ignorant class, matters of the highest importance on vital subjects. He will endeavour to ask the opinion of every one, and take the opinion of every one, and finally follow the advice of no one. The last one who has the privilege of advising his Sovereign is the most fortunate of all. Marshals, chamberlains, aides-de-camp, sheiks, secretaries, interpreters, translators, chandelier-holders, carpet-beaters, water-carriers, coffee-beaters, and other similar folk, who enjoy here much more influence over our Padishah than the ministers of the Sublime Porte—all have a certain hold over the religious chief of Islam. Our Padishah seems to be lying on a bed of roses when he sees the whole world at Stamboul at loggerheads, and he certainly feels much happier when he sees the foreign high representatives here, especially those of the signatory Powers of the Treaty of Berlin like the Ministers of the Sublime Porte in discord. Never did the motto 'Divide et Impera' please a Turkish monarch better than it pleases Abdul-Hamid; it is his last hope of retaining for a few years longer his falling crown. The Sultan is only reigning by 'force' and not by 'law,' as Count Vassili very cleverly explained it in the *Nouvelle Revue*. The Sultan according to our Mahomedan law (Sheri-Sherif) is only acting as *ad interim* to Sultan Murad who is still living. Murad was dethroned on a *Fatwa* of the Sheikh-ul-Islam, our highest religious authority, as having lost his intellectual powers, and after consultation with the highest medical authorities, as well as the Council of Ministers, Abdul-Hamid was proclaimed Sultan, but these last two years Sultan Murad's health has so much improved that Abdul-Hamid has become *de facto* only a *Vakil* (*ad interim*) to his brother Murad. It is now affirmed that Murad's health is entirely restored, and as the Mahomedan law does not permit a *Vakil* when the original Sovereign is well, Murad is legally entitled to be restored to the throne. Abdul Hamid, as we are all aware here, is showing serious symptoms of illness. They are apparent in his conduct to his Ministers, his nearest relatives, in the harem and to his *entourage*, in the exile from the capital, of thousands of people, the execution of many personages, and, in a word, in the general interference of the Sultan with everything which the Porte does. He desires to do everything by himself, to meddle in the smallest details, even in the marriages of his suite. Abdul Hamid is suffering from the very same illness which caused the dethronement of his brother Murad, and the Ulema, together with the functionaries, are already asking each other why the Sultan should not retire and either Murad Effendi or Rechad Effendi be proclaimed in his stead. All these are signs of future internal disorder. The first war will create serious local disturbances, although it is believed here that there will be no shedding of blood, for the whole people are united as to what should be done to save the empire from utter ruin."

From internal traces, the writer is a Turk, and he is represented to be an influential man. Much, naturally, is being made of his statement. And it may produce an opinion in Europe which, reacting on minds at home, may have the effect of precipitating affairs. His account, however, seems to conflict with the impression left on our minds of the mind and character of the reigning Sultan by the report of the interview held with him by Professor Vambery as published in a Pesth paper. Whom are we to believe? It will be remembered that in our leading article of the 15th November, noticing His Majesty's conversation with Mons. Vambery, we said, 'All that shows that Turkey is now ruled by a

sovereign who knows his affairs and is conversant with the politics of Europe at large.' And judging from what fell from the Sultan, nobody could come to any other conclusion. Nor is there any ground for suspecting the accuracy of the report, which evidently was supplied by Vambery himself. Partizan as the Professor is, his competency and his honesty are equally beyond question. We prefer to trust ourselves to the guidance of the known publicist of world-wide reputation to relying on the unnamed Mahomedan politician of Stamboul. This gentleman is no doubt a well-informed person, but he seems to deal largely in "*bazaar* gup." His testimony to the character and state of mind of the sovereign is wholly inferential. His inference falls to the ground if his facts can be explained by any other hypothesis, and they are capable of such explanation. If the Sultan interferes too much in the administration and in everything, that is precisely what an autocrat with any taste for work usually does, and what an able despot confident of his ability naturally would do.

COMPLAINTS reach us of lax supervision in the Eden Hindu Hostel, entailing hardships on the Boarders and deteriorating their morals. The Committee's visits being few and far between, the Superintendent of the Hostel, a clerk on a small pay in the office of the Director of Public Instruction—the President of the Committee—is the monarch of all he surveys or chooses to superintend. We await, for further notice, the disposal of the complaint which has formally gone up to the Committee from 41 Boarders.

THERE are still those who contend that the amendment carried at the Royal Reception meeting survives, and can be given effect to. They however, forget that the resolution which it sought to correct was not put to the meeting and not carried. The knowing ones of the meeting, recovering their wits, avoided a complete disaster by a strategic flight, and the juvenile Amending Hands without heads, flushed with their empty triumph, as soon left the Hall. To prove his loyalty and sincerity to the public, Surrender Not assumes that the second Resolution forming the Committee with the Secretaries was passed as amended by himself, and, in his capacity of Secretary <sup>he</sup>, his Iggyan Association, offered to the Secretaries to the Prince Albert Victor Reception Committee, Rs 10,000, for giving "effect to the first resolution and the second resolution as passed in its amended form," with promises of "further remittances." The gentlemen who would have been the Secretaries, had the second resolution been put to the vote and carried, would not, as indeed they could not, receive the sum, and declined the offer—without thanks.

THERE will be Reception of, and Entertainment to, the Prince, all the same—nay, all the better for the foolish exhibition at the Town Hall. Accordingly, several gentlemen today met at the British Indian Association Rooms and, under the presidency of Maharaja Jotendra Mohun Tagore, Resolved upon a Committee of about 250 with Sri Jotendra as Chairman and the Secretaries of the Chamber of Commerce and the British Indian Association as Secretaries, to arrange for the reception and entertainment, and an Executive Committee of 50 with power to add to their number to carry out the details. There were no speeches, the gentlemen assembled meant work, and there had been enough specification down to ignoble lengths. The resolutions were passed unanimously, the disturbing element having been kept out altogether. Several subscriptions, amounting to about Rs 16,000, were announced. The Maharaja of Durbhanga's princely offer of bearing the greater part of the cost of the entertainment was received with cheers.

Nor is the Premier Peer of Bengal alone in his glory. His munificent loyalty to the Throne has found a second fit. The meeting closed with an agreeable surprise. There was present a Chief of an ancient and illustrious House of classic Kalinga in the South, now sojourning here, who not only subscribed a handsome amount on the spot but made a magnificent offer into the bagam. The Maharaja of Vizianagram does not belong to Bengal, and it is known that he has contributed in a princely way to the Reception Fund in his native Madras. Nevertheless, His Highness promised to make up any sum that might be wanting to give a suitable Reception and Entertainment that the Committee might determine upon.

All's well that ends well. \*And we devoutly trust all will yet end well. But we confess we are not still without some misgivings. The cloven foot is still visible to the discerning. After what has occurred, the word "leaders" has no right to a place in the Bengal political dictionary, but we feel bound to warn the respectable men of all classes against the influence of some worms that have crept into this business.

It was these minikins who, by their peculiar methods—their petty malignant manipulations on a great ceremonial public occasion—in a great measure invited the late crash. And we do not know to what *contretemps* they may succeed in landing the present Reorganization. The evil genius is not exhausted, we are afraid. Its workings may be traced in the last proceedings. They may be clearly read in the *personnel* of the Committees formed. Some of the highest and best names are conspicuous by their absence. We can understand the omission of the treacherous and disloyal men who laid and sprung the mine on the loyal demonstration in the Town Hall, and insulted in the same breath both their fellow citizens and Royalty itself. But it was a grave responsibility to keep out the head of the Town Corporation and fix on Sir Henry Harrison the indelible stamp of disloyalty. Such a virtual vote of Censure has never been known, and ought to have been avoided by all means. The British Indian Conclave evidently did not see the extent of consequences of their confident discharge of the Censorship. The matter could scarcely end there. The Corporation could not quietly look on while their Chairman was thus insulted. They and the whole town might be urged to come to the rescue, or might consider it necessary to follow up the censure. The Government itself is placed in a fix. It must in duty declare itself. Even if there were a consensus of all the powers and possibilities to blast them, men like Sir Henry Harrison and Mr. H. J. S. Cotton are not easy to efface. They have got that in them by Heaven's endowment which can maintain them Unhurt amid the war of elements.

But if there was any ground for keeping clear of these gentlemen, there were other omissions which can not be defended on that plan. Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee's exclusion is natural, the feeling of the Royalists and Loyalists being too fresh, but it is scarcely expedient. It certainly will not commend itself to those many respectable men who would have seen harmony reestablished between the several parties. He could not disturb a Committee pledged to a settled programme. It would have been a graceful concession to put him on the General Committee. The Hon'ble Dr. Ma-of Idrat Sircar's exclusion is a positive ingratitude, after his prompt secession from the faction at the request of the Chairman, at the Town Hall meeting.

If the plan was to have nothing to do with any one who had been a party to the intrigue of disturbance, how comes Dr. Sanders to be on the Committee who was prepared to support the Amendment, had the original mover and seconder not backed out? There are scores of names of well-known citizens, besides, who have been kept out, against whom there could be no political objection, but who are thus causelessly classed, by implication, among the disaffected. The old families of the Setts and Bysacks are nowhere. The pure Brahmans are equally at a discount. The several families of Mitters of Simlah, the three leading Dutt families are all quietly ignored. The different branches of the old House of Raja Sookmoy, the early friend of the East India Company, are represented by a single member. There is no member of Raja Nursing's and Raja Buddynath's families. Surely, the names of Kumars Dowlat Chunder and Monohur would have occurred to anybody who knew Native Calcutta. The Seals are represented by a single scapegrace, while his uncle is forgotten. Maharshi Debender Nath Tagore—the eldest son of the historic Dwarkanath Tagore, friend of Her Majesty the Queen, as well as of other crowned heads in Europe—with his whole family has been kept out. The grandsons of Raja Ram Mohan Roy (another friend of Her Majesty's) have been equally left in the lurch. Among Rajas, we miss the heads of the ancient Houses of Naldanga and Chachra. We do not see the Brahman Raja of Hritampur. We see not the great Zemindar of Kakina. We are not giving names at random, but those of the select few who are expected by the country to have a place in such an assemblage on such an occasion. We could mention dozens of well-known Zemindars in and about the town, such as the Biswases, Dosses and Chowdhrys of Jaun Bazaar, the Roy Chowdhrys of Cossipore, the Chowdhrys of Panchai, and Roy Chowdhrys of Taki, the Mookerjees of Gobardanga, the Pal Chowdhrys of Latoodaha, who all reside and are well known in town, who are unrepresented. Who has not heard of Baboos Nafar Chunder and Biptodas Pal Chowdhry? or of Ray Jatindra Nath Chowdhry? We find Dewan Jai Prakash Lal of Doomraon, but miss Dewan Bhoobaneswar Dutt of Hutwa? Surely, Dewan Fazel Rabbi of Moorsshedabad ought to have occurred to some at least of the promoters. We do not see Kumar Nil Krishna, but his younger brother is there. The Kayastha Malliks of Calcutta are represented by a single name.

Kumar Inder Chunder Singh, so well known to native and European society for his munificence and his public spirit, is alone of all the Paikpara Raj pointedly excluded. The natives in the Government services have been entirely left out. Rai Bahadr Rajendra Nath Mitra, long the practical arbiter of many fates as the only native Secretary in the Bengal Office, now at Alipore, is not in. Nor is there Baboo Bankim Chunder Chatterjee, perhaps the greatest Bengali name in Bengal. A ban seems to have been contemplated against all native connections of Government. Men like Baboo Abhoya Charan Das, grown grey in functions of the kind to be performed, who can scarcely be said to be retired, seeing that they are still serving actively in honorary capacities, have been tabooed. But what shall we say of an insane List which, with so many barristers of sorts in it, has no room for Messrs. Mono Mohan Ghosh and W. C. Bonnerjee? The last kick of the ass in the camp—whoever he be—we will mention is that directed against the Press. Our Father in British Indian Street itself, who has so often replied to toasts for us at public dinners, the veteran James Wilson is excluded. And so, with him, the conductors of the *Amrita Bazar*, *Hope*, and of that unspeakable rag, *Reis & Rayyet*, are nowhere.

The more Select Executive Committee has been constituted with equal carelessness, and evidently on personal likes and dislikes. It is crowded with ornamental figure-heads, while men of work like Mr. Mehta, who are on every lip, have been excluded.

IN our last, we finished the publication of a certified translate of the Will of the late Nawab Ikbaloob Dowlah Bahadoor, which is now the subject of litigation in the Indian courts. It is a document unexampled in testamentary annals, and is replete with interesting and instructive reading. Its charm lies in the frankness of its narrations and opinions. But candour without care is apt to be a nuisance. Our attention has been drawn to a passage as open to this remark. Referring to his Benares property, the testator denounces his agent there in no measured terms. But he is not sure who is his agent. He mentions two different men, both Biswases, but abuses one without identifying him, speaking throughout of him in the grammatical third person singular. One of them, Baboo Radhanath of that ilk, we are assured, was not the Nawab's agent and has had nothing to do with his affairs. We are glad to have this opportunity of doing justice.

THE Family of Ali is irresistible. Notwithstanding the bar under which they lie among the Orthodox, they have always found partisans who, though few in number, are strong in their faith and zeal—men of light and leading—Nawabs and Viziers.

The wisdom of British Proverbial Philosophy has once more secured a signal proof. The grey mare is the better horse by far. In these days of Woman's Rights and Female ascendancy, it was time enough that the fact should be unmistakably asserted and freely admitted. A quarter of a century ago, a Mrs. B—had, by popular voice, the distinction of being the Judge of Rajshahye. If the claims of the prior letter had been overlooked, justice, though slow, is sure, and the *amende honorable* has at length been made by the administrative conscience and the dues paid with all interest, with the enthronement of Saraswati on the highest board of justice.

There is a moral in every incident, and so in this. Nothing like marriage, when of the right sort. It is a salutary lesson, and one particularly wanted at a time when the cry is heard on all sides that marriage is a failure, and that the young man of the period will have none of it. Our Boys at any rate have presented to them a capital example of fruitful matrimony in every sense.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1889.

### THE STATUTORY CIVIL SERVICE.

To the Government of India, the result of the Public Service Commission, as modified by the Secretary of State, must be a great disappointment. It was after much and repeated correspondence, extending over a period of two years, that the Government of India succeeded in getting Lord Kimberley's sanction to appoint a Commission with power to go into the whole subject of a larger admission of natives to the higher offices of the public service, independently of the

limitations at present imposed by Acts of Parliament, and with a view to Parliamentary legislation, if necessary. The Secretary of State was, from the first, averse to any legislative changes, while the Government of India, both under Lord Ripon and Lord Dufferin, insisted upon such changes as the best way of dealing with the question. They pointed out the defects of the Statutory system, and strongly advocated fresh Parliamentary legislation, as the only means of arriving at a satisfactory solution of the problem. But the Secretary of State was opposed to legislation. To Lord Ripon's proposals to make certain changes in the Covenanted Civil Service Competition in England, to open wider that door of admission to natives of India, leaving the Statutory system to make up any deficiency in the 18 per cent. which was recognised as the fair proportion of the whole recruitment to be reserved for natives, by appointments made under revised and more comprehensive rules, Lord Kimberley answered with an emphatic negative, stoutly holding out for the Statutory system, which, far from deserving the secondary place to which Lord Ripon's scheme would have reduced it, was considered to be the primary method of selecting natives of India for the Civil Service. The English competition was, he said, naturally adapted to the circumstances of home-born rather than of Indian candidates, and the Act of 1870 was "the remedy provided by Parliament itself for any defects that might show themselves in the competitive system established in 1853, and for any inconvenience or injustice which the natives of India might be shown by experience to suffer" from the conditions of the English system. He described the Act as "a measure of remarkable breadth and liberality, affording an unlimited field of experiment in methods of selection," and asked the Indian Government "to exhaust this remedy before undertaking the possibly impracticable task of completely adapting competitive selection in England to the circumstances both of European and of Indian candidates." These instructions of the Secretary of State were fully considered by Lord Dufferin's Government. Revised draft rules under the Statutory Act were circulated to Local Governments for their opinion, and, after considering the replies received, the Government of India again addressed the Secretary of State on the subject. All the Local Governments had commented upon the defects of the Statutory system, and Lord Dufferin's Government was of opinion that no good was to be expected from any mere tinkering of what, he believed, called for radical change. They concluded with expressing an opinion "that any scheme, to be entirely satisfactory, would require Parliamentary legislation, and unless the Secretary of State was willing to undertake such legislation as might be shown to be necessary, it would be impossible to devise a satisfactory scheme." To this strong expression of opinion, Lord Kimberley assented, and in his Despatch of 15th July 1886 sanctioned the re-opening of the question. The Public Service Commission was accordingly appointed with a sufficiently

strong and representative constitution, and the Commission, after holding its sittings in various provinces and collecting a mass of evidence, recommended the lines on which Parliamentary legislation should be framed. The Statutory Act was proposed to be repealed, as in the Commission's opinion, no amendment, whether of the Statute, or the rules, would meet the ends in view, and the services were recommended to be reconstructed on the basis of an Imperial and a Provincial Service. The Provincial Service was to be constituted partly out of appointments which are at present reserved by Schedule to the Covenanted Civil Service and partly out of existing Uncovenanted appointments. The revision of the Schedule annexed to the Statute 24 and 25, Vict., Cap. 54, would have required Parliamentary legislation. These proposals of the Commission were substantially accepted by the Government of India, which, in forwarding the Commission's recommendations, might well and reasonably expect that the Secretary of State, after having admitted the necessity of the whole question being reconsidered in view to Parliamentary legislation if necessary, would accord his sanction to the scheme as at last devised. Nothing of the kind. Lord Cross harks back to the old position held by Lord Kimberley in his reply to Lord Ripon's Despatch of 12th September 1884. The present Secretary of State even quotes Lord Kimberley's high estimate of the Statutory Act, and repeats that the remedy it provides should be exhausted before applying to Parliament for fresh legislation. If this is not throwing the whole thing overboard, we do not know what is. The great point in issue between the two authorities for a long time was as to the <sup>and surgical</sup> ~~necessity~~ of otherwise of fresh Parliamentary legislation. So far as this is concerned, the Government of India have scarcely been treated with fairness or sufficient courtesy.

Both Lord Kimberley and Lord Cross are eloquent in their praise of the Statute of 1870. It is "a measure of remarkable breadth and liberality," "the Parliamentary remedy for any defects in the existing system," in a word, an instrument capable of versatile application and endless hidden possibilities. Holding such an estimate of the capacities of that Act, the Secretary of State could not well be prepared to resort to Parliament, while he points out that the very suggestion of the repeal of a measure of such liberality would be regarded as a retrograde step and scarcely have chance of a hearing. It would be represented, says Lord Cross, as a withdrawal, from the natives of India, of an important Statutory right. If it were explained, he adds, that such a withdrawal is counterbalanced by the proposed constitution of the Provincial Service upon a wider basis, by transferring to it a number of appointments now reserved by the Schedule for the Covenanted Civil Service, the reply might be made that the fact that an office is not in the Schedule does not necessarily imply that it shall be held exclusively by the Provincial Service. Indeed, for some time, such excluded offices would be treated as ground common to both Services. Under such circumstances, any draft enactment, brought before Parliament, argues the Secretary of State, might present the aspect of being rather unfavorable than favorable to the natives. It is also pointed out that "the difficulties which have really hampered the free action of Government, in using the existing statutes, are such as cannot be, summarily removed by fresh legislation: They can be overcome only by time and the operation of agencies already at work." The

*Holloway's Pills.*—Teachings of Experience.—The united testimony of thousands, extending over more than forty years, most strongly recommends these Pills as the best purifiers, the mildest aperients, and the surest restoratives. They never prove delusive, or give merely temporary relief, but attack all ailments of the stomach, lungs, heart, head, and bowels in the only safe and legitimate way, by depurating the blood, and so eradicating those impurities which are the source and constituent of almost every disease. Their medicinal efficacy is wonderful in renovating enfeebled constitutions. Their action embraces all that is desirable in a household medicine. They expel every noxious and effete matter; and thus the strength is nurtured and the energies stimulated.

conclusion of the Secretary of State is, that the proposed legislation, besides being of doubtful expediency, would not facilitate the scheme of the Commission, the obstacles to any very early and permanent redistribution of the public offices being due to the state of education and civilization among the natives rather than to the law. The measures proposed by the Commission are many of them such as, in their own view, would take some time for their complete realization. Lord Cross, therefore, holds that it is possible "to accept in substance the Commission's scheme and introduce it without discarding any essential part or disturbing its framework upon the basis of the existing Acts of Parliament."

### THE INCOME TAX.

If the demoralising effects of any impost were an argument for its abolition, the Income Tax ought to be doomed. It has been demoralising all round. Both officers and assesseees have succumbed to the temptations to fraud offered by its administration. Our authority for such a statement is the official Blue-book. The Board of Revenue in the last report on the administration of the Income tax writes: "In 1887-88 enquires were made which resulted in the discovery that the Marwari traders in Calcutta had for some time past been underassessed, and that there had been much fraudulent evasion of the law through collusion with an Assessor and another person who was employed by an attorney as a tout to procure him work in connection with Income-tax cases. The irregularities then discovered were remedied, the Assessor was dismissed, and as the then Collector retired about the same time a new Collector was appointed. A much stricter system of enquiry into the incomes and profits of the Marwari merchants was introduced, the result of which has been a very large increase in the sum payable by them as Income-tax." The increase amounted to over 2¼ lacs in last year, and it is expected to grow with better administration. The State was thus for years a heavy loser under the then much belauded administration of a European Collector whose retirement is conveniently synchronous with the discovery. The native Assessor is justly dismissed, but the report is silent as to whether any proceedings were taken to bring the attorney's tout to justice. After such disclosures of the conduct of Government officers, one can scarcely be surprised to find the wide prevalence of dishonesty in various shapes and degrees among the general body of tax-payers. We rely upon the same report for evidence in support of this. The Board says that many Europeans and Companies in Calcutta under-declared their income "through ignorance of what constituted income." "Allowances to resident partners, interest on partners' capital, Income-tax paid in the previous year, sums not wholly or exclusively laid out for trade, debit balances of previous years introduced as a set-off against the year's profits, are instances of improper deductions from assessable incomes which were apparently permitted in previous years." Altogether, the Marwaris are not all the black sheep in the Calcutta fold, and many strange things were permitted in previous years, under an exemplary Collector whose retirement was well-timed with the introduction of critical enquiry. About native assesseees, the Collector of Bhagulpore writes: "In this district regular accounts are rarely kept except by tradesmen, and every year the Act is in operation I believe the system of keeping two sets of accounts—one for the Assessor and the other for business—is developed.

Many of the mofussil money-lenders profess to keep none at all, and to work on their bonds, producing of course just as many of these as they think the Assessor or Deputy Collector will have heard of or as suits their purpose." The Commissioner of Orissa reports the difficulty of ascertaining the income of *Mohunts* and *Pandas* who are the only persons having the largest incomes in that province. The Commissioner of Chota Nagpore reports a difficulty of another kind. He complains that the contractors under the Bengal-Nagpore Railway Company either did not submit returns of their income, or furnished such as were incomplete and unreliable, and the Railway Engineers did not in all cases give the necessary information asked for.

The unpopularity of the tax is admitted by the Board itself to be beyond question. It is, however, added, no doubt as a plea for its retention, that "there is now seldom any open expression of discontent even amongst the classes who have to pay it, though evasions of the law by deliberately understating incomes, by fabricating accounts or by other equally unfair means continue to be common among petty traders and professional men without fixed salaries." The last admissions are a sufficient condemnation of a tax which is admittedly sapping all morality in the commercial classes in the country. Our own experience not only confirms the opinion expressed by the Board as to the prevalence of dishonesty in evading the payment of the tax, but goes further. It is by no means confined to petty traders. There are manufacturers and dealers on a large scale who are known to fabricate two sets of accounts, and this is not confined to natives. European Companies are not above resorting to unfair means for underestimating their profits. It is the salaried class and holders of Government securities that are precluded from these means of evading payment, but even, among the former, there are not a few who derive an income from perquisites, and these go unassessed from the difficulty of ascertaining them. Another mode of evasion is reported to be the wilful commission of default. Instances, the Board says, were not wanting in which the assesseees defaulted under the idea that failure to pay the tax and its subsequent payment under warrant would be strong grounds for claiming exemption in the next year. The Board is of opinion that, with the exception of Calcutta, the limit of taxation has been reached in the provinces. The Board has no doubt data to justify this view. They are evidently satisfied with the amount which was collected in the year 1888-9, which shows a considerable increase. But we have independent information to show that the collections are often swollen by the arbitrary assessment of incomes falling below the taxable minimum under the law. So long as the law remains in force, people with assessable incomes must pay the tax, however it might press on them, but there is no reason why zealous Deputy Collectors and Assessors, who fight shy of closely scrutinising the incomes of the higher classes of assesseees who can protect themselves even in their unfair evasions of the Act, should make up the deficiency in their collections by spreading their net over a large area which ought to be left untouched by their operations. This area comprises a large number of small incomes derived by poor dealers who are not intelligent enough to defend themselves from oppression and reconcile themselves to the impost as a call from the *Sirkar* which must be obeyed by all without exception.



### THE MAHARAJA OF VIZIANAGRAM AND THE NEW MADRAS JUBILEE TOWN HALL.

DURING his late visit to Madras, the Maharaja of Vizianagram was welcomed with an address by the promoters of the Town Hall in commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee. As the building owes its existence mainly, within so short a time, to His Highness' enlightened munificence, it was but natural, now that the Hall has been completed, that there should be a grateful demonstration in his honour. The Maharaja replied as follows:—

YOUR EXCELLENCY,—With your permission, I will now return thanks to the Trustees of the Victoria Public Hall, who have shown me greater honor than my humble attempts entitle me to receive on this occasion. Colonel Moore, Trustees of the Victoria Hall, Ladies and Gentlemen, I sincerely thank you for your kind invitation to receive the address with which you have just honored me. It is, of course, a great pleasure to me to see, as I now do, this beautiful building in its complete state, and I must say that I think in its appearance, and its many appliances of convenience for every sort of entertainment and function of public utility, it reflects undoubtedly very great credit upon the architect, upon all who had either supervision over it, or suggestions to make as to its existence, as well as upon those responsible for its construction. In 1875, when an entertainment was given to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, for want of such a building, His Royal Highness was entertained by Madras in a pavilion temporarily fitted up in the Royapuram Railway Terminus. Although the bamboo and the palm are emblems of peace and prosperity and are often substituted for architectural needs in Madras, yet I trust no one would doubt that, instead of those fragile materials, granite and mortar, which are the materials used for the foundation and superstructure of this building, are far more fitting symbols and suitable indicators of unswerving loyalty which is the monopoly only of us, the Eastern Aryans. On such occasions, to quote my much respected friend Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee in Calcutta, "when we directly have to show our loyalty to royalty, our loyalty has no limits." Overflowing with ever so much greater enthusiasm, it leaves a more abiding impression on our hearts than on those of any nation, I make bold to say, on the face of the earth; and I am delighted that, on the present occasion of a Royal visit, this building is to be utilized for the homage which Madras is to offer to H. R. H. our beloved Prince Albert Victor. Then, again, the simile holds good when you apply it to the steadfastness of purpose in discharging manifest and manifold functions of public utility other than those mentioned above. From similes and sentiments, if we turn towards practical advantages, I think I shall be able to convince you that aid in this direction, or like objects, carries off the palm of superiority over the succour that may be lent to the much talked of and itinerating assembly known as "the National Congress." I have no objection to that association; but I simply mean to say that, at present, it fails to fulfil its proper mission, for the simple reason that it espouses political agitation alone; whereas there is no question of general beneficence either of a political or social nature, that cannot be discussed under this roof; while, strange to say, as above alluded to, the National Congress completely turns its back upon all social questions, which constitute the very foundation upon which any fitting political superstructure is alone capable of construction. I am afraid that unless the National Congress recognises social reforms as well, the fruits aimed at by it will prove very inadequate, and certainly dearly bought for the expenditure it has necessitated. So, gentlemen, I think I have proved that permanency, or durability, is on the side of social reform. Among social reforms, for instance, what greater reform, either social or legal, as you may please to call it, can we think of, than a measure to put a stop to the sale of Hindu girls in marriage—which among the Latins, was known as co-emption, and which was put a stop to before the inauguration of what is known as the Twelve Tables—a practice not only common, but extensively prevalent throughout the Madras Presidency, and in a less degree in the other two Presidencies, viz., Bombay and Bengal in British India, especially among the Brahminical classes in the Southern Presidency, under the most objectionable and absolutely groundless allegations of religious sanction, greatly owing to the utter ignorance of the lower classes regarding the intent and import of the Shastras, and partly owing to the uninterrupted and rapid decay of Hindu Hierarchical prestige upon the various sects from the middle of this century; and partly owing to the inefficiency of the provision in the British Slavery Act V of 1843. And to bring about such a desirable end, I am afraid, the National Congress will not turn a listening ear to me; whereas I am emboldened to ask attention to it here, through your indulgence, although it is a seeming digression, for which I beg your forbearance, from the present purposes for which we have assembled here. I have mentioned the subject to prove practically the various advantages one would derive in such places of public advantage and general utility as the Victoria Public Hall in which we are now assembled. Having proved the superiority of permanent institutions, of established societies and Town Halls over ephemeral and itinerant bodies, I thank you most

cordially for the kind expressions concerning anything I have been able to do towards forwarding so valuable a work; and I trust that the Victoria Public Hall may always continue to more than fulfil the anticipations entertained concerning it, when it was first projected; and I assure you I shall always retain a most lively recollection of the honor which, as I have said above, I have not the least claim to, and which you have been pleased to do me on this occasion. I assure you that I shall ever exert myself to further anything concerning the Victoria Public Hall, in which you have shown such praiseworthy interest, to the best of my abilities, and I will strive to deserve the kind sentiments you have so liberally lavished on me.

### NAWAB ABDUL LUTEEF BAHADOOR AT THE SCHOOL OF GREEK MEDICINE AT DELHI.

A most interesting ceremony was the other day performed at the Yunani Medical School in this city.

Nawab Abdul Luteef Bahadur, C. I. E., of Calcutta, was lately in our midst on a short visit, and the members of the Committee of the *Madrass Fiza* or medical school for imparting instruction under the Yunani system, took the opportunity of presenting him with an address of welcome, as he had always evinced a strong interest in the cause of Yunani medicine.

A meeting of the members of the Committee of the Medresah, and of other gentlemen interested in the institution was convened on Sunday the 17th instant, at the school premises. The President of the Committee, Syud Hadi Hossain Khan Bahadur, supported by Prince Muzya Jah Bahadur of the ex-Royal Family of Delhi, Nawab Saeedooddeen Ahmad Khan of the Loharoo Family, Shum-ul Olma Mahomed Zakaoollah Khan Bahadur, Hakeem Abdul Majeed Khan, and others, presented the Nawab with an address of welcome, couched in most complimentary terms, for his lifelong services in the cause of Mahomedan Education and improvement as well as in the cause of Yunani medicine.

The Nawab in returning his cordial thanks for the great and unexpected honor conferred upon him by the leaders of Delhi society, addressed the meeting for a couple of hours.

After dealing with the most important question of Mahomedan Education, in general terms, he entered into an elaborate discussion of the subject of the Yunani system of medicine. He then acknowledged the benefits which medical and surgical treatment had, under the European system of allopathy, conferred upon the natives of India. Then he dwelt upon the urgent necessity that existed in this country for the preservation and improvement of the Yunani system, which was largely patronized and resorted to by certain sections of the Mahomedan and Hindoo communities, who, owing to strong religious and social prejudices, were unable and unwilling to avail themselves of the advantages of European medicine, and who were satisfied that, whilst generally benefiting them by its mode of treatment, the Yunani system religiously respected those prejudices.

As an instance, he said that, in the first place, notwithstanding the march of civilization, there were still millions of men and women in this country who deliberately refused, even at the sacrifice of their lives and health, to touch any medicine made of spirits; and secondly, there were thousands of females of the *Pardahkeen* class, who preferred death rather than allow their person to be seen, much less touched, by male physicians and surgeons. He reminded his audience that it was with the sole object of satisfactorily meeting this latter requirement that the splendid and most beneficent institution of Lady Dufferin's Zenana Hospitals has been established throughout this country under the auspices of Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen Empress. Having thus shown that there did exist a large number of Her Majesty's subjects in India who were rightly or wrongly deprived of the blessings of the European system of medicine, and who had still a faith in the Yunani system, the Nawab pointed out to the meeting that before this there had been no organization whatever for giving regular instruction in the science of Yunani medicine. It was well known that the various Hakeems or physicians of the Yunani school who found time, were in the habit of giving private tuition to a number of students, who were inclined to learn that branch of science; and it was thus that a pretty good complement of Hakeems was found to exist in almost all parts of India. This, the Nawab observed, was by no means satisfactory. He said that such a mode of recruiting the ranks of the Hakeems was highly unsatisfactory. The result was that there were Hakeems and Hakeems. There were some who were really well educated and competent physicians—having undergone a regular course of instruction in the difficult science and passed several years of apprenticeship under well-known practitioners. Whilst there were many others who had only acquired a very superficial knowledge of the Yunani system, and in the absence of better qualified men had set themselves up as Hakeems, and the requirements of the people provided them with practice. The mischief that this sort of medical practitioners are likely to do can be easily imagined. It was to remedy this state of affairs that Hakeem Abdul Majeed Khan, the eldest son of the famous and

eminent physician, Hakeem Mahmood Khan (whose forefathers had established themselves in Delhi for the last 200 years, as physicians to the Emperors of Delhi)—and himself a most successful and learned physician—has founded this medical school for giving a complete course of instruction in the Yunani system. The Yunani system-loving communities cannot be too thankful to Hakeem Abdul Mujed Khan for this philanthropic and laudable move on his part. The Nawab said that he was aware from personal knowledge that at the courts of almost all native Princes throughout India, Yunani Hakeems formed a part of the regular establishments, in addition to English Doctors of medicine, and he had no doubt that if an appeal for assistance were made in a proper manner to the Princes and noblemen of India, sufficient help would be forthcoming without much difficulty. He exhorted his audience to adopt suitable measures for bringing to the notice of the Indian public the good work which the infant school was doing, and to try, to the utmost of their power, to give it their full support in every way.

The Nawab, after again thanking the members of the Committee for the honor he had received at their hands, sat down. The President thanked the Nawab, on behalf of the gentlemen present, for his admirable, interesting and most instructive speech; and then the meeting broke up.

Delhi, 28th November 1889.

MIR ABDULLAH.

### THE SASTRAS AND THE SCRIPTURES.

As Hindus we cannot but feel sympathetically towards Pundit Bhashya Charya in his lamentations, in *The Hindu* of Madras, over the reluctance of Western Orientalists to acknowledge the antiquity of any Indian work or monument. "The Bhagavad Gita is copied, according to them, from the New Testament and was written after the beginning of the Christian era. Sir William Jones thought the Code of Manu was written in the ninth century B. C., and we are now told by Western scholars that it was written in the fourth century after Christ, &c."

When Sir William Jones and other distinguished scholars began to study the Sacred Books of the East, they were confounded on finding that their new and old Testaments contained so much in common with them, causing them to come to the conclusion that either they must be "copied from the Christian Gospel histories or the Christian Gospel histories are copies from them, or they have both been copied from an older mythos." Their mode of explanation—the coincidence was that "the haughty self—showed his creed and ritual and legends from—dia."

The Revd. Maurice, in his book titled "Brahminical Fraud detected or the attempts of the Sacerdotal tribe of India to invest their fabulous deities and heroes with the honours and attributes of the Christian Messiah, examined, exposed and defeated," made out to his own satisfaction and that of the English Bishops how these swindling interpolations were made. But later experience has shown the Antiquarian that the explanation is no longer tenable and that the antiquity of the Sanskrit text is long anterior to the advent of the foreigner.

If the conclusion of the early scholars before referred to stood along with their dates for the Eastern Scriptures, it would now be impossible to avoid the conclusion that the Christian religion has been copied from its Indian predecessors. So the whole of our ancient books must be postdated to suit Christian ideas. History and the Bible will not agree, so much the worse for history. It must be cut and carved till it does fit it according to the Western antiquarian.

### Public Paper.

No. 1671.

From—C. J. Lyall, Esq., C.I.E., Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Calcutta, the 10th December 1889.

I AM DIRECTOR. The receipt of your letter No. 8201, dated the 30th Oct., containing (1) a memorial addressed to the Governor-General in Council, signed by Mahadev Keshav Kumthekar, late a Mamlatdar in the Central District of the Bombay Presidency, whose dismissal was recommended by the Government of Bombay and was ordered in the letter from the Government of Bombay noted (No. 1251, dated 2nd Sep. 1889), and (2) a memorial presented to the Government of Bombay by certain influential officials (Sankar Balchandra Bapat, Venkatesh Krishna Yeshwant Ballal Tambe.)

2. In reply I am to observe that all these petitioners, with the exception of Kumthekar, were among the seven incriminated officials who were specially selected by the Government of Bombay as the first to be removed from the public service, as having most clearly incurred the penalty of dismissal provided by the Statute 49 George III, Cap. 126. At the same time the Government of

Bombay reserved a number of cases for further consideration as presenting some doubtful features. Such being the case, it was concluded that His Excellency the Governor in Council, who was fully aware of all the circumstances under which the different individuals had paid, regarded these seven and also Kumthekar (who was the first of a second set of seven recommended for dismissal) as the most culpable or among the most culpable; and as soon as the Government of India had satisfied itself that they had without doubt paid money corruptly, it gave effect to the view of the Local Government which had thus singled them out. In forwarding the present representations, the Government of Bombay makes no recommendation for any special reconsideration of any individual case. Moreover, with the exception of the memorial from Kumthekar, which has already been disposed of, none of the petitions is addressed to the Government of India, and no reason is given in your letter why they have been forwarded. They have, however, been considered by the Governor-General in Council, and I am to communicate the conclusions at which he has arrived.

3. With reference to the petition from Shankar Bhalchandra Bapat, I am to point out that there is no suggestion in the case of any such pressure as could amount to extortion, while the payments were undoubtedly made to obtain an office and therefore within the statute. The harassment to which he refers seems to have consisted in Mr. Sathé having been appointed Native Assistant to the Commissioner in preference to himself, and he also apprehended that some one else might be similarly preferred. There is some force in the petitioner's remark that when Mr. Crawford, in breach of standing orders, personally asked for a loan, it was difficult for his native subordinate to refuse, but it is not true that he had no alternative. I am further to observe that although Bapat's case may be said to resemble in some respects that of Ganesh Pandurang Thakár, the Government of India, in excusing the latter from the penalty of dismissal after considerable hesitation, went to the extreme limit of indulgence. Bapat's case, moreover, is differentiated from that of Thakár in that he made more than one payment. The Governor-General in Council, therefore, is not prepared to re-open this case.

4. Nor does His Excellency in Council see any ground for reconsidering the case of Venkatesh Krishna Dravid. This man had committed a very grave error, and had been declared absolutely disqualified for a year for any judicial office, while at the end of that period he was to be tried as a Karkun or subordinate Magistrate before he could be considered eligible for a Mamlatdarship. In these circumstances he cannot plead supersession, and there were no threats or other pressure used to induce him to pay. He paid money to secure an office for which he had been deliberately held to be not eligible until he had given proof of fitness in a subordinate post. In other words he volunteered a payment "to escape the results of previous misconduct" or mistakes.

5. As regards the case of Yeshwant Ballal Tambe, I am to invite a reference to the deliberate opinion of the Commissioners that "as to the allegation that he was driven to give a bribe by being transferred and superseded, we find it to be groundless." Sir Raymond West in his minute describes Tambe's case as one in which "mere acquiescent connivance verged into active complicity," and it would seem that Tambe voluntarily put himself into communication with Deshmukh in the first instance. I am to say that if, notwithstanding these expressions of opinion, the Government of Bombay thinks that there are any special reasons for reconsideration of this case, those reasons should be stated clearly and fully for the information of the Governor-General in Council. The original statement made by Tambe to Mr. Ommanney has not been submitted to this Department, and there is nothing on record before the Government of India to support the plea that he held out against paying until he was distinctly threatened with a transfer to Poent.

6. In conclusion I am to state for the information of the Governor in Council that Balwant Narayan Dabir, another of the eight men whose dismissal was first ordered by the Government of India in accordance with the views believed to be entertained by the Governor in Council, has submitted a copy of a memorial addressed to the Governor-General in Council, the original of which he states has been forwarded through the Bombay Government. With reference to this case I am to say that the Governor-General in Council has no doubt about the guilt of the memorialist. In their report the Commissioners remark that "Dabir, if there be truth in his story, shows himself in no sense a victim of extortion or pressure, but a man who himself conceived the idea of offering a bribe for that to which he had no special claim;" and it appears to His Excellency in Council that there is ample evidence that he was anxious to obtain a permanent Mamlatdarship, and that, finding it must be paid for, he volunteered the payment of a large sum of money. In these circumstances the Government of India is unable to consider the order for his dismissal.

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,  
C. J. LYALL,

Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

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## SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

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NAWAB FARIDOON JAH BAHADOOR,

(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,  
 Behar and Orissa.)

*Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.*

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 CALCUTTA.

## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little *brochure* written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who b

of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty that attracts our author's eye:—[Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hints his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing

in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in. *The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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Have no appearance of cheapness about  
them. Others sell at double our rates. Mr.  
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7-8 watch I purchased from you two years  
back, gives correct time as yet." Acting Su-  
perintendent, Government Farm, Khandesh,  
says:—"A watch maker has valued your  
Rs. 7-8 watch for Rs. 15." Mr. J. Sutcliffe, R.  
W. Fusil Regt., Lucknow, says:—"Some valued  
it at Rs. 15 and were completely surprised when  
I told them it only costs Rs. 7-8." Pretty  
Candian Gold Chains, Locketts, Pencils, com-  
plete shirt Studs and Rings set with chemical  
diamonds, rubies, &c., at Rs. 2 each. Mr. J.  
A. Velsmore, Satur, says:—"The best gold-  
smith of this place values the chain for  
Rs. 7 and the locket for Rs. 10." Mr. G.  
Smith, Salt Inspector, Sanikutla, says:—"A  
German valued the diamond ring at Rs. 50 and  
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# Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1889.

} No. 403

## CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

### A SERMON IN LOWER BENGAL.

BY SIR ALFRED LYALL

in the character of Hajee Mahomed Ghazee *oorf* Moonjahid-ood-din Wahabee, preacher from Arabia *via* Cabool and Swat, addressing the secret assembly.

Men of the Indian cities who call on the Prophet's name,  
By our brotherhood in Islam ye besought me, and I came,  
From a country hard and barren to, a softly watered land,  
To a round sky line of harvests from a wilderness of sand ;  
From our bare and barren homesteads, from our feast of dates and milk,

From your places, your flesh pots, and your raiment of the silk ;  
From a land of fenced citadels, where blood is lightly shed,  
Where a clan must hold its borders, and a man must keep his head ;  
Where the wayfarer benighted, as he nears a village late  
Spies the red spark from the matches of the guard about the gate,  
Where the faithful watch in vain except the Lord their city keep—  
Here the infidels protect you, and with open door ye sleep.  
You have sought my aid and counsel, I must lead you, I must pray  
That the God of Islam may restore your old imperial sway,  
In the towns your fathers founded, in the provinces they named,  
May revive a faith forgotten and the rites that ye have maimed ;  
That he prosper your conspiracy and send his spirit forth,  
On the Arab of the Dekhan and the Afghan of the North ;  
So the bayonet be dashed aside with the swing of a curved sword,  
And ye reap a bloody harvest with the sickle of the Lord.  
Can I bid you hope and prosper ? Verily such things may be,  
Men have conquered (nothing doubting) greater odds than you shall see ;

Yea, you Musalmans are many ; and their fighting men are few.  
Prayer is good—but practice better—What is it that ye can do ?  
Will ye fight for this fair heritage, this empire that ye lost ?  
Yea, our God is God of battles, and the martyrs are his host,  
Will ye join that noble army ? Will ye rather death than shame ?  
Will ye play for all ye pray for when your heads are on the game ?

No—your brains are dull with eating, and your hearts are choked with lust,

And your seat is loose in saddle, and your scimitars are rust.  
Ye are cankered by the luxury that keeps you rich and weak,  
Ye trade in wine and usury—Nay, hear, for I must speak—  
Shall I care for noisy menace, or the weight of an Indian blow ?  
I who stormed the English picket on the skirt of Siah Koh,  
When the wild Bajour mountain men lay choking with their blood  
And the Kafirs held their footing, for I slew one where he stood.  
They are cursed, but so are cowards ; and when ye can fight as they did

God succours all such Musalmans ; and then shall ye be aided

When ye gird your loins to harness, and renounce your gainful ease,  
When ye quit your painted Tazeahs and pagan heresies—  
Ye who bow to graven sepulchres, and adore a martyr's stone,  
Who pray to a dead hermit, that should pray to God alone—  
When ye shun the Hindu festivals, the tinkling of the bell,  
The dancing, the idolatries, the harlotry of hell ;  
When ye kneel to God in penitence, and cringe no more to men,  
Ye shall smite the stiff-necked infidel, and rule, but not, till then.  
Then be of courage, oh men ; yea, though here in the darkness is

burning  
Faintly the light of our faith, by your sins and your ignorance dimmed,

Once it was lit by the Lord, and He knoweth no shadow of turning,  
He shall pour oil at his time, and in season the lamp shall be trimmed.

Then shall ye hark to his voice, and start from your sleep at the warning,

Pealing afar through the

Sound as of bugle in can

Through the chill air

Bidding the soldier arise, he must wake and

Be armed ere the light.

Strong must your heart and your hand be, no

Time for soft dreams is before you,

Woe to the coward who sleeps, when the

Darkness that bound him has flown,

Firm be your faith and your feet, when the

Sun's burning rays shall be o'er you,

When the rifles are ranging in line, and the

Clear note of battle is blown.

\* \* \* \* \*

So ye are stirred by my words, ye pardon my scorn and upbraiding,  
Eagerly circle me round and ask will I lead an attack ?

Nay, though your spirits be willing, your flesh is but weak for crusading,

When I face Englishmen's cannon I want better stuff at my back

*Holloway's Ointment and Pills.*—Coughs, Influenza.—The soothing properties of these medicaments render them well worthy of trial in all diseases of the respiratory organs. In common colds and influenza the Pills, taken internally, and the Ointment rubbed over the chest and throat, are exceedingly efficacious. When influenza is epidemic, this treatment is the easiest, safest and surest. Holloway's Pills purify the blood, remove all obstacles to its free circulation through the lungs, relieve the over-gorged air tubes, and render respiration free, without reducing the strength, irritating the nerves, or depressing the spirits ; such are the ready means of escaping from suffering when afflicted with colds, coughs, bronchitis, and other chest complaints, by which the health of so many is seriously and permanently injured in most countries.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

AT Ocean Grove, New Jersey, they water the streets with sea water. What is its effect on the streets and on the health of the inhabitants? It must be a great advantage to the many to have the means for a real sea-water bath at hand. The chemical compounds sold as substitute must be about useless, besides being expensive to the poor.

LIME water mixed with sweet oil is said to be an excellent application for burns, and onion juice a cure for bee sting.

INSTEAD of oil, glycerine and water are now used for tempering steel and cast iron.

IN Boston, a man who toils from 3-30 in the morning to 5 in the afternoon in a subterranean refrigerator, is reported to be insensible to heat and cold.

THE Government of Ecuador has prohibited the immigration of Chinese into the Republic. The Celestials now established on Ecuadorian territory will, however, be allowed to reside in it, until the Executive may consider it convenient to make use of the power which is conferred on it by Art 2 of the "Law respecting Foreigners." The Chinese established in Ecuador leaving it will not be allowed to return to it again. The same restrictions apply to the Galapagos islands.

THE revenue of Russia for the first six months of the present year amounted to 422,400,000 roubles, against 374,800,000 roubles for the corresponding period of 1888, and the expenditure to 415,300,000 roubles, against 420,700,000 roubles during the first six months of last year.

FIVE hundred versts of telephone lines are to be established shortly in European Russia, and 100 in Asiatic Russia. To the existing telegraph system are to be added shortly 1,588 versts in European Russia, and 1,421 in Asiatic Russia.

THE Dominican Republic have granted a concession to the Credit Mobilier of Paris, for the establishment of a bank which is to have the character of a national bank. The National Congress has sanctioned a law for the coinage of a national gold and silver coin. A new customs and navigation law has also been approved by the National Congress.

THE *London and China Telegraph* of the 28th October last says:—

"In Java the sugar planters are at their wits' end how to cope with the disease which now works havoc among growing (sugar) cane crops by cankering their roots. Plants cane from abroad has suggested itself as a substitute for the home-grown article now come under suspicion. Borneo at first came into favour as a supplier meeting requirements. To satisfy the demand nurseries were laid out there and looked promising enough at the outset. They have now fallen into discredit, owing to the dreaded disease appearing there among young cane. Celebes will now be tried, and Commissioners have been sent there by Java sugar planters to see what can be done in that line. In Java the cane has suffered much from excessive rain, followed by a severe drought."

SPEAKING at a banquet in honor of the French Industrial Syndicate of Indo-China, M. Etienne, Under Secretary to the Colonies, said:—

"We must remain in Tonquin in order to reach China without letting ourselves be out-distanced by the English people, who never rest and who possess two routes by which they can reach China—namely, by Siam and Burma."

ON Nov. 22, in the Hungarian Lower House, Deputy Iranyi introduced a Bill exempting Louis Kossuth from the Naturalisation Act.

THE Bohemian Diet would not accept a proposal to erect, in the Prague museum, a commemorative tablet to John Huss.

THE other day, at Tours, they raised the first statue to the memory of Balsac.

THE new Austrian decree obliging civil servants to wear uniform, is to be strictly enforced. They must now eschew the furred overcoats, comforters, shoes and umbrellas of the ordinary attire.

LIKE all professional schools in St. Petersburg, the Military Medical School is the hotbed of Nihilism. There, in the days of Czar Nicholas, a student was, for insubordination, knouted to death. In that school, the other day, the students gathered in hundreds to celebrate the birthday of the famous Nihilist Tschernischewsky. They were, however, dispersed by force.

NEAR the island of Andros, the sea has given back a number of coffers, containing 30,000 gold and silver Spanish pieces of the year 1666, with six bronze cannons, believed to be the wreck of a Spanish man-of-war.

IN West Cork, they have come upon a gold mine near Goleen, on the property of Mr. Becher L. Fleming, J.P. To work it, a company has been formed in London.

NEXT year, in Edinburgh, to commemorate the opening of the Forth Bridge, there will be an International Exhibition of Electrical Engineering and General Industry.

SIR CHARLES LEES, the new Governor of Mauritius, with Lady Lees is already on his way to that island colony.

THE Franco-Prussian painter M. Ferdinand Heilbuth is dead.

THE mediæval implements of torture collected in the Castle of Nuremberg have been sold to a London company, who will exhibit them in the principal towns of Europe and then put them up to public auction. Berlin has an eye on the entire collection.

TURNER'S "The Grand Canal, Venice" has again changed hands. The original of Miller's line-engraving, it was one of the gems of the Manley Hall gallery. Messrs. Agnew and Sons had purchased it for about £7,000. It was hitherto in the possession of the Earl of Dudley. He has now parted with it. It has passed to the New World, Lucky Cornelius Vanderbilt of New York has secured it at a considerable advance on the former price.

HERE is an account of the Austro-Hungarian Scientific Expedition to East Africa. It was read on November 27, before a special meeting of the Geographical Society of Vienna:—

"The travellers were the Hungarian Count Samu Teleki, and the Austrian Naval Lieutenant Ritter von Hochnel. They set off direct to Taveta, at the foot of Kilimanjaro, with the intention of making the ascent. They reached a height of 16,000 feet, but failed to attain the summit—a feat only recently achieved by Dr. Hans Meyer. The Expedition consisted of 250 men. They then marched northwards through Masailand, with Mount Kenia as their destination. They met with an unfriendly reception from the natives. At Kekupe they were assailed with showers of arrows, and had to fight their way for five days. By this time the natives were not spared, and were cut down without mercy. The Expedition, without sustaining any serious loss, reached Nyero, at the foot of Mount Kenia. Here Hochnel was seized with dysentery and had to be left behind, while Count Teleki made the ascent. Mount Kenia rises from the plateau of Lukipia, itself 6,000 feet above the sea level, to a height of about 18,000 feet; but Teleki and his men, toiling over the snow, reached a height of only 15,500 feet. The Expedition fell short of provisions, and to procure them a minor expedition was sent out, and did not return for two months. Those who remained behind were dependent for food on Count Teleki's skill with his gun. He killed during these two months a hundred elephants, buffaloes, and rhinoceroses. When the foraging party returned, on Feb. 10, 1888, an eighteen days' march brought the Expedition to Mount Nyero, where an excellent guide was secured. They suspected the existence of a lake in the neighbourhood, and, indeed, sighted one on March 6. It seemed to extend for miles towards the north. The inland sea was christened Lake Rudolph. The Expedition made all haste towards it, as they had provisions for only nine days, in the hope of coming across villages on the shore. In this they were cruelly disappointed. The whole country was barren and deserted, and during the twenty-two days' march to the northern end of the lake, where two large rivers empty themselves into it, hunger and privation were again endured. They discovered another lake east of Reshiat, which they named Lake Stéphanie, and returned to Reshiat without having met a single native, and in a state of utter exhaustion. They were unable to survey the second lake as they had done the first. Returning by the southern end of Lake Rudolph, taking a westerly course, they marched for thirty-five days without any other food than the scanty proceeds of Count Teleki's gun. It was a period of terrible hunger and hardship, and when Nyero was at last reached it was none too soon. The Expedition had been on the march for 166 days, meeting with nothing but privations. It returned by Lake Naiyasha and Ukambani to Taveta, its starting-point, reaching Mombassa, on the Indian Ocean, on Oct. 25, 1888."



THE Fisk Jubilee Singers have been repulsed from Bengal. In a Land of Darkness of different shades from Shemitic tawny to Hametic jet, and in a city with a West Indian brigade, Uncle Tom was no novelty. Besides, we are far too virtuous, or not enough virtuous, to be drawn by psalmody, however excellent or in the name of whatever charity.

THE Junior Scholarships for 1890, for candidates passing the Entrance Examination, in the Presidency Division have been fixed at 6 in the second grade and 12, third grade. The six are grantable to the highest in the divisional list without reference to districts. The twelve are distributed among the different districts of the Division in the following proportions :—

24 Pergunnahs	...	...	...	3
Nuddea	...	...	...	3
Jessore	...	...	...	2
Khoolna	...	...	...	2
Moorshedabad	...	...	...	2

THE Bengal Legislative Council recommences operation from this day. We say operation because a cess is on the cards.

THE progress of education among Mahomedans, though maintained in the last year, was not so satisfactory as desirable, and unremitting attention to the subject on the part of the education department is enjoined. Two Mahomedan Assistant Inspectors were appointed during the year for the special purpose of securing the proper administration of the Mohsin Fund.

THE Calcutta Noter of the *Indian Planter's Gazette* laments that Surrender Not's offer of Rs. 10,000 was not accepted, for in that case he would have been obliged to pay up. But that practical joke was not open to the inchoate Committee.

The Party of the Original Resolution are, however, avenged on the enemy all the same—indeed, all the better. The refusal threw the Party of Amendment on their own resources. Considering who were at the bottom of the mischief-making at the Town Hall, and that they had a plausible case, and could appeal in the name of humanity to the charitable instincts of the public, these were not to be despised. No wonder that they are getting on swimmingly—even famously. Their overt mouth-piece, the Amender-in-Chief, too, has proved himself equal to the occasion. No Oriental of Orientals he, but a Bengali with true British energy, he is moving Heaven and Earth, even down to the other place (to speak in Parliamentary language) to his and his associates' good faith. Even perseverance that can remove mountains will not convert into innocence a perpetrated offence. But it can earn forgiveness and grace. And he promises to make splendid amends for the unfortunate Amendment.

LAST week, we noticed the zeal in excess of law with which the Salt Revenue officers protect the monopoly in and around Calcutta. The *World* cites a case exemplifying the inconvenient extent to which the monopoly may be carried in European countries.

"In a Neapolitan family some of the children became ill about a month ago, and the doctor ordered them to Capri to take salt baths. The parents took their children to Capri, and hired a small house for them near the sea. The children were too ill to bathe in the sea, so servants went down to the beach and brought up sea water in buckets for their baths in the house: whereupon the regie inspector arrested the servants, because he caught them in the act of taking salt (in the water) without paying the Government duty, salt being a Government monopoly in Italy.

AN American philologist, Mr. H. Hale, is engaged on a vocabulary of the composite language known as Chinook Jargon—the language of Oregon traders, in the same way as Pidjin or Pigeon is of the English in China.

THIS year the loyal Scots went without their public Dinner on St. Andrew's Day. The Covenanted Civil Servants of India—of whatever nationality—are more mindful of their inner men. They hold their Annual Dinner at the Bengal United Service Club, on the 2nd January next.

BENGAL must accept the "bad selection" forced by Government on the unwilling Judges of the High Court, unless Her Majesty's Secretary

of State for India, in his superior purer wisdom disallow the appointment. Mr. Ameer Ali joins the High Court on its reopening after Christmas holidays.

THE High Court closes for the Christmas from Monday next, resuming work on the 2nd January, or two days earlier than in preceding years. The Small Cause Court too will remain closed for the same period.

THE *Dumk* was sorry to miss our name on the Prince's Reception and Entertainment Committee, and is glad to find the omission rectified. We don't know what reflection is proper to us on the occasion. Shall we say *Et tu Brute?* At any rate, we must be excused thanking our contemporary or any other, seeing that we were out by the malingering myopia of some vulgar understrapper and are in by force of our own right hand. Not that we cared for it—for that matter, the world knows of what stuff we are made—but we criticised the doings of the promoters on public grounds and impressed on them the necessity of abandoning selfish regards in the interest of the loyal business in hand, and clenched our point by showing the extraordinary exclusion of the conductors of well-known metropolitan journals, including—without any mock-modesty or coquetry more worthy of a young miss than hard-headed men of the work-day world—ourselves. At the worst, we had had no reason to be ashamed. It was a case of excommunication of the whole country. We felt like the great artist in his death-bed when he exclaimed, "We are all going to Heaven and Vandyke is of the company." We had the most splendid company. The just Yudhistir, at any rate, did not enter Elysium alone.

DIDN'T know Baboo  
S. of Baranagar,—  
Long as he's been 'yar?  
Look'ee here, "Roger,"  
Whar *he's* been *you*?

Here on this scene  
He was thy pardner  
This same Mr. S.  
Working together,  
In wind and weather,  
Day out and in.

Don't know S!  
Well, that is queer:  
You've made a mess  
By forgetting Jack S,—  
Jack with his cheer,  
Jack without fear—  
Brother, look 'yar!

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

It is the season, when

The bird of dawning singeth all night long  
And *when*, they say, no spirit can walk abroad,  
The nights are wholesome; *when* no planets strike,  
No fairy takes, nor witch hath power to charm

and we wish our Christian readers all joy and many in many returns of the time so hallow'd and so gracious,

Wherein *their* Saviour's birth is celebrated

THE late Robert Browning will have a corner in the Westminster Abbey, as he deserves.

Monte Carlo has been reopened, after the summer closure, with additional gaming tables.

A Turkish paper reports the loss of the steamship *Indie* in the Aegean Sea with 500 pilgrims.

Dom Pedro has expressed a wish to stand with other Royalists candidates for the coming Brazilian elections. The Republic maintains a firm attitude. For cheering the late Emperor, at Rio 100 sailors have been shot.

The Doctors have pronounced Emin Pasha out of danger. Emperor William has raised him to the Order of the Iron Crown.

King Oscar of Sweden and Norway has honored the Indian Press in the person of one of its leading members. Mr. Henry Curwen, of the *Times of India*, has been created a Knight of the Royal Order of Vasa. This is a true distinction, conferred as it is on a literary man by learned Royalty.

The slave-hunter of the East African coast, Bushiri, has paid by his death the penalty of his crime. Major Wissman paid one thousand pounds to the natives who captured him. He was courtmartialled and hanged. The news has elicited admiration of the Germans from our contemporary of the *Englishman*. It says, "The Germans have acted in the matter with a promptitude which is to be admired. 'Off with his head. So much for Buckingham'. A few sharp strokes of this kind would paralyse the horrible traffic which is depopulating the richest parts of Central Africa. Bushiri's field of operation extended as far inland as Lake Maero and the upper waters of the Congo."

The Influenza now raging on the Continent has crossed over to London and on to the New World. It is, in some quarters, identified with the Dengue.

Mr. Editor Ernest Parke of the *North London Press* has pleaded justification to the charge of libel filed against him by Lord Euston.

The Cleveland Street scandal has gone into court. The Government resents the imputation that it had abetted the escape of the delinquents. It throws the blame on others' shoulders. At the instance of the Treasury, the Bow Street Magistrate, Mr. Vaughan has issued summonses against the wellknown solicitor Newton, and two others.

AFTER being feasted and fêted and having had sport of sorts, in Southern India—in Travancore and Madras, Prince Albert Victor has gone to Burma, to celebrate the Christmas in his Sovereign grandmother's new dominion, at Mandalay. He arrived at Rangoon yesterday. On the closing day of the year, he starts for this capital, reaching it on the 3rd. His Royal Highness remains in Calcutta for ten days. The public entertainment on the Maidan has been fixed for Tuesday, the 9th January from 6 to 8 in the evening.

THE subscriptions to the Calcutta Reception and Entertainment Fund amount to Rs. 48,000, the Maharaja of Darbhanga leading with Rs. 10,000.—His Highness arrived last night.

THE High Court has sanctioned the compromise in the Burdwan Adoption case. The Dowager Maharani Naram Kamaree accepts the adoption of Lala Bunbehary's son and pledges not to adopt any other. She will continue to receive the monthly stipend fixed for her and be paid in addition in a lump rupees thirteen lacs, in satisfaction of all claims against the Raj estate during the life time of Bijan Behary. She will further receive for the term of her natural life the block Nos. 1 and 2 of the premises No. 9, Clive Street, Calcutta, and absolutely the Burdwan house known as Ziayet Munzil. Bun Behary has proved himself superior to the lawyers engaged in the case. The compromise was a surprise to them no less than the public. The Advocate General alone of the lawyer tribe, we believe, had been let into the secret, and Sir Charles Paul behaved with his accustomed magnanimity.

FEMALE Emancipation confessedly has reached its highest in America. And now the Rights of Woman have been carried to its ultimate—who will say illegitimate?—conclusion. Miss Victoria Woodhal, now Mrs. Martine, of London Bank, has been asked to stand for the Presidentship. And why not? If a female may be a Hereditary Sovereign, why not an Elected salaried Ruler? If a monarch for life by

The Right Divine to govern wrong,

why, not a monarch for a limited period by choice of the Almighty People?

One of Eve's daughters, under shelter of loose ecclesiastical cover, is said to have reached the penetralia of the Vatican, and found herself on the Chair of Peter. It does not matter whether the story of Johannes Angelicus is true or not. Enough that, started by a monk, it has long been believed in Christendom. It was not rejected on the inherent improbability, not to say the absolute impossibility, of such a succession. If male sentiment, or for that matter female too, is averse from womanly domination of the Church, there can be no such objection to female rule in the State. In fact, female sovereignty has always been a fact. It is as old as the time of Solomon. The Salic Law itself is evidence of it. Now, whatever may be the expediency of that law in respect of hereditary succession, it does not apply to suc-

cession to Presidential Rule. There is no reason for excluding women from an office conditioned by time and dependent on choice.

The cry for a female President is no *brutum fulmen*. Whether women have a vote or no, they are in Christendom quite capable of influencing elections. A combination of the gentler sex is rather a formidable prospect for the politics of the future. A *caucus* of women may be irresistible.

THE Board of Revenue in Bengal complain of the inadequacy of the powers of search and arrest possessed by excise officers under the present law, and recommend that, when a revision of the Excise Act is undertaken, it should be remedied. At present, not even an Excise Inspector, not to speak of other subordinate officers, can deal with a case of suspected breach of excise regulations without a warrant from the Collector or the presence of a police officer. In matter of detection, promptitude is everything, but as things now stand, the opportunity frequently slips away, and the case goes undetected. This representation, we knew, was imperative after the collapse of several cases and the escape of men caught red-handed as it were in the act of infringing the excise law. In especial, after Mr. John Apcar's judgment on the Honorary Bench, the Board were in honour bound to go up to Government with a representation. We only wonder they do not press for immediate legislation. In the interest of the Revenue, and therefore in that of the tax-payer, there is a crying need for improvement in the laws of Excise.

THE *Pioneer* writes:—

"Amongst the few things purely Indian of which India is proud are her mangoes. There are mangoes, as everybody knows, in other tropical places; but we have always been accorded the palm in this respect. A correspondent, however, who has visited those parts of Africa that are watered by the Niger gives us some particulars about the fruit there that put this country in the shade altogether. 'Three crops a year,' he tells us, 'and occasionally, I believe, four. Directly one begins to ripen the tree is covered again with blossoms.' There is also, apparently, a rollicking disregard of nature—as known to us here—about these prolific mango trees. 'As soon as the crop begins to ripen on one part of the tree another portion of it begins to blossom, and so on for three months.' These mango-gatlings discharge fruit that is 'delicious for an ungrafted species,' and ranges from 'a good-sized melon,' 'a turkey's egg' down to 'a pin's-head.' The happy dwellers in this land of plenty have mangoes all the year round—but it is not reported whether they enjoy as uninterruptedly the 'doloriferous and sacchariferous boil' (*pace* the shade of the late Onoocool Chunder Mukerjee!) which is too often the mango-eater's portion even in our own miserably attenuated fruit season."

That reminds us of the American Missionary Ward who, in his book on India, says that the people of this country freely acknowledge the superiority of the Europeans in everything but music. Distance, no doubt, lends enchantment to the view. But is nearness such a disillusionist? Familiarity is a notorious breeder of contempt. But we never knew her produce monsters. Is India come to be so contemptible? Has she nothing to be proud of beyond her mangoes? And this from an Anglo-Indian! The mango is, of course, nothing; the Europeans don't understand it; the mangosteen is the thing for their *connaisseurs*. In fact, India is a barren wild which merits no mercy, and would be the better for being swept away or drowned in the Indian Ocean. Nay, India is a cheat and imposter; a delusion and a snare to tempt unsuspecting Britons to their ruin by drawing them out of homely simplicity to fill their lap with the yellow dirt and inoculate them with

—Luxury's contagion, weak and vile!

Is the fruit mango remembered, and not the concomitant fish mango? And does not Hilsa suggest itself in the connection? How weak! And if the mango be the only fruit of any consequence, what of the pagoda? That good venerable elder of the vegetable kingdom, though stripped to the stock and stalks, still continues to support multitudes of European families and enrich not a few Europeans, specially of the British Islands. And this is the return!

The concluding sentence contains a gratuitous attack on the dead. The late Baboo Onoocool Chunder Mookerjee was not only a respected Judge of the High Court, but an ornament of Calcutta society, native and European. It was his misfortune to have a foolish nephew, who published an extraordinary biography of his uncle, in a new dialect of the writer's own invention. But it is not true that Mr. Justice Mookerjee ever used such language, and the suggestion is most unkind and unmanly.

HERE is how they obey the standing orders of Government on the subject of the dismissal of public servants. The case of Doyal Chand

Banerjee, of the Military Pay Examiner's Office, to which we drew the attention of Lord Dufferin at the time, resulted in the reinstatement of the poor clerk, if not in his old post at least in another of equal value. The present case is one that shows a more barefaced violation of orders and the utter inutility of respectful representations to superior authorities after a matter of this kind has once been "settled" to the satisfaction of some subordinate officer. The stereotyped reply of "declines to interfere" is all that one gets for his pains to represent his case in appeal. Rakhal Chunder Auddy, an inferior clerk in the Chief Commissariat Office, Accounts Branch, Calcutta, had at one time been intended to be sent up with the Hazara Field Force. He was examined by the Garrison Surgeon, Fort William, and pronounced fit to accompany the expedition. Regarding the way in which medical officers perform this part of their duty in respect of the native Indian subjects of Her Majesty, some light is thrown upon it by the following passage from one of the several memorials and petitions of Rakhal:—"My statement in my petition dated 14th September 1888, that I was not examined by the medical officer on the 11th September requires an explanation, particularly in view of the remarks made by the medical officer himself and the reliance placed by you on them. The fact is, when I presented myself to the officer for examination, he merely looked at me hurriedly. He did not apply the stethoscope for examining my heart, nor did he ask me a single question regarding my health or the state of my body. If the hurried look he cast on me and any observation he might have made of my gait and voice, satisfied him of my sound health, he was, of course, justified in certifying to my competence to proceed to Hazara." It is impossible for a poor clerk to speak out more plainly. Rakhal, after he had been pronounced fit, upon such examination, to proceed to Hazara, petitioned the head of his office for being sent to either the Presidency Surgeon or the Medical Board, for a thorough and satisfactory examination. He was strongly persuaded that no medical man, upon a real examination, could pronounce him fit. The result, however, was a summary order of dismissal. It will be noted that no order was made directing him to proceed. In his petition to the Commissary General, Eastern Circle, Meerut, Rakhal pertinently states,—“I beg humbly to submit that if any order had actually been made directing me to proceed to Hazara, I would certainly have, whatever the state of my health and whatever, therefore, the risk to my life, promptly obeyed it by proceeding to the station directed, instead of incurring a charge of contumacy and disobedience. If after joining the station, the climate did not, as I had feared, suit me, I would then have, on medical certificate, applied for retransfer to Calcutta or elsewhere. Under these circumstances, Sir, you will see that I have been dismissed on the charge of having disobeyed an order when, in fact, no order had been made. I, therefore, humbly crave that, after the necessary enquiry into this statement, the order of my dismissal may be revoked, and I may be reinstated in the post I held.” A case like this could occur only in India, and that with reference to a native subject of the Queen. No order was made, and yet a person in Government service is dismissed on the ground of having disobeyed an order! Major Hobday, the Commissary-General, Eastern Circle, Meerut, might think it inadvisable to interfere, at the instance of a native clerk, with an order of dismissal passed by his immediate subordinate. But it is rather strange that the superior authorities of the Military Department should support the illegality. The case reminds us of the wag in the story who was ordered to be hanged for having murdered his father-in-law when father-in-law he had none, for the simple fact of the poor fellow not having been ever married.

BROUGHT up amid the hard realities of iron-hearted Sheffield, though himself a lover of literature and devoted to literature's universal king, sweetest Shakespeare, Fancy's child, the veteran editor of the *Indian Daily News* cannot be expected to thoroughly sympathise with the effusive loyalty of an Eastern community to a distant throne. But he has spoken with thoughtful temperance. It is a pleasure to find oneself in agreement with him.

In noticing our article on the Town Hall meeting, the *Indian Daily News* says:—

“The philosophic sage who presides over *Reis and Rayyet* strongly condemns the proceedings at the meeting on Friday last. His censure goes almost all round. Not even the Chairman escapes, though he seems to be chastised more in sorrow than in anger.”

After quoting a paragraph from us, the writer supports our points:—

“It was not without some suspicion of the possibility of such a result

that we stated that the Sheriff ought to preside at such meetings, though for decency's sake we put the objection to the arrangement made on other grounds. Sir Steuart might well have attended the meeting as Sir Steuart, or even as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. But even he himself, we imagine, now feels what an error it was to accept a position which might subject him to as great a mortification as could well happen to a prominent public man. Had our contention been admitted—and every one confesses now that we were right—the Head of the Province would have been spared the humiliation, which he no doubt feels, of having to appeal to the disturber of the meeting to help to keep order. It would have spared the respectable portion of the community the pain of feeling, as they do feel, that in their presence the Head of the Province was practically insulted, and that they were powerless to help either him or themselves. *Reis and Rayyet* says that ‘the assembled powers and notables were rightly served by the neglect of men who can really help them.’ It is difficult to help men who will not be helped, and who probably either scorn advice or misapprehend the motives from which it is tendered. This latter is probably the case; but the results are not the less unfortunate. We believe in publicity. There was no public good intended in the hole and corner meetings that were held as preliminaries for the intended object. There has been more of self-seeking than of honour to visitors, and in this may be traced much of the mischief that has been done and the scandal attending it.”

Just so! And the original sin was repeated in the fresh start made at the British Indian Association Rooms. It was our unpleasant duty, last week, to expose it, and, we are glad to say, with effect. We are thankful to the wiser heads concerned to accept in good part our humble suggestions. It was too much to expect the Loyalists to welcome the ring-leaders in the late fracas. But most of the other names have been included.

THE late Town Hall meeting at Calcutta is still the topic of the Press. From the precincts of the Dutch, it has travelled through the Benighted Province on to Duck Land. The *Indian Spectator* devotes a column to it between two deliberate Editorial Notes which claim notice. We regret we have to join issue with our contemporary *ad orem*, though happily not *usque ad mala*. For, though we have no stomach for the Duck eggs served in the first course—the opening Note—the Bombay apples—the Mazagon mangoes—of opinion in the second are some of them exactly to our frugivorous Brahmanic taste. “Is it fair?” the *Spectator* begins—

“to hold Mr. Surendranath Bannerji to be solely responsible for the *contretemps* that attended last week's public meeting at Calcutta to devise means for a suitable reception for H. R. H. Prince Albert Victor? If it was Mr. Bannerji's schoolboys alone who swamped the original resolution, the trick ought to have been denounced on the spot.”

And why not? He moved the uncalled-for amendment. He got it seconded by one of his youthful camp followers. He carried it by a *rauc*—by means of a caucus of school boys previously drilled and quietly brought in, who were repeatedly reminded on the very spot to “vote solid.” He disturbed the scene; he created discord where all should have been harmony throughout; he set himself up in purposeless opposition to the respectability of the metropolis assembled for a ceremonial function of loyalty to the throne. And he did not budge an inch in his mad resolve of making a mess of the whole demonstration—did not leave the field till he had, with the help of his noisy rabble, routed his fell *ow-citizens* who had come to express their loyalty and to pay for a suitable reception and entertainment, according to their feeble old lights, to the scion of Royalty come to visit them and see their country. And is the community to be blamed for holding the arch-enemy—the author of all the mischief—responsible?

Is stress laid on the “soleness” of the responsibility? Who but Master, or say Schoolmaster, Surendra Nath Banerjee is responsible for bringing in all his Masters Banerjee and Mookerjee and Chatterjee and Gangooly and Chuckerbutty and Bose and Ghose and Mitter and Doss and what not besides *en masse*, to disturb so promising a scene of good feeling? Who but that old boy Surrender Not, Schoolmaster, Orator and Agitator, is alone responsible for the invasion of the youthful Goths and Vandals into the Town Hall?

On the victory of the Schoolboy Vote, the *Indian Spectator* speaks with its usual vigour and with entire wisdom. Our contemporary is indignant with “those who thus seduce the youth of the country for political or other purposes.”

THE *Amrita Bazar Patrika* has not noticed our reply to its criticism of our matured deliverance on the Official Secrets Act. But we think we see a change in its attitude towards the law. And as time goes on, that change will be more and more pronounced, until the fantasy of a ghoul of the Press cease to trouble our brethren of the

quill. As for our being sent to jail in shoals, there is no fear of it. It must be done by some other agency, there being no provision in the present law. We doubt whether there will be a single prosecution in six months.

We must dispose of the other criticisms which have come to our notice. They are all characteristic of the several quarters from which they respectively emanate. Here, for instance, is the judgment of a young person who, having quarrelled with his superiors in a Government office, has set up a new weekly:—

"It is never too late to mend: and it is certainly a nobler and manlier act to acknowledge an error than persist in it. Two weeks ago, our revered contemporary of *Reis and Rayyet* came out with a flaming leader denouncing the Official Secrets Act, which our contemporary characterised as a 'gratuitous outrage upon the people and Princes of India,' an 'ugly monster mugged in the guise' of something else, and calculated to 'charm many good people and deceive the unwary,' although its 'object is plain to those who' like the editor of *Reis and Rayyet*, for instance 'are able to look behind special pretences.' While His Excellency the Viceroy was declared to 'have fairly opened his mouth' and to have 'already shown his teeth.' During the past two weeks, however, new light appears to have dawned upon the mind of the editor, or perhaps he became apprehensive of a bite of the Viceroy's 'teeth' aforesaid. And so we are not at all surprised to see that in the last issue of his paper the editor has made the *amende honorable* by retracting every word of what he had written on the subject, and to all appearance he seems to be in a highly penitent mood at the present moment. Our contemporary acknowledges his 'blunder,' and declares that the new Act is 'a harmless enough thing.' This spectacle of the editor of *Reis and Rayyet* changing his views at the shortest notice has somewhat bewildered some other journals. But they forget that the editor of the Bowbazar paper is, according to one admirer who sings in verse, 'an Asian mystery,' while, according to another admirer who labours in prose, his journal is 'more literary than political.' Under these circumstances the politics of *Reis and Rayyet* may be left alone. But at the same time we must say that the editor has shown rare moral courage by boldly acknowledging his blunder, and we thank him for it."—*The Saturday Herald*, Nov. 16.

*Imperance!* And this is the style in which one who has yet to win his literary spurs and who is scarcely an abecedarian in politics, conceives himself entitled to speak of those who have weathered many a trial and given not only proofs of capacity and valour, but also pledges of virtue. There surely is something demoralising in the anonymity of journalism, or else the writer of that paragraph would have been baffled by the demonstrative scorn of society, if he had attempted to take such liberties in *propria persona*. He talks of our having become apprehensive of a bite from the Viceroy. Well, we had at any rate had ourselves open to such an attack. He, young man of exemplary prudence as he is, has never risked any danger or discomfort. His paper has sneaked to the powers, great and small, from the outset. For ourselves, we have neither courted popularity or notoriety of any kind, nor sought place or pelf or power from any man. Journalist from within our teens, we wrote from the bosom of *alma mater* against the annexation of Oude, when the great Dalhousie launched his stern *fiat*, as well as against the policy of his worthy Lieutenant for Bengal, the no less able Halliday. Since then, numbers of Governors and Governors-General have been and gone without making any difference to us. In the time of Lord Northbrook, both Viceroy and successive Lieutenants were kind to us, but one by one we managed to estrange them all in the discharge of our duty as a citizen and journalist—to our inconvenience and absolute loss. On the occasion of the Baroda Blunder and the Breach of Faith with Mulhar Rao Gackwar, we risked almost our neck. And when, notwithstanding all, the officers and his personal friends and followers called a meeting in the Town Hall to vote the Viceroy a statue, we, true to our conception of duty, led the forlorn hope of a dozen or so of enthusiasts since popularly known as the "Immortal Ten"—to press an amendment on the principal Resolution. We do not mind mentioning these matters, since several of our contemporaries have, in connection with the late meeting, pointedly referred to the old incidents and our connection therewith. And it is of such seasoned publicists and citizens, that this young gent speaks with affected *sangfroid* in a newspaper whose policy is to fish for patronage.

THE BARA THAKUR BAHADOOR of Tipperah will give an Evening Party on the 30th, to meet the Lieutenant-Governor.

BULWUNT RAO BHUYA, a son of the late Maharajah Scindiah and now, we believe, a member of the Council of Regency at Gwalior, has come to Calcutta about a week.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1889.

### THE EXCISE DEPARTMENT.

THE public agitation against the outstill system has prevailed, and the most gratifying feature in the later Government resolutions on excise administration is Sir Steuart Bayley's determination to follow up the gradual substitution of the sudder distillery system for outstills. The Sudder system is being established in all localities suitable for its introduction. We could only wish the process occupied no unnecessary delay through the obstructiveness of overzealous officials ambitious of showing a good return for their districts. While central distilleries are replacing the outstills in populous districts, the outstills which must be retained in sparsely inhabited tracts are also receiving attention in view to their being made free from those objections which hitherto lay against them. Mr. Westmacott is doing his best to raise the duty paid on outstill liquor to the rate per gallon London-proof paid on distillery liquor, and the number and capacity of the outstills are being steadily diminished. In 1888-89, as compared with 1887-88, there was a reduction of nearly four hundred in the number of outstills and of 22,002 gallons in their liquid capacity. This is a great advance in the right direction, and it is indeed very gratifying to find the Lieutenant-Governor in thorough sympathy with the movement. He says, "These reforms must be persisted in, although, as was anticipated, their immediate result is a considerable reduction in the excise revenue." In the selection of sites, the wishes of the public will now be no longer disregarded. "Distinct instructions," says the last Resolution, "have been given to the licensing officers to ascertain and consider local opinion, and directions have been issued that, where municipalities exist, the Municipal Commissioners should be consulted in determining the location of shops. On no account are any shops to be opened near market places, schools, factories or other public places." These latter orders are apparently to have only prospective effect, although in especial circumstances it would be desirable to remove shops where their situation is now either a nuisance or fraught with temptation to the public.

The Board's excise report contains some interesting information as regards the consumption of opium. This consumption prevails largely along the whole seaboard from Chittagong to Pooree, with the exception of Noakhally and Backergunge, and in malarious districts like Burdwan, Moorshedabad, Rungpore, Purneah and Maldah, where it is regarded as a febrifuge. The total revenue from opium in 1888-89 was a little above 20 lacs, or about half a lac better than the previous year. The largest increase, viz., about Rs. 23,000, took place in Chittagong, and in writing of this district, the Commissioner makes a strong defence of the excise administration. He says:—

"The sales amounted to 98 maunds 26 seers as against 150 maunds 24 seers in 1884-85, while the revenue amounted to Rs. 1,52,700, against Rs. 1,58,319 in that year. In other words, by judicious orders, Government has restricted the consumption by 51 maunds 28 seers in the course of four years. The duty on this amount is Rs. 58,184, but instead of losing this large sum, the loss is only Rs. 5,619. Those who accuse Government of fostering the excise revenue at all costs, will find it difficult to reconcile these figures with their theories. The consumers, who in 1884-85 paid Rs. 34-7 for each seer of opium, or only 6-7 over the duty levied, paid last year Rs. 46-3, or more than Rs. 18 over the duty. These figures only represent the Government share. The retailer's profit has to be added before the selling price is got, but it is clear from these figures that the price of the drug must have been considerably raised to the consumer."

The Board report several cases of opium smuggling from Nepal, but they can suggest no remedial

measures beyond the infliction of adequate sentences by judicial officers in cases of smuggling which are detected. They deprecate the employment of a detective and preventive establishment, as any establishment that might be entertained would not be sufficiently large to watch the very extended frontier of Nepal, which is open and may be crossed at any point, while there are objections to increasing the subordinate police who would probably harass the people far more than afford protection to the revenue.

The most important administrative change in the year was the appointment of Mr. Westmacott as Excise Commissioner, and the consequent relief given to Divisional Commissioners in their work in this Department. Some of the powers exercised by the Board of Revenue in excise matters have also been vested in the newly appointed Commissioner. Some additional excise Deputy Collectorships have been sanctioned by the Secretary of State. Altogether, the excise department is receiving much attention, and one may now fairly look for the removal of some of the abuses which have all along marked its administration.

#### THE SPECTRE OF SALT IN SALTPETRE :

AN OFFICIAL ATTACK ON AN INDUSTRY.

IN our last, we referred to the new salt rules published in the *Gazette of India* and their distressing consequences upon the few industries in Calcutta and its Suburbs for the washing of saltpetre. The suddenness with which the rules have been passed and the active interference under color of them by the salt officers, have already resulted in producing an utter stagnation of trade. All the establishments have been shut up, with the exception of two. The proprietors of these latter had made some large contracts for the supply of washed saltpetre. They could not possibly think of suspending their industry, whatever the effect of the new rules upon them or their men. It seems that the true nature and character of the industries in Calcutta and its Suburbs for the washing of saltpetre, has not been understood by the superior authorities. We fear, a complete reliance upon reports of subordinate officers of Salt Revenue has been the cause of the mischief. What the owners of these industries really do is to purchase crude saltpetre in Calcutta itself, and wash it with cool water, and boil and cool the educed material, and perform a few other processes, till the entire quantity of saltpetre that is capable of being educed by such a primitive process is extracted. The refuse that remains, after such education, contains from 8 to 10 per cent. of saltpetre, but the costs incurred by a repetition of the process of boiling and cooling becomes greater than what can be recouped by the price of the article that may be extracted by it. It is this refuse that is apprehended to be capable of consumption as crude salt by certain classes of the community, and it is entirely in consequence of this refuse that the new rules have been passed by the Government of India. Not that the material is actually capable of consumption as salt by any class of the community amidst which these industries exist! The subordinate officers of Salt Revenue, however, in their zeal for the State Revenue, suppose otherwise. So great is their devotion to duty that, in the days of the East India Company, when production of salt was the Company's monopoly, a proposal was seriously sent up to the higher officers of the Department for stopping the cultivation of the cocoa-nut and the Indian plaintain, or at least for

imposing a tax on each tree, on the ground that certain parts of both, reduced to cinders, might afford a kind of crude saline substance. The mantles of those men have fallen on their successors under the Queen's Government. No wonder, therefore, that they should turn their attentions to this refuse of these saltpetre-washing establishments. Some of these establishments have existed for more than half a century. As for the rest, many are more than twelve years old. Only one or two are of recent origin. That these polite attentions had not hitherto been paid to them, was not the fault of the salt officers. The Government of India, fearing no loss of revenue, refused to pass a Salt Act for these provinces, or for the metropolis and its suburbs. Omitting all reference to sections 7 and 8 about duty and price, the last Salt Act (XII of 1882) was passed for the North-Western Provinces, the Panjab, Oudh, the Central Provinces, Ajmir, Mairwara, Sindh, the districts of the Patna Division, and the territories under the jurisdiction of the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India. The Act empowers the Governor-General to extend its provisions, by a notification in the *Gazette of India*, to any part of British India other than the territories for which it was expressly passed. That extension has now taken place to the metropolis and its suburbs.

The correspondence that has led to such extension has not been published. We are, therefore, not in a position to judge of the necessity that existed or arose for the measure. As far, however, as we are aware, we have not heard of a single case instituted by the Salt officers against any person in the metropolis or the suburbs for anything done in the way of selling any salt of clandestine manufacture. The refuse of these saltpetre establishments in the town and its environments has all along been sold openly and utilized for purposes of agricultural manure and tanneries, or shipped in British vessels for similar use in foreign countries. If the necessity had really existed for an extension of the Salt Act to the metropolis and its suburbs, there could be no harm in taking the people into confidence by publishing the whole correspondence on the subject. At any rate, the present distress of the owners of these saltpetre industries and the utter stagnation of trade could have been easily avoided by a timely notice. The men could then have put their houses in order, instead of being obliged to completely suspend their work, in consequence of the odious interference of the salt officers to which we have referred. So great is the harassment and vexation in store for them, from the operation of the rules that have been passed, that some of the proprietors have thought of retiring from the business altogether rather than submit to the wrong, if the rules are not withdrawn or modified. They are fully willing to place the refuse of their industry at the uncontrolled disposal of Government, for removal or destruction as the latter may desire. If the Act has been extended and the rules passed really in consequence of the apprehension that exists about the consumption of that refuse as salt, to the detriment of the public revenue, the Government should have no objection to withdraw these rules, if the proprietors undertake to place the whole of that refuse under its disposal, sacrificing any little income they might have hitherto derived from it. The sincerity of Government will be put to test by such an offer. It is easy to pass rules for preventing any part of the refuse from being secreted or concealed for any illicit purpose.

Regarding the two that have already submitted to

the operation of the rules, their position has, by reason of the interference of the officers, already become intolerable. Obligated, in consequence of the nature of their industry, to submit to the new rules, they are not desirous of at all changing the character of their business. They are not manufacturers of salt, and they do not wish to be. The object, however, of the officers is to convert them into such. It is doubtless a selfish object entertained with a view to expand the operations of the salt establishment at the metropolis.

#### EIGHT YEARS' JOURNALISM:

OR,

#### REIS AND RAYYET FROM THE START, WITH A WORD OF BUSINESS.

It is now some eight years since *Reis and Rayyet* was started.

It made its mark from the outset.

The consensus of the entire Press, Native and European, testified to its worth in terms not to be mistaken—in terms of, indeed, unexampled enthusiasm.

The *Englishman* (Jas. Furrell) said

"It deserves to be a success." January 1882.

The *Statesman* (W. M. Riach) wrote

"It is written in a racy style of English such as we rarely meet with in Indian journalism."

The *Anurita Bazar Patrika* :—

- "We have got the *Reis and Rayyet*, a new weekly, published here in this city, and we give our contemporary a sincere welcome. That the paper is written in good English and is ably conducted and thoroughly independent goes without saying, considering the party who has taken it in hand. We fear our contemporary will throw everything in confusion in Calcutta, and that regardless of the claims of friends and foes. So much humbuggism has now permeated our society, that it is for that if for nothing else, a paper like our new contemporary was needed for the protection of honest people."

"Fearless and independent."—*Hindoo Patriot*.

So up the country, the *Liberty* of Lucknow, said

"We beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the first number of the *Reis and Rayyet*, a newspaper and review of Politics, Literature, and Society, hailing from the City of Palaces. If the contents of the first number be taken as a type, we have no hesitation in adding our humble testimony that the journal before us will not fail to earn a reputation for itself. The style is vivacious, smart, and oftentimes, humours. May our young brother live long to sow broadcast the principles of social amity, progress, and liberal democracy."

"A very vigorous youngster. There is no little 'go' in our contemporary."—*Express*.

Nor did the welcome come from the critics of only the English press in India. Here is a specimen of French opinion :—

"Un nouveau journal vient de se fonder à Calcutta, le *Reis and Rayyet*, dont nous avons un numéro sous les yeux. L'Éditeur est un indien, ce qui rend d'autant plus remarquable l'élégance et surtout l'indépendance de cette plume qui sera comme l'épée de Damoclès suspendue sur la tête également des *Reis* et des *Rayyet*, pour abaisser au besoin l'orgueil des uns, et relever la dignité des autres, rappeler à tous ce que la Constitution exige de chacun pour assurer la paix de la Reine et la grandeur de l'Empire."

"Cette petite anecdote fera comprendre ce que sera le *Reis and Rayyet*. Puisse-t-il se maintenir toujours à cette hauteur, c'est le vœu que nous formons pour lui."—*Le Petit Bengal*.

The excellence and spirit have been kept up, as the continued good opinion of the whole Press shows.

"That very smart paper."—*Englishman*, February 16, 1882.

"That remarkably clever paper has the gift invaluable, &c."—*Statesman*, October 26, 1882.

"One of the best written and ablest conducted papers in Bengal."—*Times of India*, August 1883.

"Written with an extraordinary command of the English language and strange felicity of style."—*Statesman*, December 25, 1883.

"Able and smartly conducted paper."—*Englishman*, June 23, 1884.

"Able conducted Calcutta paper."—*Sind Times*, June, 1884.

"I always find your paper bright and clever."—The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert to the Manager, January 14, 1885.

"Few Englishmen have so complete a command of their own language as the editor, and still fewer so felicitous a style."—*Statesman*, March 28, 1885.

"*Reis & Rayyet*—has singularly keen powers of appreciation."—*Sind Times*, October 10, 1885.

"*Reis & Rayyet*—is perhaps the ablest paper in the country in point of literary power."—*Statesman*, November 18, 1885.

"*Reis & Rayyet*—which usually takes a most sensible view of events."—*Indian Planter's Gazette and Sporting News*, November 2, 1886.

"The *Reis & Rayyet* has made an enterprising effort not unworthy

of a London journal, to trace the names and families of the persons who lost their lives in the steamer *Sir John Lawrence*. That paper is one of a style we could wish to see more represented in India. It obtains information and expresses currents of opinion almost inaccessible to papers conducted by Europeans, while it is free from the rabid and superficial style which either repels Europeans or at least disheartens them from looking for sense in the Native press."—*Englishman*, June 28, 1887.

"If there are transactions of a questionable character, the Press—whether Native or English—simply performs a duty in bringing the abuse to the light. And on this subject there are some remarks in the last number of *Reis & Rayyet* which deserve attention. Of course, *Reis & Rayyet* is 'only a Native paper,' and, therefore, may be regarded as a vilifying organ full of hatred and malice. But so long as its hatred and malice are directed against wrong-doing, its nativity may be forgiven. It is undoubtedly the best written paper in the country among the 'vilifying' and malice-inspired branch of the estate. It is often written with a thoughtfulness that might be imitated with advantage, and with a sense of responsibility which might be advantageously copied."—*Indian Daily News*, July 27, 1887.

"Our grave Native contemporary of the *Patriot*, by far and away the most profoundly political of Native journals, though rather below our *Reis & Rayyet* friend in talent, generally observes."—*Bengal Times* Oct. 13, 1888.

"The incomparable *Reis and Rayyet*."—*Indian Daily News*, Nov. 12, 1888.

"*Reis & Rayyet*, acknowledged by all Anglo-Indian journalists to be far and away the most ably conducted native paper in the country,....."—*Evening News*, Nov. 16, 1888.

So in England, a Cabinet Minister sent an extract from *Reis and Rayyet* to the *Pall Mall Gazette* which was published with commendation in that journal in 1884.

"A journal well known for its criticisms of Indian administration."—*Daily News*, (London) January 23, 1885.

An English politician wrote, under date the 26th June, 1885,—"I have no suggestions to make. The *Reis and Rayyet* is an exemplary paper." Again, on the 16th February 1888,—"I like your article on..... in *R. & R.* of January 21. Look at *St. James' Gazette* of February 15."

"I made good use of your remarks on the Cambay case and the difference between Lord Reay and Sir A. Lyall."—*Letter from a British Peer*, dated May 15, 1887.

"I read your paper religiously."—The late Major Evans Bell.

*Reis and Rayyet* is a thoroughly independent paper, treating all matters frankly and forcibly but with perfect fairness. It presents, of course, the information and well considered opinion of its Editor—the results of a pretty wide experience and of long years of inquiry and speculation. It essays to represent genuine Oriental Thought and Indian Opinion as distinguished from the crude yearnings of the English-speaking minority and the ignorance—of themselves and their country, not to say of the Empire at large—of the isolated populations of the Provincial capitals and the citizens of this Metropolis in a corner.

It is strong in its conductor's knowledge of Indian history and of the relations of the British Power with the Native States and Chiefs of every grade; it is opposed to Annexation and undue interference; but it is slow to take up grievances of any kind, and is earnestly desirous of steady solid improvement in Native Kingdoms and Principalities and Estates.

It addresses itself to superior intelligence and culture of both natives and Europeans—the flower of society.

It essays to inform public opinion in Europe.

But it is not an agitating journal. It is above wire-pulling. It submits itself to no dictation—lends itself to no "cries." It does not confine itself to politics. Giving all legitimate attention to the discussion of topics of the day, it finds a variety of other matters for the interest and edification of the reader—questions of history, *belles-lettres*, jurisprudence and political philosophy, narratives of travels, incidents of society and life throughout the globe and so forth. Chaste in its own language and conversation, even in the most frolicsome *abandon*, it does not admit any of the indecent quack advertisements which fill the Indian Press, in the English as well as vernacular side. Nor does it lend itself to any "bogus" concern, whatever the bait offered.

With the New Year some further improvements will be introduced. Reminiscences and memoirs of notable men, notices of remarkable places, essays on political topics of the day, the antiquities of cities and memoirs of native families, will, from time to time, be incorporated.

The stones and bricks of Calcutta are not without their memories, nor the history of its families without its interest. The history of the important families in the country has either not been written at all, or been distorted and falsified by vanity, ignorance, and dishonesty. These subjects are well worth taking up by an independent writer who has read and inquired and knows.

We are glad to know that *R. & R.* is in much request at our



schools and colleges as a useful adjunct to the means of education. In future, it will be made more useful still to our students of language and literature. Indians who have themselves threaded the mazes of a difficult, because most copious and ever-shifting, tongue and its vast literary empire, are peculiarly fitted to lead their junior countrymen in the same paths.

We have been repeatedly asked to print on cheap paper and reduce our rates, to bring them within the means of poor students who would in such a case subscribe in large numbers. After giving it deliberate consideration, we regret we cannot accede to the request. The inability is often more imaginary than real. Our countrymen have not yet generally acquired the habit of paying fully for their improvement. It is important that they should learn to buy books and papers. That is one of the first steps to national progress. Nothing like having your own books and papers, so that you can read again and again and mark and inwardly digest them. As for such as are absolutely unable to muster so much as one Rupee per month for a newspaper, all we can do is to suggest their clubbing together to divide the burden.

#### A VILLAGE DESERTED FOR OPPRESSION.

SIR,—I think your readers are well acquainted with the name of that renowned and historic personage Nawab Munney Begum, mother of the former Nawab Nazim Mobaruck-ud-Dowlah Bahadur of Moorshedabad, whose intricate affairs and monetary transactions in the early days of the East India Company's rule have been so often referred to by Burke in his speeches against Warren Hastings in the British Parliament. In the establishment of this august lady was a eunuch named Sidi Busunt Ali Khan who, in the course of a long and faithful service, rose high in her favor and obtained from her a portion of her hoarded treasure. This wealth enabled him to purchase a considerable quantity of landed property, yielding an annual income of nearly Rupees 25,000. Before his death he made a will (wakf) whereby he directed that his self-acquired estate would on his demise go into the hands of Government who should manage it either by its own officers or place it under some pious and influential Mahomedan of the city, and that the income should be devoted to the service of his religion in the manner specified by him. On his death which took place at an early period of the present century, Nawab Nazir Sidi Darab Ali Khan Bahadur, the oldest and most trustworthy of the Nizamut eunuchs, was entrusted with the task of carrying out the instruction of the testator as also with the management of the property, which he very ably did till the brewing of the unfortunate quarrel between the late ex-Nawab Nazim and his Dewan Raja Prosanna Narayan Deb Bahadur, which ended disastrously in the final extinction of the Nizamut. It is a fact known to all that for his devotion and loyalty to his master, Darab Ali Khan was subjected to extreme insult, all his power being withdrawn, and with it the charge of the estate was taken away and given, on the recommendation of the ex-Dewan, then Assistant to the Agent to the Governor General, to a Committee consisting of Nawab Azim Ali Khan Bahadur of Jafarganj as President and Syed Amir Ali and Syed Mahomed Reza as members. The Lieutenant Governor by his letter dated Fort William the 26th April 1867 confirmed the arrangement. On the death of Syed Mahomed Reza, five years after, Syed Kazim Ali, one of the brothers of the President, was appointed to succeed him, but the post of Amir Ali vacated by his death about 10 years ago was never filled. Thus the committee, originally composed of three persons, was reduced to two only who were connected with each other by the close bond of blood and represented the same interest. Nawab Kazim Ali, though a man of independent views and action, could not check the proceedings of his brother, and Nawab Azim Ali Khan became the all in all of the Committee and the undisputed owner of the property held by him in trust. Having but little time to look after Zemindari business and finding himself wanting in administrative talent, he made over, though not formally, the charge of the estate to the designing and selfish persons who had gathered round

him to add to his position and dignity as a reis. From this time began the mismanagement of the property, the oppression of the tenants, the decrease in, and misappropriation and misuse of, the income, and the extravagance of the expenditure. Leases began to be granted out to parties, who offered best to satisfy the avarice of the persons in whose hands the President and sole manager of the estate was a toy, at the lowest bonus and at low rents. Decrees obtained against rayyets for arrears of rent began to lapse through the negligence of officers in not praying for timely execution of them. The estate suffered greatly in consequence. The stipulation of the testator now became a dead letter. The Ijara lease of the villages Dumkal, Colladanga, Lakhimpur and Ramna Eduratnagar in this district ceased about a year ago, and a fresh proposal for a lease having been made by the same parties and assented to by the President, in spite of the strong opposition of the only member and against the cries of the rayyets who complained of all sorts of persecution and cruelty under the Ijardar, the inhabitants of Kaladanga left their village in a body and migrated to the Zemindari of a more lenient landlord. They have memorialised the Lieutenant Governor and the Divisional Commissioner and even wired them the news of their desertion. As the interest of a public estate is going to be jeopardised, it is respectfully requested that His Honor will be pleased to direct Government interference in the matter. Mr. Editor, you are a powerful advocate of the Mahomedan cause and are fully acquainted with the facts of the case by your connection with the Nizamut at the time of the late Nawab Nazim. We earnestly hope that you will move the authorities to save the estate from ruin. It is rumoured that Nawab Kazim Ali has protested to the President against giving, and warned the applicant against taking, lease of the property without the permission of a duly constituted Committee, and intend also to move the District Judge to call for accounts from the President for the past 20 years. This is a move in the right direction. We applaud this independence on his part and are anxious for the result.

D. K. R.

#### MONGHYR.

Jamulpur, the 15th December, 1889.

A case of diabolical murder in cold blood of a young girl of Nooniah caste, aged about 9 years, is alleged to have been perpetrated by her aunt (maternal) a few days ago. The deceased and her aunt were residents of Monghyr Purbia Serai. The girl as a rule used to frequent the house of her aunt in question. One day wearing some valuable ornaments she called at her aunt's when the wretched woman, evidently with an eye to the jewellery, stabbed the girl with a *Habwah* (Bow-knife) to death and robbed the murdered girl of all her jewellery. The body was then wrapped up in cloth and thrown into the drain leading to a waste land a few yards from the house. The woman is now under arrest pending trial.

Some great changes are about to take place in the vast establishment of the E. I. Railway, which will particularly affect Jamalpur. Certain important offices will be removed to Calcutta shortly, namely, the Traffic Manager's. The Audit office will follow.

Some of the executive heads of Departments, such as the Chief Engineer, Loco Superintendent retire shortly. When the Traffic and Audit offices are removed from Jamalpur, the Loco Department will be left in sole possession of this place. The largest Railway station on the line will be comparatively isolated by the removal of some hundreds of men composing the clerical staff of the two offices named.

There is likelihood of a Bengali breach of promise case being taken to court. The bride's party after having made all the necessary arrangements and the bridegroom and his party having arrived here from distant places, and everything being ready for the wedding, the match was abruptly broken off. An attempt at mediation by friends on both sides has not succeeded as yet.

#### CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

The following proposed Bye-laws, framed under Section 412, Act II B.C., 1888, are hereby published for general information under directions of the Commissioners in meeting:—

Regarding the height and mode of construction of buildings;

Rebuilding of portion of old Buildings.

1. Whenever any old building has been taken down to an extent exceeding one-third of such building, such to be measured in cubic feet, the rebuilding of the portion thereof shall be deemed to be the erection of a new building, and such portion shall be subject to the regulations of the Act and to the Bye-laws respecting new buildings.

Construction of Outer Walls and Foundations.

2. Every such building shall have its outer

walls constructed of brick or other hard and incombustible substance, and the foundation shall be the solid ground, or concrete, or other solid substructure on which the footings shall rest.

Footings to Walls.

3. Every person who shall erect a new building shall construct every wall of such building so as to rest upon proper footings. He shall cause the projection at the widest part of the footings of every wall, on each side of such wall to be at least equal to one-half of the thickness of such wall at its base, unless an adjoining wall interferes, in which case the projection may be omitted where that wall adjoins.

He shall also cause the diminution of the footings to be in regular offsets, or in one offset at the top of the footings, and he shall cause

the height from the bottom of the footings to the base of the wall to be at least equal to two-thirds of the thickness of the wall at its base.

All Walls and Return Walls to be Bonded together.

4. In the case of any building exceeding one story in height, every wall shall be properly bonded and solidly put together with mortar, and no part of such wall shall overhang any part underneath it, and all return walls shall be properly bonded together.

This rule is not intended to [apply to] cornices or mouldings where otherwise [in] admissible.

Thickness of Walls.

5. Every wall and every return of wall of such building shall be of such thickness as may be considered safe by the Commissioners,

having regard to the height of the buildings, the materials of which it is constructed, and the purposes to which it will be put; provided that it shall not be lawful for the Commissioners to require more than is required by Appendix I.

#### Support of Beams and Girders.

6. All beams and girders shall be supported by a sufficient breadth of brickwork, stone or other solid substance, to secure to the satisfaction of the Commissioners the stability of such beam or girder.

#### Roofs, Skylights, &c., to be of Incombustible Materials.

7. The roof of all buildings and every turret, sky-light or other erection placed on the roof of such buildings shall be externally covered with some incombustible materials. Also every gutter, shoot or trough in connection with the roof of such building, shall be constructed of incombustible materials.

#### Minimum Width of Streets.

8. Except when otherwise allowed by the Commissioners, all new public streets intended for carriage-ways, shall have a minimum width of 16 feet, and all new streets passing through *bustis* shall have a minimum width of 12 feet.

#### Or, Alternative.

Except when otherwise allowed by the Commissioners, all new public streets intended for carriage ways, shall have a minimum width of 40 feet, and all new streets passing through *bustis* shall have a minimum width of 12 feet.

Regarding Ventilation and the extent to which space must be left for the free circulation of air as required by the provisions of section two hundred and forty-three of Act II (B.C.) of 1888 ;

1. With respect to buildings which are to be newly erected on any site previously unbuilt upon, the following provisions shall have effect, namely :—

The foundation of any such building shall not be constructed on any site which has been filled up with street or other refuse, unless such refuse is either properly removed, or unless a period of 20 years has elapsed from the time when the refuse was deposited.

Provided that with the consent of the General Committee, the period of 20 years may be reduced, if the state of the soil is such as to admit of it.

2. No new building which abuts on a street of a less width than 40 feet, shall, without the written permission of the Commissioners, be erected to a greater height than twice the width of the street it abuts on. This height shall be over and above the 2 feet allowed by the law for the plinth.

3. In the case of a house abutting on two streets, the height of the house shall be calculated with reference to the width of the broader of two streets.

4. Every such building intended to be used as a dwelling shall be so constructed that the whole or at least one side of every room thereof shall either be an external wall or abut on an interior open space or on a verandah. Such interior open space shall have an area equal to not less than one-fourth of the aggregate floor-area of all the rooms abutting thereon, and shall not be in any direction less than 6 feet across. Such external wall shall, where it faces a street of less than 16 feet in width, have between it and the boundary line of the owner's premises an open space of not less than 2 feet in width. At the sides it may be attached to the adjacent premises, but if not so attached, at the sides and in every case at the back, it shall have a space of 4 feet along the whole side of the building between it and the boundary line of the owner's premises, or between it and the inner edge of the boundary wall, if that boundary line is a wall. And every open space, whether exterior or interior, required by this clause, shall be and be kept free from any erection other than a boundary wall, and shall be open to the sky, and shall be and be kept open to access from each end thereof.

5. Every open space or interior court-yard referred to in the above rule shall be raised at least 1 foot above the level of the nearest street, so as to admit of easy drainage into it.

6. Every room intended to be inhabited in any such building, except a room in the roof thereof, shall be in every part at least 8 feet in height from the floor to the ceiling.

7. Every such room shall have a clear superficial area of not less than 80 square feet.

8. Every such room shall be ventilated by means of doors or windows which open directly into the external air or into a verandah, and have an aggregate opening equal to not less than one-fifth of the superficial area of the side of the room which faces an open space.

9. The provision of rule 1 clause (e) shall apply to old buildings taken down and rebuilt so far as regards bye-laws made under clause (f) also.

10. The Commissioners may exempt from the provisions of clauses (e) or (f) any particular building or class of buildings to which the rules or any particular rule may appear to them to be inapplicable.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

13th December, 1889.

### H. R. H. PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR RECEPTION FUND.

The Executive Committee, empowered in that behalf at the Meeting held at the Rooms of the British Indian Association this day, December 14th, invite public subscriptions for the purpose of giving a fitting Reception and Entertainment to His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor on the occasion of his approaching visit to Calcutta.

The Executive Committee have the pleasure to acknowledge the following subscriptions :—

	R.	A.	P.
H. H. Nawab Bahadur of Moorshe-			
dabad, K.C.I.E. ...	1,000	0	0
Maharaja Sir Jotendra Mohun			
Tagore Bahadur, K.C.S.I. ...	2,500	0	0
H. H. the Maharaja of Vizian-			
agram, K.C.I.E. ...	1,000	0	0
H. H. the Maharaja of Dumraon,			
K.C.I.E. ...	2,500	0	0
Nawab Syed Ata Hossein Khan			
Bahadur, of Kissengunge ...	1,000	0	0
Kumar Sarat Chunder Singh ...	1,000	0	0
Kumar Debendro Mullick Bahadur			
The Hon'ble Raja Durga Churn			
Law, C.I.E. ...	750	0	0
Maharaja Sri Narendra Krishna			
Bahadur, K.C.I.E. ...	500	0	0
Molla Ismail of Mandalay ...	500	0	0
Prince Samarendra C. Deb, Bara-			
Thakur Bahadur, of Tipperah ...	500	0	0
Nawab Syed Latif Ali Khan Ba-			
hadur, C.I.E., of Patna ...	500	0	0
Kumar Benoy Krishna Bahadur ...	500	0	0
Babu Shyama Churn Law ...	500	0	0
Haji Mahomed Mehdi Mahikut			
Tujjar, of Beshire ...	500	0	0
Raja Purna Chunder Singh Baha-			
dur ...	500	0	0
Prince Khorshed Kudar Syed			
Ikander Ali Mirza Bahadur ...	250	0	0
Her Highness the Nawab Shams-			
ud-Jehan Begum Saheba ...	250	0	0
Babu Joy Gobind Law ...	250	0	0
Rai Surajmul Bahadur ...	250	0	0
Babu Jadu Lal Mullick ...	200	0	0
Babu Surendra Nath Pal Chowdhry			
Synd Nawab Ali Chowdhry, of My-			
mensing ...	200	0	0
Prince Mahomed Feriokh Shah ...	150	0	0
Nawab Syud Zamil Abidee, Khan			
Bahadur ...	150	0	0
Rai Budu Dass Mokun Bahadur			
Babu Roma Nath Ghose ...	150	0	0
Nawab Abdul Lutef Bahadur,			
C.I.E. ...	100	0	0
Synd Mehdi Hossain, Khan Bahadur			
Munshi Syud Ali Ahmed, of Kis-			
sengunge ...	100	0	0
Chowdhry Karamutullah, of Moor-			
shedabad ...	100	0	0
H. H. the Maharaja of Cooh			
Behar, G.C.I.E. ...	1,000	0	0
H. H. the Maharaja of Bettiah,			
K.C.I.E. ...	2,000	0	0
Babu Kahi Kissen Tagore ...	2,000	0	0
Maharaj Debendro Nath Tagore			
Raja Ram Narain Sing, of Khaira			
Messrs. Jardine, Skinner and Co.			
Messrs. Gullanders, Arbutnot & Co			
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BETWEEN

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(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,  
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## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridood Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*. October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; those who d being tire

of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following: [Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river:—[Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye:—[Extract.]  
 The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting: [Extract].—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree. "a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing

in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him..... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VIII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1889.

} No. 404

## CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

### REFLECTIONS ON THE PAST.

Oh ! joy to the spring-tide sun,  
For it opens the buds to leaves,  
And it makes sweet climbers run  
With their fragrance over the eaves ;  
And it calls glad birds about  
To sing new songs of praise ;—  
Oh, joy to the Spring ! but it cannot bring  
The joy of by-gone days !

I think on the Past with a thought  
That paineth the bosom sore :—  
A face, a form, to my mind is brought,  
Which my eyes can never see more !  
I hear a kind word said  
By a tongue that is mute and cold ;  
I feel the clasp of a hand, now dead  
And withering in the mould !

But the thought of a friendship changed  
Is worse than a dream of the dead ;  
And I think of the dear estranged  
Till reason, with peace, seems fled.  
There are hearts that loved me once,  
There are hands that once caressed,  
That are colder now than the frost on the bough  
That killeth the bird in its nest !

### REASONS FOR RISIBILITY.

SWEET coz ! I'm happy when I can,  
I'm merry while I may,  
For life's at most a narrow span,  
At best a winter's day.  
If care could make the sunbeam wear  
A brighter, warmer hue,  
The evening star shine out more fair,  
The blue sky look more blue,  
Then I should be a graver man—  
But since 't is not the way,  
Sweet coz ! I'm happy when I can,  
And merry when I may !

If sighs could make us sin the less,  
Perchance I were not glad—  
If mourning were the sage's dress,  
My garb should then be sad—  
But since the angels' wings are white,  
And e'en the young saints smile—  
Since virtue wears a robe of light,  
And vice a brow of guile—

Since laughter is not under ban,  
Nor gladness clad in gray—  
Sweet coz ! I'm happy when I can,  
And merry when I may.

I've seen a bishop dance a reel,  
And a sinner fast and pray,  
A knave at the top of Fortune's wheel,  
And a good man cast away !  
Wine I have seen your grave ones quaff,  
Might set our fleet afloat ;  
But I never heard a hearty laugh  
From out a villain's throat ;  
And I never knew a mirthful man  
Make sad a young maid's day—  
So, coz ! I'm happy when I can,  
And merry while I may.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

EMPEROR William has addressed the following letter dated Pless, Nov. 29, to Count Moltke, whom he elsewhere calls "the palladium of my subjects and a terror to my enemies":—

"My dear Field Marshal,—Fifty years have elapsed since the day on which my late great-grandfather bestowed on you the Order Pour le Mérite for your distinguished conduct in Turkey. During my recent stay in that distant and interesting land I had a good opportunity of learning how fresh the memory of the observant and active officer of the general staff of 1839 still is amid the scenes of his first military achievements. To-day, however, you must permit me to remember, more than all, the immortal services which you have been permitted to render your fatherland since then. It is difficult for me to add a further token of recognition to those with which your Sovereigns have expressed their gratitude for your deeds. Still, I cannot allow to-day's unique anniversary to pass without one. I therefore herewith bestow on you the crown, to be worn with the decoration of honour earned fifty years ago, which, as a token of my special affection, I have had made in diamonds. The army and the fatherland join with me in hoping that you will enjoy the distinction (God willing) for a long time to come, as hale and hearty as ever.—Your grateful and devoted Sovereign, William."

The Germans are now beating the French in grace itself. That letter is worth all other testimonials and memorials.

THE English papers report a notable wedding—an old boy united to his grandmother or one old enough to be such. On Nov. 25, at Eton Bray, a village near Dunstable, a labourer, named Joseph Room, aged 50 years and a widower for 12 years, was married to Maria Dyer, aged 86 years and a widow for 36 years. Considering that wives and widows are inadmissible, we wonder where they found the lovely spinsters to match the interesting fright of a bride for bridesmaids.

ONE Mrs. Lister, under a judicial order, divorced herself from her husband for his adultery and cruelty, and was awarded by Mr. Justice Butt a permanent alimony. The divorcing wife took another husband and the divorced husband objected to pay the alimony. The appellate Court—Lord Justices Cotton and Fry—have rejected the prayer of the

*Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.*

husband to be relieved of the continuous burden, holding that the lower court was competent to make the permanent order.

THE High Court closed for the Christmas vacation with the presentation of an address by the Pleaders to the retiring Mr. Justice Romesh Chunder Mitter. All the Judges were present in the Court room of the First Bench, where the presenters assembled. The address spoke in flattering terms of the "great ability, strong common sense, thorough independence, untiring patience and uniform courtesy" of the Bengali Judge, and of his labours on the Public Service Commission. It was read by the Senior Pleader Baboo Annada Prasad Banerjee, and presented in a casket. Mr. Twidale also addressed the Judge, and the Honorable Baboo returned a modest reply. He then met the Vakils in their library and took leave of each and all. While the Vakils are loud in their praise of the retiring Judge, Government quietly accepts his resignation. We append the reply to the address :—

"Baboo Annada Prasad, Mr. Twidale, and other Gentlemen,—I am extremely grateful to you all for the address presented to me. It is about sixteen years ago that I was selected from your body to fill up the vacancy in this Court, caused by the death of my illustrious predecessor, Mr. Dwarkanath Mitter, and at that time I was comparatively young in age and experience. Naturally, therefore, I felt a sense of diffidence in my ability to discharge the duties,—very responsible duties, of a Judge of the highest Court in the country. That sense of diffidence was much deepened by the circumstance that I was selected to fill up the gap, which, those who, like myself, knew Mr. Justice Dwarkanath Mitter, will bear me out, could not be filled up well for sometime to come. Gentlemen, however, I had this confidence in myself that I would spare no trouble to do my work honestly, and to the best of my ability. I was always actuated by this single desire, and although no one is more sensible than I am that I do not deserve even an infinitesimal portion of all that you have been good enough to say of my services, still it is most gratifying to me to find that the members of the profession to which I belong think that I have given satisfaction to the public. Gentlemen, even if I were in good health, I should have found great difficulty in expressing adequately my feelings for your good wishes and kind expressions of sympathy. But in the present state of my health, I find it almost impossible to do so. I shall, therefore, ask you, Gentlemen, to accept my most cordial thanks. I shall meet you in the library of your Association to bid you farewell individually."

MR. Amir Ali has just been Gazetted to act as a Puisne Judge, until Her Majesty's pleasure is known.

THE *Bombay Guardian* thus notices the retirement of Mr. Justice Mitter :—

"Mr. Justice Romesh Chunder Mitter has resigned his seat on the Calcutta High Court bench. His health has been failing ever since his indefensible action in the Patna case. He was stricken with partial paralysis immediately after the outrageous insult to Luchini recorded on page 10 of 'A Terrible Crime under British Rule in India.'"

There are barbarians and barbarians; savages of sorts. Some naked, others clad up to neck and sporting a covering on the head besides. The essential attribute of the order is quite compatible with a considerable amount of knowledge and literary accomplishment.

THE *Pioneer* expects United Burma to yield this year an actual surplus of 75 lacs. How much do the Upper Provinces contribute to this figure?

SIR Charles Crosthwaite has resumed his place in Burma, and Mr. A. P. MacDonnell his own in the Home Department. The Home Secretary, however, goes on furlough in March next, Mr. C. J. Lyall again acting for him. Mr. Lyall does not go to Assam, he being placed on special duty.

GOVERNMENT is awaking to the inequity of its proceedings in Upper Burma. During the last five months, about one thousand "Dacoits" have been released. The military police is also to be reduced.

THE statistical abstract for the Colonial and other Possessions of the United Kingdom for the fifteen years 1874–1888, shews a remarkable development of trade. For instance, the imports from India have risen from £37,000,000 to £79,000,000, and from Australasia from £44,000,000 to £65,000,000; the exports to India have grown from £56,000,000 to £92,000,000, and to Australasia from £39,000,000 to £57,000,000 in value.

THE Vienna military paper *Die Reichswehr* says—Russia will soon have, in Europe, 2,880 field guns; France, 2,880—total 6,200. Ger-

many has 2,884; Austria will have, at the beginning of next year, 1,776,—total, 4,660. With the Italian 1,620, the equilibrium is restored between Russia and France on one side and the Triple Alliance on the other.

IN one month, twenty-three German officers shot themselves. The number increased in June, and more suicides are apprehended. There surely is something rotten in the great military Empires.

M. DELONCLE writes in the *Sécle* that the evacuation of Egypt cannot be injurious to England, while it would pacify the Nile and the Soudan, and reopen East Africa to the free influence of civilization.

UNDER the new military law, foreigners, including in the category British subjects born in France whose fathers also happen to have been born in France, are to be considered to all intents and purposes as French subjects, and, as such, are bound to serve first in the Active Army for three years, and then in the Reserve and in the Territorial Army up to the age of 45. All sons of foreigners born in France who are in the present year 20 years of age are to be held liable to compulsory military service in the army for 25 years.

THE Hungarian Lower House has rejected by 193 to 84, M. Iranyi's motion to amend the Naturalisation Act of 1879. If the motion had passed, Louis Kossuth would have retained, notwithstanding his perpetual residence abroad, the rights of a Hungarian citizen. The Hungarian patriot already holds the freedom of several Hungarian cities. For his sake, if for nothing else, the law should have been altered. At the worst, he could not possibly tax his countrymen's forbearance much longer.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to a Madras paper that the Sub-division Zemindar P. Kottaisami Tevar of Ramnad has agreed, under a registered document, to advance to his cousin Mr. Dinakarasami Setupathi, younger brother of the Ramnad Zemindar, one lac of rupees, to enable him to file a suit for the partition of the Ramnad Zemindary. The Sub-division Zemindar has secured by the deed the principal with interest. The rate of interest is not mentioned by the correspondent. We only hope Ramnad will not prove another Shivagunga.

LAST Saturday, Maharaja Prabhu Narayan Singh Bahadur, of Benares, was formally installed by the Lieutenant-Governor of the N. W. P. He was simultaneously presented with the *samud*, invested with the *khilnat*, valued at Rs. 5,000, and installed in the gundi. It was a large assemblage. There were present Maharaja Sir Radha Prasad Singh Bahadur of Dumraon; Maharaja Sir Krishna Pratap Sahie Bahadur of Hatwa; Raja Lal Madho Singh of Amethi; Raja Ram Pratap Singh of Manda; Raja Mahomed Salamat Shah of Azamgarh; Maharaj Kumar Lal Jagannath Singh of Sohawal and others, besides representatives from Cashmere, Patiala, Kapurthala, Jheend and Nabha. One name is conspicuous by its absence from the record. The everlasting Raja Siva Prasad—the inevitable factor in every Benares function or *fracas*—the unavoidable factotum of the old Maharaja gone to Heaven—was nowhere on the important occasion, whether as master of ceremonies or mate—ruler of the roast or bottleholder. He could not be so engrossed with the affairs of his new Raj that he had no time to attend so auspicious a ceremony in the old Principality, to which he owes so much. Was he diplomatically sick or not asked? The present Maharaja Bahadur showed the stuff in him by inaugurating his *régime* with kicking off the leeches.

ON Saturday the 7th instant, the second daughter of Kassim Arifi, the well known Surat merchant of our Town and proprietor of the only silk manufactory at Calcutta, was married to the second son of Moolla Ismail, a wealthy merchant of Mandalay and Rangoon, who held a prominent position at the Court of the king of Burmah, both at the time of Theebaw and that of his father. Feasts and Nautches were given to the *élite* of Mahomedan society for several days. The Moolla who had come to Calcutta for the purpose of this wedding has returned to Rangoon.

THE Hon'ble F. M. Halliday will continue, for another term, to be an additional Member of the Governor-General's Council.



EIGHTY women of the Servo-Hungarian village of Melencze are under trial for having poisoned their husbands and other near relatives. The crime came to light so far back as 1882, when a young beautiful woman named Draga Kukin, having poisoned her husband and stung to remorse, gave herself up. Two professional fortune-tellers who supplied the destructive were arrested, who have since died in prison. The Police have been at it for the last seven years.

WE read—

"The number of visitors on the closing day of the Paris Exhibition was 370,000, the number of tickets presented (five for every admission after five o'clock) being 511,000. The total number of paying visitors to the Exhibition was 25,000,000, as compared with 12,000,000 in 1878 and 8,000,000 in 1867. Of the 30,000,000 tickets issued, 28,000,000 have been utilised. The theatre receipts during the Exhibition have been the largest on record, and the railways have also profited. The receipts of the Northern Company from Jan. 2 to Oct. 21 have been 147,000,000 frs., an increase of 15,000,000 frs., and those of Lyons Company 270,000,000 frs., an increase of 18,000,000 frs., while the Western Orleans and Southern lines have each had an increase of 9,000,000 frs., or about 9 per cent. This increase will really benefit the State rather than the shareholders, who are guaranteed 4 per cent. by the Government. The Eiffel Tower receipts have been 6,500,000 frs. According to the calculations of the police, 5,000,000 provincials and 1,500,000 foreigners have visited the Exhibition. The foreigners include 380,000 English, 225,000 Belgians, 160,000 Germans, 56,000 Spaniards, 52,000 Swiss, 38,000 Italians, 32,000 Austrians, 7,000 Russians, 5,000 Greeks, Turks, and Romanians, 3,500 Portuguese, 2,500 Scandinavians, 8,000 Asiatics, 12,000 Algerians and other Africans, 90,000 North Americans and 25,000 South Americans."

MR. H. Lee has been appointed to officiate as Magistrate and Collector of Midnapur, during the absence on leave of Mr. C. H. Vowel, or until further orders. We adverted to Mr. Lee's ability and suavity of manners some time ago, and will only add that he was one of those gentlemen whose intervention brought about the amicable settlement of the Burdwan case. In 1886-89, he officiated in the very post to which he is now appointed, earning the reputation of a very able officer.

THE last M. A. Examination of the Calcutta University gives the following results:—

In English Class I. seven students, three from the Presidency College, two from the Dacca College, one from the Metropolitan Institution and one from the City College. In class II. seven and in Class III. nine, the Presidency College in each class heading the list. In Mathematics, two in Class I. four in Class II. and two in Class III. In Latin, one in Class I. In Sanskrit, 2 in II. and 2 in III. In Persian, 1 in I. and 1 in II. History, 1 in I. 3 in III. Mental and Moral Philosophy, 3 in I, 2 in II and 1 in III. Natural and Physical Science—Chemistry, 3 in I, 5 in II and 1 in III; Physics, 3 in II. Physiology and Zoology, 2 in II and 1 in III. Geology and Mineralogy, 1 in III.

## • NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE influenza has marred Christmas in Europe. The Kaiser suffered from cold and feverish symptoms. The Czar is down with a second and a serious attack. The King of Portugal is suffering. The hospitals in Paris and Vienna are crowded with patients. The garrison in Brussels has been decimated. Several deaths are reported from Paris. Many postmen in the western district of London have been disabled. It is feared, from past experience, that the present epidemic is the precursor of an outbreak of cholera.

THE quiet revolution in Brazil has ceased to be peaceful. Anti-revolutionary riots are reported from Rio de Janeiro. There were serious fights in the streets from the 18th to the 20th, which could be quelled only by the military. There is disaffection too in the army. The provisional Government has been driven to extreme measures. It has issued a decree fixing the general elections for September next and the meeting of the Constituent Assembly for November. Dom Pedro and family have been banished, as also the late premier. The grant to the ex-Emperor has been recalled, his annual allowance suspended, and his property seized. Another report says there is anarchy in Brazil. Martial law has been proclaimed. Persons charged with sedition, suborning the military, or in any way opposing the Republic are to be militarily tried. A newspaper has been suspended for siding with the opposition to the Republic.

ON Tuesday, December 3, Vienna was completely snow-bound. Provisions could not enter the arches of the railway, and the viaducts under which cars would pass were blocked. A hundred snow ploughs and over 4300 sweepers were at work.

AN Austro-Hungarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry has been established in London, to further the commercial relations between Great Britain and its colonies and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Persons of all nationalities are eligible as members.

PRINCE Albert Victor arrives at Calcutta on Friday, the 3rd January. The day will be observed as a public holiday. His Royal Highness lands at Prinsep's Ghat at, so far as at present is known, 4-30 in the afternoon. Preparations are making there for a right royal welcome. It will be an official reception. The available space can accommodate about 1,500 persons. Admission to the Ghat will be by tickets issued by the Commissioner of Police. Further information on the subject will be found in the Police Notification elsewhere.

THE Municipal Commissioners have been specially summoned to meet next Monday, to discuss a proposition for Rs. 10,000 as a contribution to the Reception and Entertainment Fund started by the Chamber of Commerce and the British Indian Association. Application has also been made by the Opposition Shop for a grant towards a permanent memorial. We hope there will be no exhibition of temper and taking up of past bitter feeling.

HAVING sent Captain Hearsey out of his own Province, to seek for redress, if any, against it in other Provinces and Presidencies, the *Pioneer* has turned its attention to Suman Swamy, who has established his headquarters at Allahabad itself. The *Pioneer* identifies Suman Swamy with one Desika Chari, a native of Tiruvelliankudi in the Tanjore District, sentenced in 1869 to six years' rigorous imprisonment, for having made a false charge and committed perjury in support of it. Released from jail in 1874, he did not return to his relatives who probably gave him up as dead. In 1877, he turned up in Calcutta and took employment in the Post Office, passing as Srinivasulu Chari, his brother. He then quarrelled with the Postmaster and suddenly left the service. He next shewed himself in this capital in 1886 as a Congress delegate from Madras. But the delegates from that Presidency disowned him. It was then that he assumed the name of Suman Swamy and started the Cow Memorial Fund and agitation. The clinching proof of identity, according to the Allahabad journal, is the crooked middle finger of the right hand which distinguishes both Desika Chari and Suman Swami. Suman Swami denies that he is Desika Chari. But he is in no hurry to revenge himself on the *Pioneer*. He proposes a course different from that taken by Captain Hearsey. He writes to the *Morning Post* of Allahabad:—

"Your local contemporary, the *Pioneer*, the arch-enemy and the licensed libeller of the natives and native improvements, has, as such, been no friend of the movement set on foot for the conservation of dairy and agricultural cattle, from the very commencement. Is it a wonder, then, to find that the paper has violently attacked me in its leader under the head—'The History of an Agitation,' in its yesterday's issue, in which I have been identified with a criminal to my deep sorrow? I most emphatically deny all the charges with indignation, and regard them with the contempt they deserve; but, in this age of scepticism and mysticism, as the unsupported assertion of an individual, be he a king or a vassal, will not be believed in, I have put myself in communication with people who have known me for the last forty years, as well as with those whose statements will disprove the scandalous assertions of your local contemporary beyond all doubt.

After receiving their replies, and thus strengthening my position, I shall not fail to address your contemporary, giving a categorical denial to all the charges; and I shall take, as well, legal action against the paper to recover three (3) lakhs of rupees damages for libel in the Allahabad High Court. Yours faithfully, Suman Swami, Allahabad, December 24."

It is a dilatory course that Swami has chosen.

THE only effort at appropriate originality in the displays of welcome to the Prince, was made at the old Mahratta capital of Poona, by a respectable, if rather obscure, association calling itself the Dinabandhu Sarvajanic Sabha. This society has for its object the education of the poor and neglected classes. On the road through which the royal party were to pass, it posted 150 boys of its charity school under this inscription, to wit—

"Tell Grandma! we are a happy nation,

• But nineteen crores are without education"

It is reported that the Prince and his uncle (the Duke) and Governor Reay and all laughed at the reading. Well, if the verse was not quite worthy of the noble Laureate of England, it did not go for nothing. Indeed, it served a useful and thoroughly *welcome* purpose. As Dryden says, "It is good to laugh at any rate, and if a straw can tickle a man's fancy, it is an instrument of pleasure." It was something to be proud of for the Dinabandhu Bard to have lightened up the path of the Prince. And considering that there were so many brither Scots in the party who echoed the princely burst of hilarity, the triumph was all the greater.

There is a serious side to the business, however. In all probability, in fact, the Sabha did not care to extract a smile from the British visitors, whether hailing from this side or that of the Tweed, so much as to impress on the Prince and the Powers the educational destitution of the land. A little correction would have made the lines tolerable doggerel. As it is, it is not a bad prose epigram expressing a fine and true sentiment of a loyal people and embodying an important matter of fact. We do hope the thought has not been lost on the Prince and his Party in the merriment over the form.

THE poor Aryans! Their position in the Republic of Letters is much to be pitied! They are still wandering like nomads throughout the whole Hemisphere, for want of a home. The Eastern branch in especial has ever been the victim of Destiny. The condition of its members is now, as it has long been, at a low ebb. At any rate, the consolations of a Past were theirs. During all their many vicissitudes of fortune,—under all

the whips and scorns of time,

The oppressor's wrong, the proud man's contumely,—  
to all the mean reproaches of mushroom prosperity, to

The insolence of office, and the spurns

That patient merit of the unworthy takes,

they might still proudly answer, *Fumus!* Their present is not over-owing in credit or comfort, much less in glory—their future is at best problematical: their only resource lies in the Pleasures of Memory. But now, alas! their very Past is in peril. Their ancient history is the sport of learned ingenuity. The primitive domicile itself of their race is in dispute. Their birth-right has been seized. They have been expatriated. Their local habitation gone, their name has almost ceased to have a meaning. These Aryas are at length declared to be no Asiatics at all! They are Northmen, Scandinavians, Finns, anything but Orientals! Europeans have no idea of how the idea jars on the Indian ear. The modern Hindu, product of ages of exclusiveness, refinement and puritanism, is scarcely yet reconciled to trace his ancestry from High Asia, now a land of *mlechhas*—unclean barbarians. But to be driven farther back, far into the shores of the Baltic, that is simply intolerable!

MEANWHILE, an eminent French ethnologist has presented to the Academy of Sciences, in an "Introduction to the Study of the Human Races," his general conclusions with regard to the origin and distribution of mankind. They are thus summarised. There are as many as 72 distinct races in the human species, all descending or branching off from three fundamental types—the Black, the Yellow and the White—which had their origin at the great central mass of Northern Asia, which this *savant* regards as the cradle of mankind. Representatives of these three types, as of some at least of the races sprung from them, are still to be found there. The Whites originated on the west of the central mass, the Yellows on the north and the Blacks on the south. The Whites extended to north and west, giving birth to three secondary types, the Finnish, the Semitic and the Aryan. The area of distribution of both the Whites and the Yellows has been continuous, from their having the whole of the extensive land surface of Europe and Asia before them. The Yellows spread eastward and crossed over by Behring's Straits into America. The Whites and Yellows blended with each other, and formed many varieties of man. The Blacks were compelled, partly by the nature of the continent and partly by the attacks of the other types, to move down south into Africa and east into the Indian Archipelago or Melanesia. The proto-Semites were arrested in their distribution in North Africa, the mixture of the two races producing the Negroid tribes. In Central and Southern Africa, the Blacks maintained their ethnic purity to modern times, until the mixture with the Dutch and others from Europe and the north of Africa led to such products as the Boers, Bushmen, &c. The Black residue in the original home

became blended with the Whites and Yellows, to give rise to the different shades of the Dravidians.

LAST week, we noticed the deliverance of flippant youth on our frank abandonment of the cry of panic at the Official Secrets Act, in which this journal had in haste joined at a time when the editor was away in the country. Let us now turn to the old fogs of the Press:—

"If there is one man in India whose opinion we value more than another it is that of our esteemed friend and contemporary of *Reis and Rayyet*. The pleasure it gave us on reading his open and frank confession in the last number of *Reis and Rayyet* over the Official Secrets Act is so thoroughly in keeping with his unalloyed character, that we felt convinced the moment he came to look at the intentions of the Act through his own glasses, he would see for himself the error he had committed during his inland seclusion far away from Calcutta.

Our contemporary says, duty must be done at any cost. How pleasant, how agreeable it would be to all classes, official and unofficial, if we had more men of his fair and unbiassed opinion, candid and well matured expressions. Speaking pointedly of the Official Secrets Act, our contemporary says:—

"We find it a harmless enough thing. It *might* be put to bad uses, but that is a different question. That suggestion is bred of jealousy of Indian officials. But it is forgotten that the terrible Indian Bureaucracy had nothing to do with the inception of the measure. It is an emanation of British statesmanship *khais* and pure, and has run the gauntlet of party and radical criticism at Home. There are all the necessary safeguards against abuse. As for this country, it was already law in it when the Government of India introduced it here. It had already passed in England for all British Possessions. The Indian Act is simply a re-enactment. The Hon'ble Mr. Scoble said as much, but we gentlemen of the Press—not very much different from Bismarck's gentlemen of the *press*, perhaps—we were not going to take a member of Council's word on trust. In justice to us all, we must say that the Lord President put us on the wrong scent. (Is it possible His Excellency meant to apply a practical test to gauge the perspicacity of the Indian Press?) Indeed, the Indian Act is a trifle milder than its prototype of the Mother Country. So far as the Press is concerned, there is not a shadow of menace against it. Nay, there is not a word about journals or journalists, publishers or printers. All our rage has gone for nothing. And we, for one, must gulp down our humble pie with as good a face as we can command."

Is there anything more reasonably natural than that when we find we have erred, we feel it necessary that the earliest opportunity should be seized to make the *amende*? It is not eating humble pie, but the act of a gentleman of honor who values his reputation, which we feel satisfied our friend and contemporary does. While congratulating our contemporary, we only add, that we have already more than once said that the Act will prove either a curse or a blessing. Certainly the former if not worked justly, and assuredly the latter if worked with honest impartiality, and we feel confident this latter Lord Lansdowne will strictly enforce."—*The Mahomedan Observer*, Nov. 16.

That opinion is derived from a much larger experience of life and affairs and on a wider field of action, than is open to junior clerks in an office of military accounts.

HERE, again, is a treatment of the same matter from an organ of recognised weight of the great politicians of Maharashtra:—

"Our able contemporary of the *Reis and Rayyet* has made a confession withdrawing all hostile criticism on the Act as it is nothing more than reproduction of an English Statute which has, to use our contemporary's words, run the 'gauntlet of party and Radical criticism at home.' Our brother supposes that it is after all a harmless thing and that we were warring with a windmill of our fancy. We regret we have to differ and honestly differ from our contemporary whose action appears to us to be rather hasty. It is true that the Act is a copy of an English Statute. The fact was well known to all. But we could not and do not still perceive how that justifies the introduction of it in this country. In England they have the right to call for any papers from Government and the Statute, which does not touch this right in the least, serves there only to prevent possible mischief. Not so in India. We have here no right to demand production of any papers and there is thus a very great danger of important measures affecting the home policy being passed in secret and without passing through the scrutiny of public opinion. Indeed, our brother appears to be half conscious of such consequences when he speaks of the possibility of the Act being put to bad uses owing to the jealousy of Indian officials; and here lies the rub. Instances are not wanting, in fact have been freely given, of the good results of the disclosures of official measures in the Press before they are finally passed. The Act is so worded that any such course may be impossible in future and the cry in the Press is directed against this possible gagging of the Press. The danger is not quite imaginary; and if Government wish to retain the Act now passed, they should find their way to grant the privilege of demanding papers to the Press or similar institutions here. As the matter stands at present, we are at a double disadvantage. We can not ask for papers and we shall be debarred from publishing any news that we may get, though such publication may in the end be calculated to do good to the public. The Members of the Legislative Council could well have foreseen this and modified the wording of the Act so as to prevent publication of news dangerous to the safety of the empire. But as the proverb says 'no will, no way.'—*The Mahratta*, Nov. 17.

The old story! There has been no introduction, properly speaking, at the instance of the Indian authorities, at all. The English Act was law here, whether the Indian Legislature brought in any bill or not.

In point of fact, it is still law here, though we have got an Act of our own. Under the circumstance, it is vain to quarrel with the Indian Government as if it had, out of the depths of its baseness, evolved a dreadful engine of oppression for us. The whole panic has been a regular "sell," as our contemporaries are beginning to find.

It was laid down by the Government of India, in 1847, that if the public conduct of an officer in the transaction of his official duties is impugned, he is at liberty to seek redress through the usual official channel, by an appeal to the Government he serves, and that the Government so appealed to will afford him every opportunity of vindicating his character. The Bengal Government has unearthed this rule, and, accepting it as sound, has strongly impressed on its subordinate offices and officers—not to rush to newspapers, whether in England or in India, in defence of conduct impugned, but to follow the good old rule laid down in the general order of the Government of India in the Foreign Department, dated the 15th March 1847.

THE Calcutta University have been reckless this year in fixing the dates for the several Examinations. But they have not been obstinate in sticking to their own. On representation, they changed the dates for the Arts Examinations. They have been now applied to to fix a later date than the 17th March 1890 for the B. L. The candidates have a substantial grievance. There have been several additions to the course, without additional time being granted to get these up. To add to their misfortune the Calcutta market is unable to supply the necessary books.

THE Fifth National Indian Congress opened at Bombay on the 26th. The delegates and visitors numbered about four thousand. Mr. Peroshah Mehta welcomed the delegates, and Sir William Wedderburn, who had been bespoken for the occasion, was formally elected President. Having come all the way from England for it, Sir William might well say as he did that he appreciated the honor done him. He was glad to be associated with a movement so well calculated to advance the interests of both England and India. He had watched the movement from its inception, and had found nothing but good in its origin, its objects and its methods. It only proved the highest British statesmanship, being the natural healthy fruit of higher education and free institutions freely granted to the Indian people. The Congress aimed at the revival of national life and increased material prosperity of India, through methods open and constitutional, with absolute reliance on British justice and love of fairplay. He eulogized the Marquis of Ripon as the greatest and best of Viceroys who, he said, had met and fulfilled the aspirations of the national movement. He presented a gloomy contrast between the administration in India and the liberal policy at Home. Yet, in approaching this subject he showed sufficient remains in himself as an ex-Indian Civilian of the *esprit de corps* of his former Service. He was tender to the sins of his brethren. He would not condemn the men but the system which, in certain important particulars, opposed the official administrators to the interests of the Indian taxpayer. He could not expect that as a class the official administrators would work for peace, economy and reform, to their own disadvantage. He will, we are afraid, be pronounced a reactionary in Indian politics. According to him, all the great constitutional changes since the outbreak of 1857 have been unfortunate; the destruction of the Double Government—against which the Liberals of forty years ago thundered—a grave blunder. He sighed for the good old days of the East India Company, when, he believed, there were two important safeguards. The first was a wholesome jealousy felt by Parliament towards the East India Company as a privileged corporation, the second was the necessity for the renewal of the charter, thereby affording an opportunity for reforms and concessions suited to the progressive condition of Indian affairs. The Secretary of State's Council, in his view, affords no protection to the Indian people. For, there the Original Judges form the Appellate Court, as it were, and simply confirm their own decrees. In his estimation, the present method of control is a mockery, a snare and a delusion. The President lastly informed his audience, with a frankness for which he will receive scant thanks, that the Congress was not viewed favorably at Home. The India office, the services and society, were all strongly opposed to it. The London press was not particularly friendly, and the M. P.s with Indian experience ranged themselves on the official side. But he consoled them with the as-

surance that the spirit of the age was with them and that the forces of the new democracy were in sympathy with national aspirations. He closed his address by recommending to their earnest attention the unofficial Bill for the reform of the Legislative Council, and introducing to them the author of the Bill—Mr. Bradlaugh—whose name, he said, was a synonym for independence, for strength and for success.

IN our last we published a letter under the rather sensational head of "A Village deserted for Oppression." With reference to the personal appeal made to us, we remember the history of the Trust and the persons mentioned, but we are not acquainted with the later management of who had the farm, how he got it, or what he did with it. The spectre brought before the public by our correspondent comes, however, in such a questionable shape, that the Administration must speak to it. If his statement be true, it is no joke that the tenantry on a Government estate should be driven from it. Indians put up with much before they can make up their minds to give up their homes and lands.

THE Hero of the Hour is, of course, Sir Surrender Not, Knight of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of La Mancha, Grand Crosspuoses and Commander of the Invincible Juvenile Band, Master of Arts and Postures, Senior Wrangler, &c., &c., &c. Having conquered the East, he has led his army of young fire-eaters, with a sprinkling of old boys, to the West. He will doubtless conquer in Bombay as in Bengal—if he has an opportunity of bringing out his patent vocal instrument. He has only to give the word of command to his faithful following of hands without heads, and they will all start up "solid," to the confusion of the best and bravest.

What a rare triumph was his!

Oh, the Glorious Revolution!  
Oh, the brand-new Constitution!  
Now that the Boys, led by bold folks,  
Have turned the tables upon the Old Folks!

How easily the thing was done,  
For the boys were more than two to one;  
Braver than Quixote, quicker than the fox  
With tin enough in the Old Fund box.

Nail up the door, slide down the stairs,  
Saw off the legs of the President's Chair—  
Such was the will of head of patriot Band,  
For the Boys had quite the upper hand.

And now they've sent the Old Folks all to school;  
There was no escape from the new Boy Rule.

MEER AMER ALI SAHIB has been gazetted successor to Mr. Justice Mitter. He has already been addressed by his own Mahomedan organization—the go-a-head Islamite Association. He will doubtless receive his due of a dinner, of both *pilau* and steaks, curry and turkey and adjuncts. There will, as a matter of course, be a confusion of tongues, Aryan, Turanian and Shemitic, on the occasion. We only hope the complimentary diners drinkers in special will take care to avoid the derangement of epitaphs to which they must, under the peculiar circumstances, be liable. Such a *contretemps* as occurred on the occasion of Mr. Sergeant Hotham's elevation to the bench of the Exchequer Court, would be very lamentable and might be a political danger—by rousing to frenzy all the numerous branches on paper of the Mahomedan Association.

WITHOUT undertaking the long journey to Bombay, the Maharaja of Durbhanga has been able to give the Congress quite a nobleman's—not to say yeoman's—service. At the last meeting of the Behar Landholders' Association on the 13th, he declared himself in its favour and advised his brother landlords to do likewise. Whether they will have the courage to do so is doubtful. At any rate, the public adhesion of a power in the realm like Durbhanga is a godsend to the failing concern.

THE Disloyalists or Lepers have been overtaken by the Nemesis of their own wrong. They intended to give their enemy—the Calcutta public in meeting assembled—a defeat and to dictate the terms of peace. The enemy, unprepared for the ambushade and mine laid for them, took the defeat, but scorned to treat with such a foe. To avoid the consequences of the reverse in the field, they quickly retreated to the hills. From those heights, they view with serene satisfaction the miseries of a victorious mob which had depended for their comfort on

others. The Malcontents meditated imposing their own "fad" on the public, but, by the strategy of their opponents, they were left alone in the field to ride their own hobby—down to wheresoever they listed. They were thus constrained to carry out the Amendment they so lightly and lustily moved. If one might forgive the evil spirits—Black spirits and White—whose mischievousness spoiled the harmony and happiness of an auspicious occasion, the accident will do both parties good, teaching each a lesson of which it clearly stood in need. If it has the effect of steadying the youth of the country and infusing some sense of responsibility into the power engines of talk, it will not have been in vain.

Thrown on their resources, the Disloyalists started a shop of their own. The Lepers in fact were obliged to run up their own Asylum, if they could. Whether they could or not, they must certainly try, if only to avoid the strong suspicion of trifling in the gravest public concerns. Otherwise, they would prove themselves to be *all boys*—the Big Boys—the leaders—being the worst of the lot, the feeblest and most contemptible. So, on Thursday se'nnight, they held a meeting and formed Committees—General and Executive—for *their* demonstration of a permanent nature. They displayed their inherent weakness at every step. From the Town Hall, they descended to the rickety Albert Hall. In their stress for a figure-head at whose feet to sit, they were reduced to utilise the family feuds of the people. The chair was given to Raja Sourindro Mohan Tagore, whose sympathy was virtually bespoken when his elder brother Maharaja Jotindro Mohan was the most distinguished Loyalist in town. He gave the Cockney Obstructionists who have espoused the movement the benefit of a hint or two out of his landlordly experience how to grind and draw Rint. He exhorted such of the country squires and farmers as were present to collect small sums from the rayyets. He has since followed up his speech with a comparatively considerable collection from his own establishment, the members of which will have long cause to remember, if not to bless, Surrender Not. The permanent chair, however, has been reserved for Mr. J. Stevenson, of Messrs. Graham & Co., who will reside at the Committee meetings.

The promoters can not be sanguine of raising enough money for the Leper Asylum, when they have provided an alternative to fall back upon, namely, that "in the event of its becoming impracticable to carry it out," they will have "any other useful institution, such as may hereafter be determined upon by a meeting of subscribers."

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1889.

### OFFICIAL OPINION ON LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

THE favorable opinion of the working of municipalities and District Boards, recorded by the head of our Local Government, is not without its reservations. The failures of the system are attracting more and more attention, as its operations are more closely watched, and as opportunities for arriving at correct conclusions are being afforded by a longer period of time. It is indeed a matter of congratulation that, notwithstanding the defects and failures which have been detected and pointed out, his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has expressed himself as on the whole satisfied with the working of the scheme, and considers it not without promise of success in the future. The Commissioners of Divisions, on whose reports the opinion of the Government is based, are, of course, disposed to take a lenient view of the shortcomings of the local authorities, and in striking a balance between the credit and the debit side of the new system, to pronounce generally in its favor. On this favorable verdict, however, our local authorities should not go to sleep. It does not by any means relieve them from the necessity of being more careful in future. Local Self-Government is an integral branch of the administration, and its efficiency must be maintained at the usual official standard. Already, signs of weakness are perceptible in the ad-

ministration of the taxes and other sources of revenue by the municipalities and Local Boards. The District Boards are presided over by the Magistrates, and it is a great advantage to these Boards that their chief source of income, the Road cess, is under the administration of these officials. In municipalities constituted on the elective basis, it has already been found that there is a tendency among the elected Commissioners to reduce the taxes of the electors, in view of securing their suffrages at a future election. There are other blemishes. One officer complains that the new system has brought no relief to the District Officer. The most unfavorable criticisms come naturally from the backward province of Behar. Mr. Boxwell, Commissioner of the Patna Division, writes:—

"The District Boards are generally praised for working harmoniously. Mr. Guérison discusses the question whether his Board is representative or an assembly of notables. Mr. Beadon says the lawyers on his Board are extremely obstructive. I think all the criticism just, and some of it useful. Much of it is of the nature of awarding marks for merit as to school boys—for intelligent interest, regular attendance, and so forth. But it seems to me that if the members stayed at home they would do just as much good. The best members are the indigo planters, who attend few meetings but readily supervise the repairs of roads in their neighbourhood. The Durbhunga Board, following the lead of their Chairman, the District Officer, voted large sums of money for the relief of distress by excellent road-making, and then, dominated by zemindars and lawyers, tried to make itself incapable of this good work by refusing to levy the cess at the required rate. Mr. Beadon writes the best and most minute criticism. Mr. Boudillon gives the neatest summary. He says:—'The working triumvirate of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and District Engineer carry on the work, and the Board acquiesce, and in important cases advise and vote. Nothing more than this seems to be required, and on that understanding the Board have worked successfully. Our roads are well kept up; we have opened more dispensaries and patshalas, and all this without friction or trouble. So I suppose we may 'plaudit.'

"Mr. Beadon goes carefully into detail, and proves, first, that the scheme relieves the District Officer of no part of his work. The help given by the planters in looking after roads is very great. That given by zemindars, either in action or advice, is almost nothing. And then he shows how the lawyers make their own or their client's interest the first object. Executive Officers and Judges are what the people want. The best Executive Officer is a man who understands, but is free from, and above, all local parties—the Roman among the provincials. Committees are *committees*, little parliaments. What they would like to do, they cannot be permitted to do; what they are set to do, they do not know how to do. They would like to affirm principles and regulate taxation. All this is done for them over their heads. They are set to carry out works, which a mediocre Executive Officer can do better than the best Committee. Therefore all the praise of Committees is exceptatory. The work is done now, as long ago, by the District Officer and the Engineer. As soon as a Committee tries to affirm a principle, the Government has to step in and bid it vote right."

As with the District Board, the Patna Municipality is also in a bad way. With regard to Patna, the features noted are "inadequate conservancy and latrine arrangements, almost absolute absence of supervision, and the drainage of the Municipality abominably bad." The Commissioners, it is said, attend meetings regularly enough, but do no supervision of work. In Behar, the Zemindars exert their influence in elections to bring about reductions of rates and assessments, the result being that an income adequate for carrying out necessary improvements cannot be maintained. The Commissioner, Mr. Boxwell, sums up:— "In short, almost all the Municipalities suffer from the same causes. The members of Committees either care only for the empty title or busy themselves about the wrong things."

The Commissioner of the Chota Nagpore Division speaks well of the Committees. After favorably noticing the working of the Municipalities in the Chittagong Division, the Commissioner says that the chief weakness of the Chittagong Board appears to have been their disinclination to deal properly with such of their subordinates who commit or attempt to commit fraud, and generally to deal vigorously with abuses. From Hooghly, complaint is made of inadequate penalties inflicted by Municipal Benches through fear of unpopularity. Party spirit and petty personal jealousies also interfere with the conduct of

public business. As regards sanitation, the municipalities generally had shown themselves very apathetic, and it is reported that they are unwilling to incur loans for the execution of works of obvious utility, but which are too costly to be constructed out of current income. The municipality of Howrah which has just applied for a loan of 10 lacs for water works, is a noteworthy exception to this dread of incurring financial responsibility, but at Howrah the District Magistrate is Chairman, and there is a considerable European element among the Commissioners. The complaint of unduly favoring English education without according the same treatment to vernacular and primary schools which, as benefitting the mass of the people, have greater claims upon the rates, lies against most municipalities.

The general statement of receipts shows that, while there has been a decrease of income from tax on holdings, houses and land, the receipts from wheel tax, tax on animals and tolls have increased. From this it appears that "there is a tendency to lower the rate of direct taxation and to develop income arising from such taxes as are either indirect or do not touch the rate-payers themselves."

In Dacca, the divisions and dissensions in previous years appear to have subsided.

In the Presidency Division, the Commissioners have indeed taken an interest in their duties, but they have shown an undue tendency to increase establishment and unnecessarily to increase the pay of officers, as well as to devote an unduly large portion of their funds to high education.

These criticisms have furnished the *Pioneer* with reasons for fearing that the moral responsibility of Native Commissioners is not all that could be desired. After referring to the decrease of income from tax on holdings, houses and lands, and to the tendency to spend more money on the education of the higher classes than on the elementary instruction of the lower, the Allahabad journal draws the moral, "The real danger to the development of a healthy municipal life in the future will not be so much apathy or a disinclination to spend public money, but a proneness on the part of the Native Commissioners to spend in their own interests or the interests of the ratepayers exclusively. The municipal conscience may become more alert as time goes on, but in the meantime there are unpleasant signs of hebetude."

While we are always ready to give credit to our self-governing councils where credit is due, we cannot lose sight of the fact that they have not, with rare exceptions, quite succeeded in showing much administrative aptitude and capacity. Let them take the above criticisms in good part, and endeavour, by their future conduct, to outgrow them. Above all, let them really be a relief to the District Officers and cultivate efficient and organised methods of administration.

#### MUNICIPAL LIABILITY FOR ENGLISH EDUCATION.

THE responsibilities of municipalities with respect to education have been long involved in uncertainty. Much diversity of opinion and of action has been the consequence, all classes of education, including the higher English, being aided in some places, while in others primary and middle vernacular education were alone considered to have a claim for support upon the municipal fund. The Bengal Municipal Act is not quite explicit on the point, the provision contained in it being that, subject to rules prescribed by the

Local Government, the Municipal Fund may be applied, among other things, to the construction and repair of school-houses, and the establishment and maintenance of schools, either wholly or by means of grants-in-aid. No rules of the kind referred to above have, so far as we are aware, been as yet laid down by the Government. Probably, the subject is still under the consideration of the Education Department, but the absence of any rules on the subject has been a fruitful source of friction and even of *discrepancies* between the municipal and the official authorities. This has been particularly the case in the Presidency Division. Mr. Smith, the Commissioner, has had to warn and admonish his municipal Commissioners not to spend the funds at their disposal in assisting the English schools, which, in his view, should be self-supporting, and rely chiefly upon the support of those comparatively well-to-do classes that desired to give education to their children. For our part, we are disposed to accept this view. The municipalities have too many things to provide for out of their limited resources to be able to assume an additional expensive responsibility like that for higher education. But while we hold this view, we are of opinion that, in exceptional cases, municipalities should not be restricted from exercising their discretion in assisting English schools, the circumstances of which warrant the exercise of such discretion. In any case, however, the question should not be allowed to rest in its present uncertainty. The municipalities, if they knew their duties in regard to education definitely, would not frame their Budgets so as to earn a reproof from their official superiors for their pains. These superior officials themselves would be saved the unpleasantness of the situation. For the rest, there would be uniformity of procedure throughout the province, which is now wanting. We are, therefore, glad that in his last Resolution on the municipalities, Sir Stuart Bayley has taken notice of the question and expressed his views thereon. The Resolution says:—

"It is reported by most Commissioners that the municipal grants are devoted, as a rule, to the maintenance of English education, and that little or no assistance is given to primary schools. This is a tendency to be guarded against, and while the Lieutenant-Governor does not consider that there is any obligation on municipalities to devote the whole of their grants to primary education, he quite agrees with the opinion expressed by Mr. Smith and other experienced officers, that an unduly large portion of the municipal funds should not be assigned to the benefit of the grant and comparatively scanty benefit to the community, who are left to be made to pay for high education to their children. It appears to be a fact that some of the municipal funds to assist or maintain English schools in opposition to other English schools which have been established by private enterprise. In such cases, Government officers of Division, in which the power is vested by law, should not hesitate to exercise their discretion in revoking the municipal estimates until a more equitable apportionment of funds is allotted."

Without being sufficiently definite, this expression of the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion will go far to remedy the existing state of things. Mr. Smith's opinion has received acceptance, and prominence has been given to his views by his name being singled out for mention. But we fear he will not be quite happy to find that, under the present orders, municipalities are under no obligation to devote the whole of their grants to primary education, but may, if they so choose, divert a portion of them for the benefit of English schools which were not set up in opposition to other schools in their neighbourhood. At any rate, here is a loophole which municipalities are likely to take advantage of for the purpose of assisting English schools, in spite of the Commissioner's instructions to the contrary. Future misunderstandings will not entirely cease, and we therefore suggest that an early opportunity should be taken by the Gov-

ernment, in consultation with the Education Department and the Divisional authorities, to place the question at rest, and thus prevent unpleasant bickerings and unnecessary friction between the local and district authorities. Let it be remembered that the question is a particularly sore one in Indian politics.

#### THE LATE WILKIE COLLINS.

MR. Edmund Yates has written an obituary notice of Wilkie Collins. It is the tribute of a surviving literary friend, unmarred by literary jealousy. It is, indeed, a model of tender treatment, without a trace of the officious falsehood of indiscreet zealous friendship. The writer's appreciation of the deceased's power of plot construction, with special reference to his *chef d'œuvre*, is thorough and hearty. It is with real delight he places his English friend above the famous French writers in the line.

It would be presumptuous in us so far in the East to suggest any flaw in the statement of a personal friend who is a distinguished literary man. But Mr. Yates seems to us to have been betrayed into a slip of memory in his account of the literary career of his subject. According to him, Mr. Collins did not make his mark or at least did not catch popular taste, till the publication of *The Moonstone*. That was, no doubt, a tremendous and unprecedented success. But he was already a popular novelist. His historical romance, *Antonina, or the Fall of Rome*—his very first essay in fiction—met with a reception which would satisfy the most sagacious young author. But *The Dead Secret* opened the eyes of the public to the presence of a new genius in the Fiction of Sensation. Therein he made a decided hit. We well remember the sensation that its appearance caused. It reached us to these distant shores. He maintained, and even advanced his popularity by *The Woman in White*. Its appearance in weekly parts in *All the Year Round*,—the magazine established by Dickens on the ashes of *Household Words*—was awaited with breathless expectations.

In treating of the personal life, Mr. Yates lets some light upon the habits and trials of the literary men of the day:—

It was during the progress of *The Moonstone*, I believe, that Wilkie Collins first acquired the baleful habit of taking sedatives, which he continued more or less throughout his life. Excited beyond measure by the constant nerve-pressure created by the necessity of having every thread of his story constantly within his grasp; suffering under a sharp attack of rheumatic gout in the eyes; distracted at the same time by the serious illness of his mother, to whom he was devotedly attached, Wilkie Collins, as Coleridge and De Quincey, and others eminent in the fraternity had done before him, sought and found relief in anodynes. On this subject I almost fear to write, lest I should be suspected of exaggeration; but from what he himself told me, and from what I have heard from friends of even greater intimacy with him, I believe that about that period and for the greater part of his after life Wilkie Collins was in the habit of taking daily, and without apparently serious noxious effect, more laudanum—not Batley's nor any other minimising solution, but absolutely pure laudanum—than would have sufficed to kill a ship's crew or a company of soldiers. This amount was, of course, arrived at slowly and by degrees.

Mr. Yates thus concludes:—

"Edward Pigott, John Everett Millais, and Holman Hunt are, perhaps, the only remaining members of that little coterie which used to meet at Mrs. Collins's house in Hanover Terrace forty years ago, when Wilkie and Charles and all of them were young men. His much-loved brother, Charles Alston Collins, a very subtle humourist and an excellent writer, died sixteen years ago; Dickens, Wills, James White, Augustus Egg, Lemon, Fechter, H. F. Chorley, nearly all the companions of his youth and prime, had predeceased him. Miss Hogarth remains, and Frank Beard, his skilful and ever watchful medical attendant, and myself; but, with the few exceptions I have named, poor Wilkie might have said with Lamb, 'All, all are gone, the old familiar faces.' Dear, good, staunch Wilkie, who has now gone to rejoin them!"

#### DACCA.

19th December, 1889.

The annual meeting of the Saraswat Samaj was held on the 11th instant at the Northbrook Hall to confer titles of honor for proficiency in the Sanskrit language and literature on the pupils of the Tols. The chair was taken by an old Pundit of Bikrampur. Many influential gentlemen, both European and native, were present.

*Holloway's Pills and Ointment*.—Soldiers and Sailors.—These well-known and easily used remedies are especially serviceable and convenient for those who, like soldiers and sailors, are exposed to great changes of climate, and the hardships inseparable from their calling. Many of the diseases engendered in the system from these and other untoward causes can be checked and controlled by attention at their onset, and in Holloway's remedies will be found a ready means of relief, without hindrance from duty. Many a man is invalidated and rendered more of a burden to himself and friends from neglect of the early symptoms of his complaint, which calamity might be averted by timely resort to the use of Holloway's Pills and Ointment.

The District Judge made a short speech in Bengali, expressing his sympathy with the objects of the Saraswat Samaj. It appeared from the report that of the 159 candidates who appeared at the examination from 80 Tols, 103 had passed.

#### EIGHT YEARS' JOURNALISM: OR, REIS AND RAYYET FROM THE START, WITH A WORD OF BUSINESS.

It is now some eight years since *Reis and Rayyet* was started. It made its mark from the outset.

The consensus of the entire Press, Native and European, testified to its worth in terms not to be mistaken—in terms of, indeed, unexampled enthusiasm.

The *Englishman* (Jas. Furrell) said

"It deserves to be a success." January, 1882.

The *Statesman* (W. M. Riach) wrote

"It is written in a racy style of English such as we rarely meet with in Indian journalism."

The *Amrita Bazar Patrika*:—

"We have got the *Reis and Rayyet*, a new weekly, published here in this city, and we give our contemporary a sincere welcome. That the paper is written in good English and is ably conducted and thoroughly independent goes without saying, considering the party who has taken it in hand. We fear our contemporary will throw everything in confusion in Calcutta, and that regardless of the claims of friends and foes. So much humbuggism has now permeated our society, that it is for that if for nothing else, a paper like our new contemporary was needed for the protection of honest people."

"Fearless and independent."—*Hindoo Patriot*.

So up the country, the *Liberty* of Lucknow, said

"We beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the first number of the *Reis and Rayyet*, a newspaper and review of Politics, Literature, and Society, hailing from the City of Palaces. If the contents of the first number be taken as a type, we have no hesitation in adding our humble testimony that the journal before us will not fail to earn a reputation for itself. The style is vivacious, smart, and oftentimes, humours. May our young brother live long to sow broadcast the principles of social amity, progress, and liberal democracy."

"A very vigorous youngster. There is no little 'go' in our contemporary."—*Express*.

Nor did the welcome come from the critics of only the English press in India. Here is a specimen of French opinion:—

"Un nouveau journal vient de se fonder à Calcutta, le *Reis and Rayyet*, dont nous avons un numéro sous les yeux. L'Éditeur est un indien, ce qui rend d'autant plus remarquable l'humour et surtout l'indépendance de cette plume qui sera comme l'épée de Damoclès suspendue sur la tête également des *Reis* et de *Rayyet*, pour abaisser au besoin l'orgueil des uns, et relever la dignité des autres, rappeler à tous ce que la Constitution exige de chacun pour assurer la paix de la Reine et la grandeur de l'Empire."

"Cette petite anecdote fera comprendre ce que sera le *Reis and Rayyet*. Puisse-t-il se maintenir toujours à cette hauteur, c'est le vœu que nous formons pour lui."—*Le Petit Bengali*.

The excellence and spirit have been kept up, as the continued good opinion of the whole Press shows.

"That very smart paper."—*Englishman*, February 16, 1882.

"That remarkably clever paper, *Reis and Rayyet*, has the gift—invaluable in a small Saturday—of sometimes putting a good leading article into a short sentence. [After quoting two sentences and italicising the second, continues] Some of our contemporaries who suffer from a scarcity of leading articles, might do worse than hammer the italicised sentence out to the proper superficies."—*Statesman*, October 16, 1882.

"One of the best written and ablest conducted papers in Bengal."—*Times of India*, August 1883.

"Written with an extraordinary command of the English language and strange felicity of style."—*Statesman*, December 25, 1883.

"That clever Calcutta paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, which is not known for its partiality to the Zemindars, has observed this defect in the constitution of the Select Committee" [on the Rent Bill].—*Indian Chronicle*, May 12, 1884.

"Able and smartly conducted paper."—*Englishman*, June 23, 1884.

"Able conducted Calcutta paper."—*Sind Times*, June, 1884.

"I always find your paper bright and clever."—The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert to the Manager, January 14, 1885.

"Few Englishmen have so complete a command of their own language as the editor, and still fewer so felicitous a style."—*Statesman*, March 28, 1885.

"*Reis & Rayyet*—has singularly keen powers of appreciation."—*Sind Times*, October 10, 1885.

"*Reis & Rayyet*—is perhaps the ablest paper in the country in point of literary power."—*Statesman*, November 18, 1885.

"*Reis & Rayyet*, which usually takes a most sensible view of events."—*Indian Planter's Gazette and Sporting News*, November 2, 1886.



"The *Reis & Rayyet* has made an enterprising effort not unworthy of a London journal, to trace the names and families of the persons who lost their lives in the steamer *Sir John Lawrence*. That paper is one of a style we could wish to see more represented in India. It obtains information and expresses currents of opinion almost inaccessible to papers conducted by Europeans, while it is free from the rabid and superficial style which either repels Europeans or at least disheartens them from looking for sense in the Native press."—*Englishman*, June 28, 1887.

"If there are transactions of a questionable character, the Press—whether Native or English—simply performs a duty in bringing the abuse to the light. And on this subject there are some remarks in the last number of *Reis & Rayyet* which deserve attention. Of course, *Reis & Rayyet* is 'only a Native paper,' and, therefore, may be regarded as a vilifying organ full of hatred and malice. But so long as its hatred and malice are directed against wrong-doing, its nativity may be forgiven. It is undoubtedly the best written paper in the country among the 'vilifying' and malice-inspired branch of the estate. It is often written with a thoughtfulness that might be imitated with advantage, and with a sense of responsibility which might be advantageously copied."—*Indian Daily News*, July 27, 1887.

"Our grave Native contemporary of the *Patriot*, by far and away the most profoundly political of Native journals, though rather below our *Reis & Rayyet* friend in talent, generally, observes, &c."—*Bengal Times* Oct. 13, 1888.

"The incomparable *Reis and Rayyet*."—*Indian Daily News*, Nov. 12, 1888.

"*Reis & Rayyet*, acknowledged by all Anglo Indian journalists to be far and away the most ably conducted native paper in the country."—*Evening News*, Nov. 16, 1888.

"*Reis and Rayyet* has an eloquent leader on the late Pandit Gangadhar Kabiraj of Moorshedabad. What a shame that so little should be known of his remarkable career!"—*Indian Spectator*.

"The *Indian Planter's Gazette* refers to some "graceful remarks" of *Reis and Rayyet* which is referred to as "this spirited and well-edited journal."—May 7, 1889.

So in England, a Cabinet Minister sent an extract from *Reis and Rayyet* to the *Pall Mall Gazette* which was published with commendation in that journal in 1884.

"A journal well known for its criticisms of Indian administration."—*Daily News*, (London) January 23, 1885.

An English politician wrote, under date the 26th June, 1885,—"I have no suggestions to make. The *Reis and Rayyet* is an exemplary paper." Again, on the 16th February 1888,—"I like your article on—in *R. & R.* of January 21. Look at *St. James' Gazette* of February 15."

"I made good use of your remarks on the Cambay case and the difference between Lord Reay and Sir A. Lyall."—*Letter from a British Peer*, dated May 15, 1887.

"I read your paper religiously."—The late Major Evans Bell.

*Reis and Rayyet* is a thoroughly independent paper, treating all matters frankly and forcibly but with perfect fairness. It presents, of course, the information and well considered opinion of its Editor—the results of a pretty wide experience and of long years of inquiry and speculation. It essays to represent genuine Oriental Thought

and Indian Opinion as distinguished from the crude yearnings of the English-speaking minority and the ignorance—of themselves and their country, not to say of the Empire at large—of the isolated populations of the Provincial capitals and the citizens of this Metropolis in a corner.

It is strong in its conductor's knowledge of Indian history and of the relations of the British Power with the Native States and Chiefs of every grade; it is opposed to Annexation and undue interference; but it is slow to take up grievances of any kind, and is earnestly desirous of steady solid improvement in Native Kingdoms and Principalities and Estates.

It addresses itself to superior intelligence and culture of both natives and Europeans—the flower of society.

It essays to inform public opinion in Europe.

But it is not an agitating journal. It is above wire-pulling. It submits to no dictation—opens itself to no "cries." It does not confine itself to politics. Giving all legitimate attention to the discussion of topics of the day, it finds a variety of other matters for the interest and edification of the reader—questions of history, *belles-lettres*, jurisprudence and political philosophy, narratives of travels, incidents of society and life throughout the globe and so forth. Chaste in its own language and conversation, even in the most fishesome *raison*, it does not admit any of the indecent quick advertisements which fill the Indian Press, in the English as well as vernacular side. Nor does it lend itself to any "bogus" concern, whatever the bait offered.

With the New Year some further improvements will be introduced. Reminiscences and memoirs of notable men, notices of remarkable places, essays on political topics of the day, the antiquities of cities and memoirs of native families, will, from time to time, be incorporated.

The stones and bricks of Calcutta are not without their memories, nor the history of its families without its interest. The history of the important families in the country has either not been written at all, or been distorted and falsified by vanity, ignorance, and dishonesty. These subjects are well worth taking up by an independent writer who has read and inquired and knows.

We are glad to know that *R. & R.* is in much request at our schools and colleges as a useful adjunct to the means of education. In future, it will be made more useful still to our students of language and literature. Indians who have themselves threaded the mazes of a difficult, because most copious and ever-shifting, tongue and its vast literary empire, are peculiarly fitted to lead their junior countrymen in the same paths.

We have been repeatedly asked to print on cheap paper and reduce our rates, to bring them within the means of poor students who would in such a case subscribe in large numbers. After giving it deliberate consideration, we regret we cannot accede to the request. The inability is often more imaginary than real. Our countrymen have not yet generally acquired the habit of paying fully for their improvement. It is important that they should learn to buy books and papers. That is one of the first steps to national progress. Nothing like having your own books and papers, so that you can read again and again and mark and inwardly digest them. As for such as are absolutely unable to muster so much as one Rupee per month for a new paper, all we can do is to suggest their clubbing together to divide the burden.

## POLICE NOTIFICATION.

Reception of His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor Christian Edward of Wales, K.G., K.P., at Prinsep's Ghat, on the afternoon of the 3rd January, 1890.

Admission to the enclosed space will be by tickets under the signature of the Commissioner of Police.

Application for tickets should be made by letter on or before Monday, the 30th instant. On Wednesday, the 1st proximo, tickets will be issued by post to as many applicants as the enclosure will accommodate.

Special accommodation for gentlemen of the Press will be reserved on application.

Regarding the regulation of carriages on the day of the ceremony, a notification will be issued hereafter.

J. LAMBERT,  
Commissioner of Police.

CALCUTTA POLICE OFFICE:  
27th December, 1889.

## CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

### TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

SIR,

We, the undersigned Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta, hereby request you to call a Special Meeting of the Commissioners on an early day, but not on Thursday, the 26th instant, to consider what contribution should be made by the Corporation of Calcutta towards the reception and entertainment in Calcutta of His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor.

We are, Sir,

Your most obedient servants,

N. N. Ghose.	Abdool Luteef.
N. C. Borah.	Rash Behary Dass.
Gonesh Chunder Chunder.	Mahomed Yousuff.
W. J. N. McCaw.	H. M. Rustumjee.
William Swinhoe.	E. S. Gubboy.
M. P. Gasper.	J. G. Apar.

In compliance with the above requisition the Chairman hereby convenes

### A SPECIAL MEETING

OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CALCUTTA,  
at the Town Hall,

on Monday, the 30th December 1889, at 3 P.M.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. Mr. M. P. Gasper to move that the Corporation of Calcutta do contribute the sum of

Rs. 10,000 towards the reception and entertainment of His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor.

2. To confirm the proceedings of the 2nd Meeting of the Committee appointed to prepare an address to Prince Albert Victor on his arrival in Calcutta.

3. To consider the Resolution passed by the General Committee at their Meeting held on the 2nd September 1889 to the effect that, under the present circumstances of the Municipality, it is not expedient to contribute any funds towards the support of the Public Library.

4. Mr. Swinhoe to move that the gradation pay of the Assessors for the Suburbs be fixed at Rs. 250 rising to 350 in lieu of from Rs. 200 to 300.

5. To confirm the proceedings of the General Committee at Meetings held on the 7th and 14th December.

6. To confirm the proceedings of the Suburban Improvement Committee at Meeting held on the 3rd December.

7. To confirm the proceedings of the Committee at Meetings held on the 25th September and 13th November.

8. To confirm the proceedings of the Water Supply Extension Committee at Meetings held on the 10th and 17th December.

9. To confirm the proceedings of the Central Road Committee at Meetings held on the 9th and 12th December.

10. To confirm the proceedings of the Bustee and Town Improvement Committee at a Meeting held on the 28th August.

11. Vital statistics for the month of November.

12. To consider the application of Mothoora Kanto Shau Chowdhry for a license to store jute at Nos. 78 and 79 Sobha Bazar Street.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

21st December, 1889.

## H. R. H. PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR RECEPTION FUND.

The Executive Committee, empowered in that behalf at the Meeting held at the Rooms of the British Indian Association on the 14th December, invite public subscriptions for the purpose of giving a fitting Reception and Entertainment to His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor on the occasion of his approaching visit to Calcutta.

The Executive Committee have the pleasure to acknowledge the following subscriptions:—

	R.	A.	P.
The Nawab Bahadur of Moorshedabad, K.C.I.E. ...	1,000	0	0
Her Highness the Nawab Shams-ud-Jehan Begum Saheba ...	250	0	0
Nawab Shahoonnessa Begum Saheba ...	300	0	0
Prince Wala Kudr Hossein Ali Mirza Bahadur ...	250	0	0
Prince Khorshed Kudr Syed Iskander Ali Mirza Bahadur ...	250	0	0
Nawab Syud Zainal Abidin Khan Bahadur (Nizamut Family) ...	150	0	0
His Highness the Maharaja Bahadur of Cooh Behar, G.C.I.E. ...	1,000	0	0
The Maharaja Bahadur of Vizianagram, K.C.I.E. ...	1,000	0	0
The Maharaja Bahadur of Durbhanga, K.C.I.E., ...	10,000	0	0
The Maharaja Bahadur of Bettiah, K.C.I.E. ...	3,000	0	0
The Maharaja Bahadur of Dumraon, K.C.I.E. ...	2,500	0	0
The Maharaja Bahadur of Hutwa Nawab Syed Ata Hossein Khan Bahadur, of Kissengunge ...	1,000	0	0
Prince Samarendra Chandra Deb, Bara-Thakur Bahadur, of Tipperah ...	500	0	0
Maharaja Sir Jotendra Mohun Tagore K.C.S.I. ...	2,500	0	0
Raja Sir Sourindro Mohun Tagore, Kt., C.I.E. ...	100	0	0
Maharaja Sir Narendra Krishna K.C.I.E. ...	500	0	0
Sumar Benoy Krishna ...	500	0	0
Raja Purna Chunder Singh of Paikpara Calcutta ...	500	0	0
Sumar Sarut Chunder Singh of Paikpara, Calcutta ...	1,000	0	0
The Hon'ble Raja Durga Churn Law, C.I.E., Cornwallis Street Calcutta ...	750	0	0
Babu Shyama Churn Law ...	500	0	0
Nawab Syed Lutf Ali Khan Bahadur, C.I.E., of Patna ...	500	0	0
Molla I-mal Saheb of Mandalay ...	500	0	0
Prince Muza Jehan Kudr Bahadur ...	200	0	0
Prince Mahomed Ferrok Shah (Mysore Family) ...	150	0	0
Prince Mahomed Rohemooddin ...	100	0	0
Nawab Abdool Luteef Bahadur, C.I.E., Taltoli, Calcutta ...	100	0	0
Hon. Sir W. Comer Petheram, Kt., C. J. ...	250	0	0
Hon. Justice Prinsep ...	100	0	0
Hon. Justice Tottenham ...	100	0	0
Hon. Justice Macpherson ...	100	0	0
Hon. Justice Pigot ...	100	0	0
Hon. Justice Mitter ...	100	0	0
Hon. Justice Ghose ...	100	0	0
Hon. Justice Gooroo Dass Banerjee ...	100	0	0
Hon. Justice Amir Ali, C.I.E., ...	100	0	0
Messrs. Jardine, Skinner and Co. ...	500	0	0
Messrs. Gilland, Arbuthnot & Co. ...	500	0	0

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Messrs. Gladstone, Wyllie & Co. ...	500	0	0
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Babu Roma Nath Ghose ...	150	0	0
Syud Mehdi Hossain, Khan Bahadur ...	100	0	0
Munshi Syud Ali Ahmed, of Kissengunge ...	100	0	0
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Babus Upendro Chunder Roy and Kiran Chunder Roy, Zemindar Narail ...	200	0	0
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Nawab Amir Mahomed Ali ...	100	0	0
Moulvie Abdul Bari ...	100	0	0
Hon. Syed Ameer Hossein, C.I.E. ...	100	0	0
Mahomed Ismail Khan Saheb, of Chupra ...	100	0	0
Babu Juggut Chunder Roy Chowdhury ...	100	0	0
Mr. A. F. M. Abdur Rahaman ...	100	0	0
Hajjee Saheb Abdur Ruzzak ...	100	0	0
Babu Gonesh Chunder Chunder ...	100	0	0
Babu Moorali Dhur Sen ...	100	0	0
Babu Pabati Shunker Roy Chowdhury, Zemindar of Teota ...	100	0	0
Babu Nobin Chand Bural ...	100	0	0
Dr. Troylucko Nath Mitter ...	100	0	0
Babu Golabroy Poddar ...	100	0	0

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Babu Kanaya Lal Khan ...	100	0	0
Babu Hurry Mohun Bose ...	100	0	0
Raja Sosisekhereshevar Roy ...	100	0	0
Mahamahopadhyaya Mohes Chunder Nyaratna, C.I.E. ...	100	0	0
Nawab Syed Ahmed Ali ...	100	0	0
Babu Damooder Doss Burmon ...	100	0	0
Babu Rajoomar Roy, of Narail ...	100	0	0
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Babu Juggernath Khunnah ...	100	0	0
Babu Tincowrie Mookerjee ...	50	0	0
Moulvi Abdul Jubber ...	25	0	0
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Kumar Ranajit Singh of Nashipur ...	300	0	0
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Small Sums ...	151	0	0

Total ... 66,243 0 0

Further subscriptions are solicited.

RAJ KUMAR SARVADHIKARI,

S. E. J. CLARKE,

Joint Honorary Secretaries.

Calcutta,

27th December, 1889.

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BEFORE

*Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,*

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SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

*Formerly Minister to the late*

NAWAB FARIDOON JAH BAHADOOR,  
 (the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,  
 Behar and Orissa.)

*Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.*

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## OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, once Minister to the late Nawab Faridoon Jah, Bahadoor, Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, which gives a graphic account of the Baboo's travels to and in Independent Tipperah. Written in capital English and evidently by a gentleman of broad views and enlightened mind, the work is decidedly a valuable addition to the catalogue of English written Bengalee literature. This book of travels should be read widely not only by English residents out here, but by our countrymen at home, for it teems with interest and teaches us far more about the fine belt of unopened country travelled through than any work of the sort written by an Englishman would have done. Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is one of whom his countrymen may well be proud, for he writes throughout with the moderate and educated pen of a thorough gentleman.—*The Indian Planter's Gazette & Sporting News*, October 4, 1887.

Mr. S. Mookerjee, who will be readily recognised as the editor of that able little paper the *Reis and Rayyet*, dedicates his travels in Bengal to a wide circle of readers—those who know India and are unable to love her; those who love her, and do not know her; those who neither know nor love; and those who d being tire

of India, take to travelling; foreigners who want to know, and Englishmen. The author himself is not the least tired of India, though he is a traveller by profession, we might almost say, and though he puts limits upon journeys, never caring to get very far away from Calcutta. It is not mileage, however, which makes the traveller. It is the power to observe sympathetically what is going on at each stage of a journey, and to keep his spirit about the minor inconveniences which necessarily occur by road, river, or rail. This Mr. Mookerjee does. He never loses his good humour under any set of circumstances, and what is better, he conveys a full sense of it to his pages. The reader may take a choice of journeys through Eastern Bengal to Tipperah, or to the heart of Bengal Proper, and will in each case be fully rewarded by the fruits of Mr. Mookerjee's wanderings. Perhaps the English reader will be mainly struck by the excellent English style of the writer. The author is not ashamed of his nationality; he rejoices in being a Bengali, but at the same time he indulges in prose which has no alien trace in it. It is not the English of an educated German or Frenchman; it is the nervous Saxon of a subject of the Empress of India. Mr. Mookerjee had special advantages in some of his journeys, especially to Independent Tipperah, whither he was called to an important official position. He was thus assured of many attentions, though, in forming accurate impressions of a country it is doubtful whether it is not better to be untrammelled with connections which frighten away the simple folk and impose reticence on them as a duty. From the notes of his journey through East Bengal, and to show how genial is his outlook, we take the following:—[Extract.]

From Dacca he went further East, and his experiences on the Megna are of a most enlivening description. He saw many visions of beauty, and Mr. Mookerjee is no niggard when he is describing something he has enjoyed seeing. Here is a sketch on his way up the river: [Extract.]

But it is not physical beauty alone which detains our author's eye: [Extract.]

The same symptoms of material progress he notes among the boatmen on his course.—[Extract.]

Some portion of the volume has already been contributed to the *Statesman*, and will be familiar to our readers. The following description of natural effects is not known to them. We doubt whether Mr. Ruskin, or Mr. Black would accept it as a final account of the sun's rising and setting:—[Extract.]—*The Statesman*, October 7, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious; he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hints his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing

in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes." But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "Last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him..... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec., 1887.

THE

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